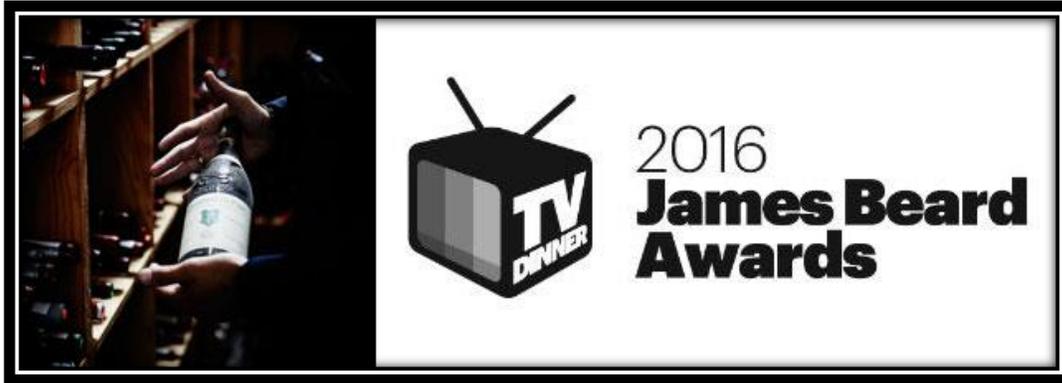




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ELEMENT 47 SELECTED AS A SEMIFINALIST FOR THE JAMES BEARD AWARDS

Aspen, Colo. (February 17, 2016). The [2016 James Beard Awards Foundation semifinalists](#) were announced this morning and, for the second time in three years, element 47 at The Little Nell has made the prestigious list for “Outstanding Wine Program.”

Considered the Oscars of the American restaurant world, the Beard Awards are the highest honor for food and beverage professionals working in North America. The awards cover all aspects of the industry—from chefs and restaurateurs to cookbook authors and food journalists to restaurant designers and architects and more.

The process began in October with an open call online; anyone could submit up to two entries per category. After receiving nearly 20,000 submissions, James Beard Foundation’s [Restaurant and Chef Awards Committee](#), composed of critics, writers, and editors, went to work and produced the list of semifinalists, culled from the open call and committee suggestions, for each award.

To be nominated for the Outstanding Wine Program category, each restaurant must be in operation for five or more years and “serve as a standard bearer for excellence in wine service through a well-presented wine list, knowledgeable staff, and efforts to educate customers about wine.”

“We are truly honored to be recognized by our peers and everyone who took the time to think about us during this process,” said Carlton McCoy, Wine Director and Master Sommelier at The Little Nell. “Excellence in our wine program has been a priority since the hotel opened in 1989 and we look forward to continuing this tradition.”

On March 15, The James Beard Foundation will announce five finalists for the awards in each category. The 2016 James Beard Awards Gala will be held on May 2 at the Lyric Opera of Chicago.

About The Little Nell

Cosmopolitan yet intimate, contemporary yet timeless, The Little Nell invites guests to experience Aspen's only Forbes Five-Star, AAA Five-Diamond, ski-in/ski-out hotel – a Relais & Châteaux resort. For more information and for reservations, please call 888.The.Nell (888.843.6355) or visit www.thelittlenell.com.

Awards, Accolades and Talent

The Little Nell's culinary team is led by Executive Chef Matt Zubrod with Curtis Cameron as Executive Pastry Chef and Matt Padilla as Chef de Cuisine for element 47. Master Sommelier Carlton McCoy oversees the wine program. Element 47 has been acknowledged with [numerous awards](#) including The Grand Award from Wine Spectator since 1995, recognition as one of America's 100 Best Wine Restaurants from Wine Enthusiast and a Forbes Five-Star rating in 2015.

Follow The Little Nell on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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