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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **International Food and Wine Legends to Gather in Naples for the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Naples Winter Wine Festival**

Naples, FL – August 9, 2016 – This January, Naples will spotlight some of the most impressive food and wine talent across the globe at the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Naples Winter Wine Festival, scheduled for January 27-29, 2017 at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort in Naples, FL. More than 30 of the world’s preeminent wineries will be pouring at the Festival, representing 12 wine producing regions, five countries and three continents. Culinary giants with a collective 11 Michelin Stars, 13 James Beard Awards, and 10 James Beard Award nominations will prepare unforgettable meals for guests to enjoy.

Leading the lineups are Chef de Cuisine Wolfgang Puck and Honored Vintner Pierre Lurton, both world-renowned for their contributions in food and wine. Several others participating this year have been longtime supporters of the Naples Winter Wine Festival, including celebrity chef Tom Colicchio, multiple James Beard Award nominee Richard Reddington, and Michael Tusk, whose restaurant Quince was awarded two Michelin stars. Vintners representing acclaimed wineries in the Old and New World, such as Chateau Haut-Brion, Colgin Cellars and Staglin Family Vineyard, will return to the Festival yet again to lend their support to the many children in need in Collier County.

“The fact that so many gifted vintners and chefs are lending their time and talent to the Naples Winter Wine Festival is a testament to their immense generosity and affirmation of the tremendous impact we’re having in our community,” said Jeff Gargiulo, co-chair of the 2017 Naples Winter Wine Festival. “The entire community is excited to welcome this impressive lineup to Naples this January.”

On the Festival’s first evening, guests will be chauffeured to one of 18 intimate dinners hosted by Festival Trustees in private homes throughout Naples. There they will savor multi-course meals, expertly prepared by these famous chefs and designed to pair perfectly with a selection of the attending vintners’ first-class wines, an experience that can’t be missed.

“The Vintner Dinners are the pinnacle of the Naples Winter Wine Festival, an evening that makes this Festival truly exceptional,” added Jeff Gargiulo.

The 2017 Vintner Dinner pairings include:

Vintner	Chef
Sandrine Bégaud of <b>Château Canon/Château Rauzan-Ségla</b> in Bordeaux, France Louis-Michel Liger-Belair of <b>Domaine du Comte Liger-Belair</b> in Burgundy, France	<b>Wolfgang Puck</b> of Wolfgang Puck Worldwide in Los Angeles, California
Shari & Garen Staglin of <b>Staglin Family Vineyard</b> in Rutherford, California	<b>Gerry Klaskala</b> of Aria in Atlanta, Georgia
Anne Caroline Biancheri of <b>Antucura</b> in Mendoza, Argentina Blakesley & Cyril Chappellet of <b>Chappellet</b> in St. Helena, California	<b>Cassidee Dabney</b> of The Barn at Blackberry Farm in Walland, Tennessee
Barbara Banke of <b>Lokoya</b> in St. Helena, California	<b>Nancy Oakes</b> of Boulevard Restaurant in San Francisco, California
Turid Hoel Alcaras of <b>Château Haut-Brion</b> in Bordeaux, France	<b>Ryan Hardy</b> of Charlie Bird in New York, New York
Tim Mondavi of <b>Continuum</b> in St. Helena, California Grace & Ken Evenstad of <b>Domaine Serene</b> in Dayton, Oregon	<b>David Féau</b> of Wally's Beverly Hills in Beverly Hills, California
Elisabetta Gnudi of <b>Borgo Scopeto &amp; Caparzo</b> in Tuscany, Italy Valerie & Jeff Gargiulo of <b>Gargiulo Vineyards</b> in Napa, California	<b>Angelo Auriana</b> of Officine Brera in Los Angeles, California
Dimitri Augenblick of <b>Château Cos d'Estournel</b> in Bordeaux, France Guillaume d'Angerville of <b>Domaine Marquis d'Angerville</b> in Burgundy, France	<b>Enrique Olvera</b> of Pujol in Mexico City, Mexico
Pierre Lurton of <b>Château Cheval Blanc/Château d'Yquem</b> in Bordeaux, France	<b>Missy Robbins</b> of Lilia in Brooklyn, New York
Leslie & Rich Frank of <b>Frank Family Vineyards</b> in Calistoga, California Béatrice & Laurent Drouhin of <b>Maison Joseph Drouhin</b> in Burgundy, France	<b>Richard Reddington</b> of REDD in Yountville, California
Ann Colgin & Joe Wender of <b>Colgin Cellars</b> in St. Helena, California	<b>Michael Tusk</b> of Quince Restaurant in San Francisco, California
Marilisa Allegrini of <b>Allegrini</b> in Valpolicella, Italy Pamela & George Hamel, Jr. of <b>Hamel Family Wines</b> in Sonoma, California	<b>Colin Bedford</b> of The Farrington House in Pittsboro, North Carolina
Daphne & Bart Araujo of <b>Accendo Cellars</b> in Napa Valley, California Salvatore Ferragmo of <b>Il Borro</b> in Tuscany, Italy	<b>Dustin Valette</b> of Valette in Healdsburg, California

Gaia Gaja of <b>GAJA</b> in Piedmont, Italy	<b>David Kinch</b> of Manresa Restaurant in Los Gatos, California
Shahpar & Darioush Khaledi of <b>Darioush</b> in Napa, California Peter Sisseck of <b>Dominio de Pingus</b> in Duero River Valley, Spain	<b>Dean Fearing</b> of Fearing's in Dallas, Texas
Madaiah Revana of <b>Revana Family Vineyard</b> in St. Helena, California & <b>Alexana Winery</b> in Newburg, Oregon	<b>John Minas</b> of The Edison in Tallahassee, Florida
Deborah & Bill Harlan, Will and Amanda Harlan of <b>Harlan Estate</b> in Oakville, California Olivier Krug of <b>Krug Champagne</b> in Champagne, France	<b>Tom Colicchio</b> of Crafted Hospitality in New York, New York
Alejandro Bulgheroni of <b>Alejandro Bulgheroni Estate</b> in Napa Valley, California David Duncan of <b>Silver Oak Cellars</b> in Oakville, California	<b>Francis Mallmann</b> of Bodega Garzón in Garzón, Uruguay

Guests to the Festival will also have the chance to bid on an impressive array of wine and travel experiences, each notable not only for its uniqueness and luxury, but also for its connection to a good cause. Since the event's inception in 2001, the Naples Winter Wine Festival has raised more than \$146 million for its founding organization, the Naples Children & Education Foundation (NCEF), which has awarded grants to more than 40 non-profit organizations that have impacted the lives of over 200,000 children.

Ticket packages to the Naples Winter Wine Festival, limited to 580 guests, start at \$10,000 per couple. A \$25,000 package is also available that includes reserved seating for a party of four at a vintner dinner and under the tent. To inquire about tickets to the Festival, please contact Barrett Farmer at [barrett@napleswinefestival.com](mailto:barrett@napleswinefestival.com) or 239-514-2239.

\*Enclosed please find a full list of participating vintner and chefs.

#### About the Naples Winter Wine Festival

The Naples Winter Wine Festival is the most successful international charity wine auction in the world, bringing together renowned vintners and chefs with wine enthusiasts and philanthropists for a three-day Festival that raises millions of dollars for underprivileged and at-risk children. Every dollar raised under the tent funds the Festival's founding organization, the Naples Children & Education Foundation (NCEF), whose annual grants and strategic initiatives have provided more than 200,000 children with the services and resources they need to excel. For more information, please visit [Napleswinefestival.com](http://Napleswinefestival.com).

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