



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For information, contact Kathy Wheeler 239-290-8405 or kathywheeler227@gmail.com

RENOWNED VINTNERS TO GATHER FOR 2014 NAPLES WINTER WINE FESTIVAL

NAPLES, FL., November 18, 2013 – Twenty-nine world-renowned, artisanal vintners from across the globe will take part in the 2014 Naples Winter Wine Festival, scheduled for January 24-26. The event, which was founded in 2001 by the Naples Children & Education Foundation (NCEF), has raised more than \$110 million for underprivileged and at-risk children in Collier County over its first 13 years.

2014 Vintner Committee Co-Chairs Sandi Moran and Bruce Nichols comment, "It is a distinct privilege to welcome such a prestigious group to our event. These vintners are among the best in their field, but still are willing to help us make a real difference in the lives of children in this community. We say to them, 'Salut!'"

The Naples event, the largest of its kind to feature international as well as domestic wines, will host vintners from four continents and six countries. In addition to Honored Vintner Olivier Krug of the famed Krug Champagne House, they include 19 prestigious California wineries, together with representatives from Oregon, France, Spain, Italy, Argentina and New Zealand.

In addition to providing fine wines and collaborating with celebrity chefs for the Friday evening private dinners, vintners also provide extraordinary lots, often including travel, jewelry and one-of-a-kind experiences, for the Saturday auction.

Honored Vintner

For 2014, the NCEF trustees have chosen Olivier Krug, Directeur de la Maison of the House of Krug. The eldest of Henri Krug's five children, he grew up next door to the Krug cellars, and some of his earliest memories are of the sounds and smells during champagne harvest.

After studying in Paris and Reims, Olivier was drawn back in 1989 when his father requested he represent the sixth generation of the Krug family at the heart of the business. He held a variety of positions within the company gaining experience as a member of the wine team and working alongside his father to perfect the Krug art of tasting and blending.

The story of the House of Krug illustrates the amazing adventure of a visionary, Joseph Krug. He was a non-conformist man with an uncompromising philosophy, who understood that the essence of Champagne is pleasure itself. He wanted to offer his clients an experience of ultimate pleasure in Champagne every year, regardless of the annual variations in climate. By establishing an extensive "library" of reserve wines, Joseph Krug founded the first and only Champagne house where each bottle is of equal, undisputed quality and distinction. His vision and savoir-faire have been perpetuated and enriched, since 1843, by six generations of the Krug family.

Olivier's takes his appearance as Honored Vintner seriously. "Every day, I realize the importance of this festival," he says. "They have done amazing work for charity, and

I'm proud to have been chosen. It's a great responsibility, but the reward is even greater." For those involved with the festival, his participation is a great honor. As the saying goes, "There is Champagne, and then there is Krug."

2014 Naples Winter Wine Festival Participating Vintners

Marilisa Allegrini, Allegrini Estates -- Verona, Italy

Paired with Nadia Harón de Ortega, Nadia OF Restaurante -- Mendoza, Argentina

Juan Carlos López de la Calle and Carlos López de la Calle, Bodegas y Viñedos Artadi -- Alvara, Spain

Paired with Gerry Klaskala, Aria -- Atlanta, GA

Laura Catena, Bodega Catena Zapata -- Buenos Aires, Argentina

Paired with Lee Hefter, Spago -- Beverly Hills, CA

Nicholas Allen and Douglas Warner, Carte Blanche Wine -- Napa Valley, CA

Vintner for Meet the Kids Day luncheon

Véronique Sanders and Robert Wilmers, Château Haut-Bailly -- Léognan, France

Paired with Andrea Ferrero, Bulgari Hotel -- Milan, Italy

Mary and Terry Peabody, Craggy Range Vineyards -- Havelock North, NZ

Paired with Carrie Nahabedian, NAHA -- Chicago, IL

Jae Chun, Dana Estates -- Rutherford, CA

Paired with Mark Kiffin, The Compound Restaurant -- Santa Fe, NM

Shahpar and Darioush Khaledi, Darioush -- Napa, CA

Paired with Nadia Harón de Ortega, Nadia OF Restaurante -- Mendoza, Argentina

Gwenaël Laroche, Domaine Laroche -- Chablis, France

Paired with Mark Kiffin, The Compound Restaurant -- Santa Fe, NM

Grace and Ken Evenstad, Domaine Serene --Dayton, OR

Paired with Linton Hopkins, Restaurant Eugene -- Atlanta, GA

Valerie and Jeff Gargiulo, Gargiulo Vineyards -- Napa, CA

Paired with Angelo Auriana, The Factory Kitchen -- Los Angeles, CA

Ann and Dick Grace, Grace Family Vineyards -- St. Helena, CA

Vintner for Meet the Kids Day luncheon

Ambassador Kathryn Walt Hall and Craig Hall, HALL Napa Valley -- St. Helena, CA

Paired with Carrie Nahabedian, NAHA – Chicago, IL

Christine Bruce and John Hilliard, Hilliard Bruce Vineyards – Lompac, CA

Vintners for Meet the Kids Day luncheon

Doug Barr and Bruce Orosz, Hollywood & Vine – Rutherford, CA

Vintners for Meet the Kids Day luncheon

Robert Mark Kamen, Kamen Estate Wines -- Sonoma, CA

Paired with Frank Stitt, Highlands Bar & Grill – Birmingham, AL

William S. Price III, Kistler Vineyards -- Larkspur, CA

Paired with Tony Mantuano, Spiaggia – Chicago, IL

Olivier Krug, Krug Champagne -- Reims, France

Paired with Barbara Lynch, Menton – Boston, MA

Barbara Banke, Lokoya – Oakville, CA

Paired with Michael Anthony, Gramercy Tavern – New York, NY

Regina Martinelli, Martinelli Winery – Windsor, CA

Paired with Bill Telepan, Telepan Restaurant, New York, NY

Luc Morlet, Morlet Family Vineyards -- St. Helena, CA

Paired with Andrea Ferrero, Bulgari Hotel – Milan, Italy

David Pearson, Opus One – Oakville, CA

Paired with Christopher Kostow, The Restaurant at Meadowood – Napa, CA

Annette and Doug Shafer, Shafer Vineyards -- Napa, CA

Paired with Joseph Lenn, The Barn at Blackberry Farm – Walland, TN

Kary and David Duncan, Silver Oak Cellars – Oakville, CA

Paired with Bill Telepan, Telepan Restaurant, New York, NY

Fahri Diner, SKIPSTONE – Geyserville, CA

Paired with Gerry Klaskala, Aria – Atlanta, GA

Shari and Garen Staglin, Staglin Family Vineyard – Rutherford, CA

Paired with Jonathan Cartwright, The White Barn Inn – Kennebunk Beach, ME

Elizabeth and Clarke Swanson, Jr., Swanson Vineyards – Oakville, CA

Paired with Angelo Auriana, The Factory Kitchen, Los Angeles, CA

Ferdinando Frescobaldi, Tenuta dell'Ornellaia -- Tuscany, Italy

Paired with Tony Mantuano, Spiaggia – Chicago, IL

Elisa Kwon de Álvarez, Vega Sicilia -- Valbuena de Duero, Spain

Paired with Lee Heftter, Spago – Beverly Hills, CA

The Naples Winter Wine Festival Highlights

The real importance of the festival is shared with patrons as it begins on Friday, with a Meet the Kids event, where patrons meet children and charities benefited by NCEF, and see first-hand how their generosity is improving the lives of underprivileged and at-risk children throughout Collier County. A luncheon and wine tasting follow. That evening, the vintner dinners described above take place in private homes throughout Naples.

On Saturday, after a lunch showcasing the talents of the chefs of The Ritz-Carlton Resorts, 550 guests participate in a fast-paced auction that offers more than 60 lots of exceptional wines, dining experiences, custom travel packages, rare automobiles and more. Following the auction, patrons attend the wine down, an informal gathering with more incredible wine, food and music.

Finally, Sunday's celebration brunch concludes the weekend with a salute to guests, sponsors, vintners and chefs.

The festival ticket package is \$8,500 per couple or \$20,000 for a two-couple package with reserved seating at the same vintner dinner.

###

The Naples Children & Education Foundation is committed to supporting charitable programs that improve the physical, emotional and educational lives of underprivileged and at-risk children in Collier County. Its primary fundraiser, the Naples Winter Wine Festival, is the largest global event of its kind, and has raised in excess of \$110 million in its first 13 years for annual grants to 37 beneficiary organizations and 7 strategic initiatives. Festival dates for 2014 are January 24-26. Additional information is available at www.napleswinefestival.com.

