



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

G&B COFFEE CO-OWNER CHARLES BABINSKI WINS THE 2015 US BARISTA CHAMPIONSHIP

Charles Babinski of Grand Central Market's G&B Coffee Will Represent the United States at the 2015 World Barista Championship

LOS ANGELES (February 23, 2015) — Charles Babinski, the co-owner of G&B Coffee at Grand Central Market and Go Get Em Tiger in Larchmont, won the 2015 United States Barista Championship (USBC) on February 22 in Long Beach, California. The competition took place over three days, with a group of 36 baristas narrowing down to 18, then six, and ultimately one.

Babinski has competed in the USBC since 2008, when he was working at Intelligentsia Coffee in Los Angeles, the same year that his now business partner, Kyle Glanville, took home the title. For the past three years, Babinski has finished in second place, creating quite a following among coffee connoisseurs nation-wide. His signature beverage for the competition was a mixture of pine tree honey, juniper syrup and a grapefruit reduction blended together with Honduran espresso. Throughout the competition, Babinski also made use of Ocotillo, a coffee roasted by 49th Parallel in Vancouver, British Columbia, as well as an Ethiopian coffee roasted by Heart Coffee Roasters of Portland, Oregon.

Babinski and Glanville opened G&B Coffee at Grand Central Market on May 31, 2013, bringing in swarms of their loyal followers and new customers to the Hill Street sidewalk bar day after day. G&B serves rotating single origin coffees, traditional espresso drinks, cappuccinos made with house-made almond milk, hot and cold teas, as well as coffee and tea infused milkshakes. This past June, The New York Times hailed G&B for having "one of the best iced coffees in the United States, and almost certainly the best latte."

"We're thrilled for Charles, of course. It's rare to find someone with his blend of deep knowledge, mad skills and personal integrity," said Chris Farber, the director of business development for Grand Central Market. "He represents everything Grand Central Market values."

Babinski will go on to represent the United States at the 2015 World Barista Championship in Seattle, Washington on April 9th-12th.

Celebrating the cuisines and cultures of Los Angeles since 1917, the historic Grand Central Market food arcade (between Broadway and Hill Street at the base of Angels Flight) is an unparalleled eating and shopping experience showcasing the best local chefs, culinary purveyors and entrepreneurs. For more information visit www.grandcentralmarket.com and connect with us on Twitter @GrandCentralMkt or <https://www.facebook.com/GrandCentralMarket>.

#

CONTACT:

Carla Schalman, Roberta Silverman, Andrea Alonso

breakwhitelight (for Grand Central Market)

(310) 827-3169, (402) 709-4537

carla@breakwhitelight.com, roberta@breakwhitelight.com, andrea@breakwhitelight.com