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Rolling Forks Vineyards Welcomes New Head Winemaker to Lead Craft Winemaking

Glenwood, MN – November 15, 2024 – Rolling Forks Vineyards, one of Minnesota’s premier winery and vineyards located on the beautiful shores of Lake Minnewaska, is thrilled to announce the hiring of Patricio Aravena as its new Head Winemaker and Vineyard Manager. Bringing a wealth of experience, creativity, and passion to the craft of winemaking, Aravena will spearhead the vineyard’s mission to produce high-quality, distinctive Minnesota-grown wines.

Aravena, an industry veteran with over 20 years of experience in winemaking, brings a deep knowledge of winemaking and vineyard management to Rolling Forks. Aravena is dedicated to crafting wines that reflect both the terroir and the people behind them.

“We are thrilled to welcome Patricio to the Rolling Forks family,” said Melanie Cihlar, Co-Founder of Rolling Forks Vineyards. “His vision and expertise will be instrumental as we continue to enhance our winemaking process and create wines that showcase the beauty and complexity of Minnesota’s climate and soils.”

Rolling Forks Vineyards has gained recognition for its award-winning wines, and the addition of Aravena aligns with the vineyard’s commitment to cultivating excellent grapes and crafting exceptional wines that showcase Rolling Forks Vineyard’s passion and identity. Known for its expansive tasting room, rolling vineyards, and breathtaking views, the winery and vineyard has become a destination for wine enthusiasts across the Midwest.



"I am excited to join such a vibrant and growing vineyard," said Araveno. "I was initially drawn to Rolling Forks because of its award-winning reputation, but experiencing the warm and welcoming community Melanie and Joe have built made me fall in love with the place."

With plans to help educate customers to learn more about grape varieties and wines, Aravena aims to become ambassadors of Minnesota wines and strives to become one of the best wineries in the Midwest.

For more information on Rolling Forks Vineyards, its wine collection, and events, please visit rollingforksvineyards.com.

PHOTO CAPTION: Rolling Forks Vineyards Head Winemaker and Vineyard Manager, Patricio Aravena.

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[About Rolling Forks Vineyards](#)

Rolling Forks Vineyard is nestled among the billowing prairies and undulating hills of Glenwood, Minn., overlooking the breathtaking Lake Minnewaska. It's where Joe and Melanie Cihlar's passion for creating Minnesota-made wine first took root in 2010. More than a decade later, 18 acres of cold-hardy vines produce grapes for its delicious, distinctive family of wines that pair perfectly with good company and unforgettable moments. Visit Rolling Forks Vineyards at 21505 Selnes Road in Glenwood, Minn. Learn more at rollingforksvineyards.com or by calling 320-634-7655.