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**Middle West Spirits Takes Home Gold and Best Bourbon at the 2018 American Distilling Institute's International Judging of Craft Spirits**

April 9, 2018 (Columbus, OH) Middle West Spirits is proud to announce a Gold Medal and Best in Category win for their OYO Double Cask Sherry-Finished Bourbon at the 2018 American Distilling Institute's Judging of Craft Spirits. The Columbus based distillery received a total of 6 medal recognitions for its OYO branded spirits, including a second gold medal for its OYO Dark Pumpnickel Rye Whiskey, a silver medal for its flagship OYO Vodka, and 3 bronze medals for its OYO Wheat Whiskey, OYO Michelone Reserve Bourbon, and OYO Stone Fruit Vodka.

The 12th Annual ADI Judging of Craft Spirits was held in March of 2018 with recognitions announced at the trade group's recent national conference in Portland, OR. Billed as the largest and most respected judging devoted to craft spirits in the United States, the competition boasts some of the industry's biggest craft brands and best judging palates comprised of master distillers, journalists, bar owners, bartenders, retailers, wholesalers, distributors and importers. For this year's competition, over 40 judges evaluated US and International entries from all classes and categories of spirits, cocktail bitters, RTD Cocktails, as well as aperitif and fortified wines.

"The entire craft industry is fixated on the meteoric growth of the whiskey market," said Brady Konya, co-owner and General Manager of Middle West. "To take home top honors in the Bourbon category is humbling to say the least."

**Competition Results:**

- Gold Medal & Best of Category, Bourbon -- OYO Sherry-Finished Bourbon Whiskey, Double Cask Collection, 86 Proof
- Gold Medal, Rye Whiskey -- OYO Dark Pumpnickel Rye Whiskey, 90 Proof



- Silver Medal, Grain-to-Glass Vodka Residual Base Character – OYO Vodka, 80 Proof
- Bronze Medal, Bourbon – OYO Michelone Reserve Bourbon, 90 Proof
- Bronze Medal, Wheat Whiskey – OYO Wheat Whiskey, 92 Proof
- Bronze Medal, Flavored Vodka – OYO Stone Fruit Vodka, 70 Proof

A special release and bottle-signing event featuring the OYO Sherry-Bourbon will be scheduled later this spring at the company's recently opened bar and restaurant the Service Bar. Time and date of the bottle release event will be announced via the company's social media later in April.

Complete results from the 2018 American Distilling Institute's Judging of Craft Spirits Competition can be found at: <http://distilling.com/events/judging/>

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### **About Middle West Spirits, LLC**

Founded in 2008, Middle West Spirits, LLC is Central Ohio's award-winning craft distillery located in the Short North Arts District of Columbus. The artisan distillery, which recently completed a multi-million dollar expansion of their production facilities, produces OYO vodkas, whiskeys and Vim & Petal Gin. To learn more about the distillery, the recently opened Service Bar, or its portfolio of craft products visit [www.MiddleWestSpirits.com](http://www.MiddleWestSpirits.com).