

# CHILD

A full-page photograph of Mary J. Blige in a desert setting. She is wearing a light beige blazer with a large gold buckle belt, a matching skirt, and high boots with a snakeskin pattern. She has long blonde hair and is wearing large gold hoop earrings. She is leaning against a stone wall with a dead branch in the background.

RAISE YOUR SPIRITS

Exclusive

## MARY J. BLIGE

CAPTURES THE  
SPIRIT OF THE SUN

A CELEBRATION OF  
**SPIRITED  
WOMEN**

SAGAMORE SPIRIT  
WHERE THERE'S  
**WHISKEY**  
THERE'S A WAY

WIN A BARREL OF RYE!  
CHECK INSIDE FOR DETAILS



“SOME  
THINGS  
YOU  
CANNOT  
PICK UP IN  
SCHOOL.”

While education and an aptitude for science seem to play a role with many of today's top female distillers, one cannot discredit the value of being born into a family legacy of production.

The Italian Nonino family is known for its beautifully handcrafted grappa and its gifted and skilled distilling women. Three sisters, Elisabetta, Antonella, and Cristina, each take on master distillers' roles as they carry on their grandmother's legacy, Silvia Nonino. The elder Nonino's path was born out of necessity, having lost her husband during the second world war. But her skill and palate helped her rise to the top and became the first female master distiller in Italy. Today, the three sisters are equally passionate and dedicated to the family business. They grew up watching their father distill, “surrounded by steam, it truly looked to us as if he was a magician or an alchemist,” and eagerly picked up the know-how and traditions that went into making their family legacy of distilling. “Some things you cannot pick up in school.”

The new ranks of female master distillers will tell you that being a female master distiller takes much of the same skill, palate, courage, and creativity of their male counterparts. Maybe a bit more, some may argue. While it may be true that scientifically women have better palates (that's why there are so many female tasters in our industry), the proof is in the pot, and these women are pouring at the top of their game.

The Nonino Sisters