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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Naples Community and Beyond Can Experience the Thrill of the Naples Winter Wine Festival by Bidding in Online Auction, Opening Today

Naples, FL – January 11, 2016 – Oenophiles, foodies and adventure seekers from around the globe have the opportunity to experience the excitement of the Naples Winter Wine Festival by bidding on exceptional wine and culinary experiences, exclusive travel adventures, custom-made fine jewelry and much more during the Festival’s Online Auction, which opens today and closes at 11 am on Sunday, January 31.

Online auction lots were generously donated to support the Naples Winter Wine Festival’s founding organization, the Naples Children & Education Foundation (NCEF), which has given out annual grants to over 40 non-profit agencies and has impacted the lives of more than 200,000 children.

“The Naples Winter Wine Festival is famous for its incredible live auction, and now even more people can experience the thrill of our auction by bidding online,” said Chuck Hallberg, Co-Chair of the Online Auction Committee. “We invite everyone to check out our amazing array of one-of-a-kind items, each donated specifically for our Online Auction. This auction allows all winning participants to help NCEF make a lasting difference for thousands of children in this community.”

Here are just a few of the wonderful items that have been generously donated to the Online Auction:

- Escape to Barolo, Italy, home to some of Italy’s most famous wines, for a two-night stay at the Chiarlo Family resort and enjoy a private Barolo tasting and take home three 3L bottles of the winery’s famous Barolo Cerequio.
- Experience the best of the Hamptons with a VIP tour and tasting at Wölffer Estate, a sustainable vineyard in the heart of the Hamptons, and a stay at one of East Hampton’s finest hotels.
- Win a pair of 18k gold chandelier earrings, designed by William Boyajian and inspired by the 2016 Naples Winter Wine Festival theme: “Great Expectations.”
- Enjoy private wine tastings and a vineyard tour at Donelan Family Wines in Sonoma County, and take home a 3L bottle of Donelan Family wine.
- Relish a Naples sunset wine dinner cruise for eight people aboard the private *Susanna Bella* 106-foot Lazzara yacht.
- Host a private, four-course dinner for 20 people overlooking the sparkling fountains at Waterside Shops prepared by Crave Culinaire, paired with Castiglion del Bosco wines from

Massimo Ferragamo. Guests will take home a Lifetime Waterside Platinum membership and favors from Salvatore Ferragamo.

This year, a special donation can be made through the Online Auction to 2016's Fund-a-Need: NCEF'S Early Learning Initiative. Quality early childhood education is recognized as essential for long-term achievement. NCEF's Early Learning Initiative strategically connects high-quality early childhood providers in a coordinated effort to create more opportunities for thousands of children. The 2016 Fund-a-Need proceeds will help create more early learning opportunities in Immokalee, Golden Gate and East Naples. Studies equate early learning with higher earning power, decreased crime and less reliance on public social services. This important Initiative goes a long way in preventing children from falling behind – ensuring long-term and positive life-changing effects.

For a complete list of online auction items, and to begin bidding, please visit www.napleswinefestival.com.

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.

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