Wine is elusive. While there will always be a synthesis of the winegrowing and winemaking that culminate in the bottle, we never know exactly where the process will take us. It sometimes borders on disaster. Sometimes it reaches toward perfection.

In art, the greatest artists are the ones who are pioneers, testing limits and expanding boundaries. Monet. Mozart. Picasso. Pollack. Handel. They explored the edges of their art, taking risks, flying in the face of convention. This is where greatness is found: not in the safety and security of the known, but in stepping into the unknown and different and new. Trying out everything under the sun.

A winemaker has only a finite number of attempts at perfection in his or her life. Each harvest that passes lowers the chances of reaching it. Making wines for three wineries in three different styles increases the odds, especially when I have the opportunity to produce three distinctive styles of wine which are each interesting and memorable.

I do not choose mediocrity. I do not choose the average, the conservative approach. We all only have a few chances. I choose to make the most of them.

Carl Helrich, winemaker



Pinnacle Ridge Winery 4138 Vineyard Road Brogue www.cadenzavineyards.com

Allegro Winery 4069 Vineyard I Cadenza Vineyards 3475 Sechrist Road Stewartstown www.allegrowines.com Vineyard

In a lifetime, a winemaker has very few opportunities to do something great. Here's to increasing the odds.