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For Immediate Release

Nick Griffith of Intelligentsia Coffee is the Western Regional Barista Champion

Intelligentsia Coffee Sweeps the Competition, Taking First through Third Place

Long Beach, CA. U.S.A. (January 26 2009) – Nick Griffith of Intelligentsia Coffee & Tea, was named Western Regional Barista Champion at a competition held January 23-25, 2009 in Los Angeles, California. The Specialty Coffee Association of America (SCAA) event was hosted by Intelligentsia, which is headquartered in Chicago but has coffee roasting and retailing locations in Los Angeles (www.intelligentsiacoffee.com). Over twenty baristas from California competed in the three day event. The top three competitors:

First Place	Nick Griffith	Intelligentsia Coffee	Los Angeles, CA
Second Place	Devin Pedde	Intelligentsia Coffee	Los Angeles, CA
Third Place	Ryan Willbur	Intelligentsia Coffee	Los Angeles, CA

Competitors were required to make 12 beverages, including four espressos, four cappuccinos and four original signature drinks of their own creation within 15 minutes in front of a panel of accomplished industry judges. Competitors were judged on taste, beverage presentation, technical skills, station cleanliness and overall impression.

The winner of the competition will compete for the national title at the United States Barista Championships (USBC) in Portland, Oregon March 5-8 (www.usbc2009.com). The winner of the USBC will represent the United States in the World Barista Championship in Atlanta, Georgia, April 16-19, 2009. Sponsors for the regional and national events include Official Host & Travel Sponsor: DaVinci Gourmet; Official Espresso Machine Sponsor: Nuova Simonelli; Official Grinder Sponsor: Mahlkoenig.

About the SCAA

The SCAA is the world's largest coffee trade association dedicated to creating a vibrant specialty coffee community. We recognize, develop and promote specialty coffee by setting and maintaining quality standards for the industry; conducting research on coffee, equipment and perfection of craft; and providing education, training, resources and

business services for members. Celebrating 26 years of success, the strength of our organization is reflective of our members who represent more than forty countries and every segment of the Specialty Coffee industry, from coffee growers to coffee roasters and retailers. Together, we ensure our industry continues to thrive. Visit www.scaa.org.