

# BEST-OF-APPELLATION AWARDS

*The best wines are defined by place,  
and the character of each appellation  
is defined by its best wines.*

Appellation America's mission is to advance public knowledge and appreciation of the many diverse winegrowing regions of North America. The Best-of-Appellation™ Evaluation Program is an ongoing process of identifying the wines in each appellation that best express the character of the appellation and the quality of wine craftsmanship in the region. Appellation America salutes these producers, not only for their individual achievement, but for their contribution to building the identity and reputation of fine winegrowing appellations, such as the one cited below.



## DOUBLE GOLD MEDAL

*Raphael  
1997 First Label Merlot, Estate  
North Fork of Long Island AVA*

*Clark Smith*

Clark Smith, Director, Best-of-Appellation Program  
Appellation America Inc.

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