

Ryan Willbur

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Past Experience

Lava Java | Ridgefield, WA | July 2005 to July 2006 | Barista.

At this Pacific Northwest coffee bar, I took the first steps toward starting a career in coffee. Using Stumptown coffee, and learning from 2005 US Barista Champion, Phuong Tran, I gained the experience of working an efficient, extremely systematic coffee bar. It was here that I honed my skills by training for and competing in my first barista competition.

Kopplin's Coffee | St. Paul, MN | September 2006 to April 2007 | Barista & Trainer.

In this small coffee shop, I learned to teach by having to step away from the espresso machine and then translating what I was doing into a manner that was easily understood by new employees. I also lead public cuppings where I developed my skills for speaking in public about coffee. Kopplin's was the first coffee bar I worked in where all coffee was brewed to order.

Paradise Coffee Roasters | Ramsey, MN | Dec. 2006 to April 2007 | Production Roaster.

My role at Paradise was to deliver consistent batches of coffee from a 12 kilogram Primo Roaster. Here, I learned first-hand the basics of coffee roasting and roast profile development. Additionally, I was responsible for on-site wholesale barista training and teaching weekend coffee courses at the roasting facility.

Intelligentsia Coffee & Tea | Los Angeles, CA | May 2007 to July 2010 | Barista.

For three years, I was a barista at the Silver Lake location for Intelligentsia Coffee & Tea. I have learned about workflow, efficiency, and communication. In October of 2008, I became part of the training team for the store. In that role, I took the lead on hosting weekly cuppings and maintaining the training and cupping schedule. I conducted several types of trainings including retail, wholesale, and customer trainings.

Kahlua Beverage Co. | Los Angeles, CA | April 2010 | Barista Talent

I was asked to create a series of recipes involving different Kahlua products for the beverage companies marketing campaign. The idea was to have a baristas perspective making coffee flavored cocktails.

Hunter Public Relations | Los Angeles, CA | June 2010 | Barista Talent

For Hunter Public Relations, I was hired to work with a Los Angeles-based, celebrity bar tender. I advised the bar tender on how best to use coffee in a Bailey's Irish Creme-based cocktail. We were then filmed for an internet commercial promoting Bailey's Irish Creme.

Stumptown Coffee Corp. | Portland, OR | Sept. 2010 to August 2011 | Account Manager / Educator

As a member of the Stumptown Coffee Corp. wholesale team, my primary responsibility was to bring value to our wholesale customers. This was done through regular visits to the many businesses using Stumptown coffee in Portland, cost of good analysis, informing customers about new products and coffees, and other general consulting. In January of 2011, I also joined the wholesale education team, and began conducting regular trainings for barista, restaurant staff, business owners, and more.

Achievements

2006 United States Barista Competition, Charlotte, NC, Semi-finalist, 13th place.

2008 Western Regional Barista Competition, Berkeley, CA, Finalist, 6th place.

2009 Western Regional Barista Competition, Los Angeles, CA, 3rd place.

2009 United States Barista Competition, Portland, OR, 4th place.

2010 Western Regional Barista Competition, Los Angeles, CA, 2nd place.

2011 Northwest Regional Barista Competition, Tacoma, WA, 2nd Place.

2011 World Latte Art Championship, Chicago, IL, 3rd Place.

References Available Upon Request