

THE  
**BOARDROOM**

Summer 2019 - Longboard 2 NorCal  
Low in High School

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**Dropout: Albariño 2017**

*100% Albariño - Andrus Island, Sacramento Delta - ~400 cases*

Winemaker Jon Keyes dropped out of college to make wine with Thomas Rivers Brown (of Turley and Schrader to name a few), and this is a little side project of his own. Albarino is a rare varietal in California, and you'll find it a bit more fruity than the Spanish versions. Think lemon peel, almonds, a salty sea air note, tangerine and pear. It's perfect for summer!

*Best: 2019-2020*

**Grgich Hills Estate: Chardonnay 2015**

*100% Chardonnay - Biodynamically farmed - Napa Valley - Wine Enthusiast: 95 & Editor's Choice*

This is the latest vintage of Grgich' famed Chardonnay, which is still going as strong as ever. We chose this as it showcases the elegant side of California Chardonnay. With Mike Grgich' signature no-malolactic fermentation, this Chardonnay is more crisp and vibrant than many of its Napa counterparts. It pairs perfectly with fresh seafood such as seared ahi tuna, roasted chicken and creamy cheeses. This one just impresses from start to finish.

*Best: 2021-2025*

**Argot: Bastard Tongue 2016**

*100% Pinot Noir - Steiner & Helgren Vineyard, Sonoma - 270 cases  
Jeb Dunnock: 97, Wine Spectator: 93*

Justin Harmon makes a lot of different Pinots, but this one.... this one stands out. Justin learned his craft from superstar Russell Bevan, and Bevan's fingerprints are all over this full-throttle Pinot that saw 20 months in 100% new, French oak. It is intensely rich and layered, much like the Pinots of Aubert, Marcassin and Peter Michael - and Jeb Dunnock was even reminded of old-school Kistler. Decant, decant, decant!

*Best: 2020-2028*

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**Keplinger: Hangman's 2015**

*93% Syrah, 7% Viognier - Hudson Vineyards, Carneros - 160 cases  
Jeb Dunnock: 99; James Suckling: 95*

Once again, we are thrilled to offer one of Keplinger's most coveted wines, which are always sold out upon release. This low-production Syrah was co-fermented with the Viognier and then spent 18 months in 65% new, French oak. According to Helen Keplinger, this is the most pensive and backward of her Syrahs, the most reminiscent of Northern Rhone with its savoury nose, silky entry and plush tannins. 99 by Dunnock says it all! Save it for a few years to allow the tannins to soften.

*Best: 2023 -2030*

**Peirson Meyer: Cabernet Sauvignon 2015**

*100% Cabernet Sauvignon - Kenefick Ranch, Calistoga - 400 cases - Robert Parker: 94+, Galloni: 94*

Peirson Meyer is a decade-long collaboration between two Napa greats: Veteran vineyard manager Alan Peirson and wizard winemaker Robbie Meyer. Kenefick Ranch is situated in the northern end of Napa, north of Calistoga. As always with Peirson Meyer, this is a stunner of a classic Napa Cab: Rich and decadent with touches of cigar box, chargrill and spice. Save this one for a few years to let the tannins soften, or decant and serve now.

*Best: 2022-2030*

**Roots Run Deep: Higher Education: The Graduate 2014**

*97% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Merlot - Ladera Vineyards, Howell Mountain - 127 cases  
Wine Enthusiast: 91*

Let me tell you it was a fight to get a few of this one! Our newest producer, Roots Run Deep, are renowned for their high quality-to-price ratio wines called Educated Guess. Their Higher Education line is a brand-new project, a study in four wines from one vineyard per vintage to show the uniqueness and power of Napa. Ladera Vineyards is a renowned small family vineyard overlooking St. Helena on the northeast side of Napa Valley. The Graduate saw 24 months in new, French oak. Tight-grained tannins and power define this wine. This one graduated with honors!

*Best: 2024 - 2030*

**CALIFORNIA**  
**WINE** APS