

Chefs set for Winter Wine Festival

The News-Press staff

Several of the country's most lauded celebrity chefs will participate in the 2012 Naples Winter Wine Festival weekend, which begins in Naples Jan. 27.

Participating chefs include Wolfgang Puck, Michelle Bernstein, Rick Tramonto and Chef de Cuisine, Tony Mantuano.

The chefs were selected by trustees of the Naples Children & Education Foundation and event chef committee chairs, Donna Solimene and Sandi Moran, for their talent, reputation and fit with the 2012 vintners.

The theme is "Believe in the Magic."

The festival begins with a tour of children's charities that benefit from the event, which has raised \$94.5 million since it began in 2001.

Vintner dinners take place that evening where chefs pair with 26 vintners. The next day, the festival's 550 guests gather under tents on the lawn of The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples for luncheon prepared by hotel Executive Chef George Fistrovich. Then the festival's auction begins, with 65 lots available for bidding, including rare wines, exotic trips with unique experiences and jewelry.

Mantuano, executive chef and partner of Chicago's Spiaggia restaurant, is the 2012 Chef de Cuisine.

Other chefs are:

- **Nick Anderer:** Maialino, New York City
- **Michelle Bernstein:** Michy's, Miami
- **Justin Bogle:** GILT, New York City
- **Dean Fearing:** Fearing's Restaurant, Dallas
- **Joseph Lenn:** The Barn

at Blackberry Farm, Walland, Tenn.

- **Kelly Liken:** Restaurant Kelly Liken, Vail
 - **Sisha Ortuzar:** Riverpark, New York City
 - **Charles Phan:** The Slanted Door, San Francisco
 - **Wolfgang Puck:** Wolfgang Puck Worldwide
 - **Stephan Pyles:** Stephan Pyles Restaurant, Dallas
 - **Nancy Silverton:** Osteria Mozza, Los Angeles
 - **Kerry Simon:** LA Market Restaurant, Los Angeles
 - **Joachim Splichal:** Patricia Restaurant Group, Los Angeles
 - **Bill Telepan:** Telepan, New York City
 - **Rick Tramonto:** Restaurant R'evolution, New Orleans
- Festival ticket packages are \$8,500 per couple; \$20,000 for reserved seating at the same vintner dinner for two.
- Call 888-837-4919 or visit napleswinefestival.com.