

## Open Letter from the Court of Master Sommeliers, Americas to Survivors of Sexual Misconduct, Harassment or Abuse

We acknowledge that we will never fully understand the pain, trauma, and negative impact that the actions of select members of our organization caused you; we also acknowledge that our organization did not have the proper safeguards in place to ensure a safe and equitable learning environment. For this, we are deeply, deeply sorry. Our commitment to you is that no other person will have to experience what you went through in our organization.

Over the last year, it has been our mission to change the structure and culture of the Court of Master Sommeliers, Americas. We understand that our organization still has much work to do on this front, and we will continue to show our commitment to change through positive and progressive actions.

Thank you for your bravery in sharing your stories.

If you feel that you need support, CMS-A is offering dedicated, individualized support facilitated by [RALIANCE](#), an organization with more than 300 cumulative years of relevant expertise, rooted in the experiences of survivors. RALIANCE is connected to a national network of experts, dedicated to supporting survivors. To receive support from one of these experts, please contact Tori at [tvandelinde@raliance.org](mailto:tvandelinde@raliance.org).

Yours In Service,  
Emily Wines, MS  
Chair, Court of Master Sommeliers, Americas

Kathryn Morgan, MS  
Vice Chair, Court of Master Sommeliers, Americas

Christopher Bates, MS	Joshua Nadel, MS
Robert Bigelow, MS	Sabato Sagaria, MS
Brahm Callahan, MS	Mia Van de Water, MS
Keith Goldston, MS	David Yoshida, MS
Michael Meagher, MS	



*The Court of Master Sommeliers sets the global standard of excellence for beverage service within the hospitality industry with integrity, exemplary knowledge, and humility*