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Photo captions:

The Honored Vintners for the 2010 Naples Winter Wine Festival are Deborah and Bill Harlan of Harlan Estate in Oakville, Calif. The Harlans have supported the festival since it began in 2001.

The finest and rarest wines are an integral part of the Naples Winter Wine Festival.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF TOP WINE FESTIVAL TO FEATURE POWERHOUSE NAMES IN THE WINE WORLD

Esteemed producers will personally pour their wines and donate one-of-a-kind auction lots at the Naples Winter Wine Festival to benefit underprivileged and at-risk children

NAPLES, Fla. (Sept. 21, 2009) – The Naples Winter Wine Festival, the most successful charity wine auction in the nation, will feature powerhouse names in the wine world from across the globe for its 10th anniversary festival, to be held Jan. 29-31. The roster of 30 vintners is widely diversified, with producers from the most lauded small-production wine estates in Spain, Argentina, Italy, Oregon and California, as well as the historic French regions of Bordeaux and Burgundy, and a festival first, a vintner from South Africa. Eighteen of the vintners are making a return appearance at the festival and 12 will participate for the first time.

“We are approaching a historic milestone,” said The Hon. Francis Rooney, festival chair with his wife, Kathleen, both trustees of the Naples Children & Education Foundation, which founded the festival. “Few, if any, single wine events have drawn wine luminaries of such high caliber, in one place, at the same time, and for 10 years running, with multimillions in auction proceeds going to underprivileged and at-risk children. We are extremely honored to have the support of these stellar vintners and thrilled that they will be part of our 10-year celebration.”

Returning Vintners and First-Time Participants

The 2010 vintners who have been long-term festival participants include Ann Colgin of Colgin Cellars; Deborah and Bill Harlan of Harlan Estate; Dick and Ann Grace of Grace Family Vineyards; Shari and Garen Staglin of Staglin Family Vineyard; Ken and Grace Evenstad of Domaine Serene; Valerie Boyd and Jeff Gargiulo of Gargiulo Vineyards; Elizabeth and Clarke Swanson of Swanson Vineyards; Doug and Annette Shafer of Shafer Vineyards; and Stuart and Karen Sloan of Sloan Estate.

“Each of these vintners’ wines is highly coveted and most are spoken for long before they are released. Yet year after year, these vintners share their talent and extraordinary wines, and say they look forward to the festival because they have seen the smiles of children who benefit from funds raised at the festival,” said Kathleen Rooney.

First-time participants include two celebrity vintners: LPGA golf legend Annika Sorenstam of Annika Vineyards and Hollywood and TV star Kyle MacLachlan of ...pursued by bear. They are joined by American Grand Cru pinot noir producer Bergström Wines; Scarecrow Wine from Napa Valley; Benovia Winery from California’s Russian River Valley; Morlet Family Vineyards of Sonoma County, Calif.; as well as Italy’s Bruno Giacosa; Argentina’s Bodega Chacra; South Africa’s Vilafonte; France’s Champagne Salon, Chateau Lynch-Bages of Bordeaux and Burgundy’s Domaine Ponsot.

“We are thrilled to have all these true icons of wine participating at the festival, including other powerhouse names like Beaucastel, Haut-Brion, Chave, Peter Michael, Pingus, Drouhin, Antinori and Vega-Sicilia,” said Scott Lutgert, vintner committee chairman and NCEF trustee. “Many vintners in our

star-studded lineup have produced more than one or two 100 point wines as rated by Robert M. Parker Jr. and received numerous other accolades. Their remarkable talent is equaled only by their generous spirit.”

Honored Vintner

Special recognition is given each year to an Honored Vintner, and for the 2010 festival, NCEF trustees have selected Deborah and Bill Harlan of Harlan Estate. According to Lutgert, the Harlans have been producing Bordeaux-style wines that have captured the imagination of critics and consumers around the world for more than 20 years. They are one of only two American producers to score a perfect 100 points for four different vintages as rated by Parker. “They have been incredibly generous and supportive of the Naples Winter Wine Festival since its inception, and we are pleased to pay them tribute by naming them Honored Vintners,” said Francis Rooney.

2010 Naples Winter Wine Festival Participating Vintners

Annika Sorenstam
Annika Vineyards
Livermore, California

Daphne & Bart Araujo
Araujo Estate Wines
Calistoga, California

Mary Dewane, Joe Anderson and Mike Sullivan
Benovia Winery
Santa Rosa, California

Josh Bergström
Bergström Wines
Newberg, Oregon

Piero Incisa della Rocchetta
Bodega Chacra
Argentina

Bruna Giacosa
Bruno Giacosa
Italy

Jean-Baptiste Cristini
Champagne Salon
France

Marc Perrin
Château de Beaucastel
France

H.R.H. Prince Robert of Luxembourg
Château Haut-Brion
France

Jean-Charles Cazes
Château Lynch-Bages
France

Ann Colgin
Colgin Cellars
St. Helena, California

Jean-Louis Chave
Domaine J.L. Chave
France

Laurent Ponsot
Domaine Ponsot
France

Grace & Ken Evenstad
Domaine Serene
Dayton, Oregon

Peter Sisseck
Dominio de Pingus
Spain

Valerie Boyd & Jeff Gargiulo
Gargiulo Vineyards
Oakville, California

Ann & Dick Grace
Grace Family Vineyards
St. Helena, California

Deborah & Bill Harlan
Harlan Estate
Oakville, California

Véronique Drouhin-Boss
Maison Joseph Drouhin
France

Piero Antinori
Marchesi Antinori
Italy

Luc Morlet
Morlet Family Vineyards
St. Helena, California

Emily & Paul Michael
Peter Michael Winery
Calistoga, California

Kyle MacLachlan
...pursued by bear
Walla Walla, Washington

Mimi DeBlasio & Bret Lopez
Scarecrow Wine
Rutherford, California

Annette & Doug Shafer
Shafer Vineyards
Napa, California

Karen & Stuart Sloan
Sloan Estate
Rutherford, California

Shari & Garen Staglin
Staglin Family Vineyard
Rutherford, California

Elizabeth & Clarke Swanson
Swanson Vineyards
Oakville, California

Pablo Alvarez
Vega-Sicilia
Spain

Zelma Long
Vilafonté
South Africa

Vintner-donated auction lots have attracted big bids at previous festivals. In 2009, the top wine-only lot fetched \$150,000 for five Magnums from Domaine de la Romanee-Conti. A vertical of Sloan Estate Napa Valley Red wine in double Magnum format and a private visit and dinner at Sloan Estate for four people were auctioned for \$60,000. "Those two bids alone will help fund critical therapeutic services for autistic children and underwrite a room at the Children's Stabilization Unit in Collier County's Mental Health Center, which provides 72-hour emergency care for a child in crisis," said Kathleen Rooney.

Festival At A Glance

The festival begins Friday morning with a Meet the Kids tour. Guests experience firsthand the programs and services supported by festival proceeds and meet children whose lives have been changed through NCEF grants. Following, guests gather for a luncheon and wine tasting, which features notable wines from California and Washington. On Friday evening, celebrity chefs join with vintners to create intimate, multicourse dining experiences at the homes of NCEF trustees. On Saturday, the grand lawn of The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples is the site of a culinary showcase, wine tasting and world-class auction of one-of-a-kind wine lots, travel experiences and other special items. A Saturday evening "wine"-down party and Sunday celebration brunch complete the festival events.

NCEF and Festival Background

NCEF trustees founded the Naples Winter Wine Festival, ranked by Wine Spectator as the most successful charity wine festival in the nation since 2004, to raise funds for area charities that assist underprivileged and at-risk children. Since 2001, more than \$74 million has been raised toward making a profound and sustainable difference for children.

Festival ticket packages are \$7,500 per couple; \$20,000 for reserved seating at the same vintner dinner for two couples. For a schedule of 2010 festivities and more information about the Naples Winter Wine Festival, please visit www.napleswinefestival.com, or call the wine festival office at 888-837-4919.