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Fantasy trips, custom jewels and high fashion are among auction lots at 2012 Naples Winter Wine Festival

NAPLES, Fla. (Dec. 16, 2011) – Naples Winter Wine Festival’s auction lots that feature trips and treasures comprise one-of-a-kind offerings designed to get attendees bidding high and often to benefit underprivileged and at-risk children. Up for bid at the 2012 live auction, which takes place Jan. 28 in Naples, Fla., are lots that include a custom-crafted 2012 Mercedes SLS AMG Roadster; a trip around the world in a private jet; attendance at Elton John’s White Tie & Tiara Ball in Old Windsor, England; a meet-and-greet with designer Oscar de la Renta and tickets to his New York runway presentation; a walk-on role on the Emmy Award-winning TV series, “The Good Wife;” attendance at a Tiffany & Co. 175th anniversary gala with a \$50,000 shopping spree; and a golf trip in Ireland, which includes golfing and dining with Darren Clarke, the 2011 British Open Champion.

The non-wine lots are among 67 spectacular offerings that include rare wine collections; large-format bottles unavailable elsewhere; and private winery experiences with renowned vintners. All auction proceeds benefit children in need through the Naples Children & Education Foundation, the festival’s founding organization.

“Together with fellow NCEF trustees, we sought out the most unique experiences and treasures and tapped numerous friends and potential supporters to create dream-worthy lots,” said Joan Clifford, co-chair of the festival with her husband Bob and trustees of NCEF. Bob added, “With 100 percent of every winning bid amount destined for very deserving children, we are eagerly anticipating the gavel’s fall come Jan. 28.”

Following are highlights from several trips-and-treasures auction lots. Complete lot descriptions will be posted at www.napleswinefestival.com shortly.

Dream car

Lot 28, Portrait of Imola Grey, is a silver metallic, custom-crafted 2012 Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG Roadster. This super sports car combines open-top driving, superior driving dynamics and sophisticated lightweight construction. It is the first-ever car designed and developed from the ground up by Mercedes-AMG, the company’s high-performance brand. The vehicle is fitted with almost every option possible including AMG carbon ceramic brakes, AMG dynamic suspension and a 1000-watt, 11-speaker Bang & Olufsen sound system. With the right bid, the winner will zip past scores of envious buyers who ordered their Roadster almost two years ago.

Trips with bejeweled offerings

Lot 37, The Famous Blue Box Opens a Week of Wonders, features a five-night trip to New York City for two couples during Tiffany & Co.’s 175th anniversary celebration and the debut of the 2012 - 2013 Blue Book Collection. Package includes a Tiffany’s concierge, one \$25,000 gift certificate per couple, attendance at a Tiffany gala of 400 top clients and celebrities, with entertainment by a top-secret, award-winning performer. In addition, winners will have breakfast at Tiffany’s flagship store and meet with a Tiffany gemologist and a team of designers to select an exquisite gemstone creation from the jeweler’s vault. Also included is a behind-the-scenes luxury watch workshop tour and private tutorial in the Patek Philippe Salon. Winners will also attend the Broadway show Memphis, take a helicopter ride to the sculpture garden and art museum Storm King in New York’s Hudson Valley, select visits to the talk shows “LIVE! With Kelly” and “Good Morning America” or private museum tours. Daniel Boulud will prepare a private lunch for the winners and preside over an afternoon cooking lesson. The winners will also enjoy special dining experiences at Maialino’s Private Wine Room, Blue Hill at Stone Barns restaurant, GILT, Riverpark and Telepan Restaurant.

Lot 51, A Charity Ball, a Tennis Ball and Sparkly Souvenirs, comes with private car service and access for two couples to Elton John’s White Tie & Tiara Ball at his Old Windsor estate outside of London. Also included are three-night accommodations at Claridge’s and special dining experiences,

Center Court tickets at Wimbledon, with access to the Great Gatsby Club VIP Package, private Champagne preview of jeweler Chopard's Red Carpet Collection at its new Bond Street London store, with jewels to take home: a ladies 18-karat yellow gold and diamond Happy Sport Square Evening Watch and a pair of men's 18-karat yellow gold and diamond Happy Diamond Square Cufflinks.

Lot 65, Suit Yourself, Guys... The Girls Get Diamonds, is an Italian experience trip for four couples inclusive of roundtrip, business class airfare from New York to Milan. In Milan, winners stay four nights at the Bulgari Hotel, with a special dinner prepared by Bulgari's executive chef. Four ladies take home a Bulgari Serpenti stainless steel with pave-diamond, double-coil tubogas ladies watch, and four men take home a custom-tailored suit from St. Andrews. Winners will then choose between a week in Lake Como or Sardinia, with transfers from Milan via either commercial air or a private car. In Lake Como, winners stay at Villa Lucia, with service provided by two chefs, three concierges, three butlers, four housekeepers and two gardeners, and all food and wine is included. The trip also includes one night at La Scala Opera House with limo transportation and dinner at Il Marchesino, the famous Milanese restaurant; a golf trip to St. Moritz, Switzerland; a day trip to Venice by helicopter, with private guide; and a tour of Lake Como by water plane.

The Sardinia trip includes a chauffeured vehicle for the week and accommodations at Villa Orange, with services provided by a chef, host, kitchen helper and housekeeper. It also consists of daylong yacht charters to the Archipelago of La Maddalena and Corsica, a golf round at Pevero, lunch at the Romazzino Hotel, dinner at Tanit, and one night at La Scala Opera House with limo transportation and dinner at Il Marchesino.

Trips of a lifetime

Lot 12, You'll Flit, You'll Float, You'll Fleetly Flee, You'll Fly, features a 22-day around-the-world trip for two on a luxury jet specially designed for 52 passengers and crew. The jet travels to China, Mongolia, Cambodia, Nepal, Azerbaijan, Russia and France. The winners stay at five-star hotels and enjoy experiences such as intimate tours, gala evenings, special entertainment, dining at top restaurants and the services of a tour manager.

Lot 21, There's a Fungus Among Us, is a nine-night, truffle-and-wine-filled Italian adventure for two couples, with roundtrip, business class airfare from New York included. The trip begins with a special truffle dinner, with wines from Domaine Serene at Jonathan Benno's Lincoln Restaurant in New York and a stay at The Ritz-Carlton Central Park. In Milan, the winners stay one night at the Park Hyatt Milano. In Alba, winners enjoy two nights at a luxury hotel; lunch at Restaurant Piazza Duomo, a two-star Michelin restaurant; VIP tour and tasting at the Sergio Gomba Winery; and a truffle hunt with the legendary trifulau man.

Winners also fly to Florence via private helicopter for a four-night stay and dinners at Villa La Massa. Sightseeing includes a hot air balloon ride over Tuscany; private museum tours guided by an art historian to Accademia and the Uffizi, including the Vasari corridor, which is never open to the public; visits to the historic Tuscan Oil Factory and Frantolo Olive Oil; VIP tours, tastings and special dining experiences at Capannelle Winery and Castiglione del Bosco; a tour and tasting at Poggio Antico Winery; and a VIP wine tasting and lunch hosted by Marchese Ferdinando Frescobaldi at the Frescobaldi's Castello di Nipozzano Estate, a 10th century castle near Florence. The winners also join Frescobaldi and his wife, Rosaria, as guests in their private residence at Palazzo Frescobaldi in the heart of Florence. In addition, winners enjoy a VIP tour, tasting and lunch at the Tignanello Estate, with a visit to the Badia a Passignano historical cellars; dinner at Osteria di Passignano and one-night stay at the Fonte de' Medici Resort on the Tignanello Estate.

Lot 31, Set Your Sights on Dominican Delights, begins in New York with eight tickets to the Oscar de la Renta Runway presentation, complete with a meet-and-greet with Oscar de la Renta and tea and tour of the Oscar de la Renta headquarters. Back in Naples, the four winning couples each receive a \$5,000 Oscar de la Renta shopping spree at Marissa Collections. The trip also includes a roundtrip, private jet ride from

New York to Puntacana for a four-night stay at Tortuga Bay in ocean-view villas that were designed by Oscar de la Renta. While in Puntacana, the couples golf at Corales and La Cana and have access to a private golf school.

Lot 39, It Takes Two Twosomes to Tango, is a 12-night trip to South America for two couples. Accommodations include two nights at the Four Seasons in Buenos Aires, with tours and a tango show. Winners also cruise to Patagonia for three nights aboard the cruise ship Stella or Via Australis. Land tours include a visit to Cape Horn National Park through fjords, glaciers and snowfields and Magdalena Island to see a penguin colony. Winners also spend four nights at the Explora Lodge in Torres del Paine National Park in Punta Arenas with hiking, horseback riding, Zodiac boat rides, wildlife sightings and fantastic scenery. Before returning home, the winners spend a night at the Hotel Cumbres Patagónicas in Puerto Montt, two nights at the Llao Llao Hotel & Resort in Bariloche, with a lake crossing to Bariloche, through Puyehue National Park, a walk through the Bosque Los Arrayanes forest and a tour of the Cerreo Campanario chairlift. A parting gift is vintner Laura Catena's book on wine and a variety of Catena Zapata's top wines.

Lot 56, Fashionably Late for your TV Debut, is a very special New York trip for four, including first-class, roundtrip airfare and accommodations at The Ritz-Carlton Central Park. Highlights of the trip include a special set visit, and a non-speaking, walk-on role for one person on the Emmy Award-winning CBS TV series, "The Good Wife" starring Julianna Margulies. The winners also enjoy tickets to the Donna Karan Spring 2013 Fashion Show; VIP tickets to Saks Fifth Avenue's "Fashion Night Out;" salon and spa services and a personal shopping consultant at Saks New York; and back in Naples, \$4,000 in gift certificates for Donna Karan at Saks Fifth Avenue Naples. The trip also includes tickets to the Broadway plays the Book of Mormon and War Horse, VIP museum tours, lunch at The Spotted Pig, dinners at Telepan and Colicchio & Sons, and dinner at a New York restaurant with TV's Judge Judy & her husband Jerry Sheindlin.

Lot 58, Sultans, Scimitars, Boulders & Balloons: An Ottoman Odyssey, is an all-inclusive trip to Istanbul and Cappadocia, Turkey for two couples. The winners stay three nights at the five-star Ciragan Palace Hotel in Istanbul, a former Sultan's palace, with tours of ancient mosques and other world-famous sights. They also enjoy a lunch cruise along the Bosphorous aboard a private 90-foot yacht; dinner at the Kervansaray Nightclub for a traditional Turkish floor show; and a special dinner on the Asian shore of the Bosphorous. While in Cappadocia, they stay five nights at the five-star Cappadocia Cave Resort Spa in Nevsehir, with balloon rides and museum tours. Winner also experiences: a guided visit to seventh century rock cave dwellings and a fortress; a ceramic workshop in the caves of Avanos; lunch among rock formations in White Valley; a guided visit into the ancient underground city of Kaymakli; dinner and a show in the Outdoor Museum; a guided visit to the National Park of Zelve; lunch in ancient hand-hewn cave church, Gomedede; dinner in the exotic hand-hewn rock chambers at the Christian church, Avnali; a guided visit to the town of Ortahisar; lunch among the eroded rock formation of Pasabag and a finale dinner on the terrace of the Ataman.

Sporting adventures

Lot 10, The Cup & Jacket are in the Bag, offers an insider's Ryder Cup and Masters Tournament experience for four people. During the Ryder Cup at Medinah Country Club, winners stay five nights in luxury accommodations in Chicago and receive tickets to the tournament with behind-the-scenes access courtesy of NBC and The Golf Channel, including admittance to NBC's hospitality tent. Winners also have access to a private chalet at the first tee and the PGA's official hospitality room in the clubhouse for lunch one day. The lot also includes a team poster autographed by the players and special dinners and car service throughout the trip. For the 2012 Masters Tournament, the winners enjoy four tickets to the Wednesday and Thursday rounds – par 3 and opening round – with access to the Double Eagle Club and accommodations in Augusta.

Lot 47, The Bushmills Birdie Boys Club: A Guys' Golf Getaway, is a golfers' dream trip in Ireland inclusive of first-class airfare roundtrip from New York. The trip includes three nights at The Bushmills

Inn in Bushmills, Antrim; two rounds of golf at Royal Portrush Golf Club, including a round with Darren Clarke, current British Open Champion, and pre-round lunch and after-golf dinner with Clarke at the Golf Club. Winners also play two rounds of golf at Royal County Down Golf Club in Newcastle, Northern Ireland. Also included are two nights at the Merrion Hotel, Dublin, with a round of golf at Portmarnock Golf Club. During the trip, winners enjoy private helicopter transfers, driver and guide, and travel via VIP mini coach.

According to Bob Clifford, the search for auction items spanned 18 months and involved dozens of donors as well as sponsors such as Betty Maclean Travel, whose staff has organized travel itineraries for many auction lots since 2001, and NetJets, which is supplying private air travel for several lots.

In addition to the live auction, Naples Winter Wine Festival features exceptional food and wine experiences for 550 guests. Festivities begin with Meet the Kids Day for a firsthand look at the impact of festival proceeds. Following are Friday vintner dinners at trustees' homes prepared by famous chefs, with special wines poured by renowned vintners. A culinary feast and exquisite wine tasting on Saturday at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples, a founding sponsor of the festival, is followed by the festival's main event – the live auction. A Saturday evening wine-down party and Sunday celebration brunch bring the festival to a close.

About Naples Children & Education Foundation

Naples Children & Education Foundation has raised more than \$94.5 million at the Naples Winter Wine Festival since 2001 to create and expand charitable programs serving underprivileged and at-risk children in Collier County. As a direct result of the investments of NCEF, more than 125,000 children have had their lives improved. A nine-person board, representing 69 trustees, governs the foundation and currently supports 23 grantees and long-term strategic initiatives focused on children's early learning, medical/oral health, out-of-school programs, behavioral health and childhood hunger.

Naples Winter Wine Festival, the most successful charity wine auction in the world, is the primary source of funds for NCEF. Wine Spectator magazine has ranked NWWF as the nation's top charity wine auction since 2004. The festival is planned and executed by the trustees, foundation staff and hundreds of volunteers.

Festival ticket packages are \$8,500 per couple; \$20,000 for reserved seating at the same vintner dinner for two couples. For a schedule of 2012 festivities and more information about the Naples Winter Wine Festival, visit www.napleswinefestival.com or call 888-837-4919.

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Photo captions:

2012 NWWF Auction Lot 31.jpg

Lot 31 includes a meet-and-greet with designer Oscar de la Renta and tickets to his New York runway presentation along with a tropical getaway via private jet.

2012 NWWF Auction Lot 37.jpg

Winners of lot 37, A Lotta Big Apple in a Little Blue Box, will attend the Tiffany & Co. 175th anniversary gala in New York City with a \$50,000 shopping spree.

2012 NWWF Auction Lot 47.jpg

Golfing and dining with Darren Clarke, the 2011 British Open Champion, is one element of lot 47.

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