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## **After Raising More than \$15 Million at Saturday's Live Auction, Naples Winter Wine Festival Raises an Additional \$183,396 through its Online Auction**

Naples, FL – February 1, 2017 – The Naples Winter Wine Festival's third annual Online Auction, which invited the entire Naples community and beyond to experience the thrill of the Festival, brought even more good news to Collier County by raising an additional \$183,396 for children in need. The auction saw enthusiastic participation from near and far: bids poured in from 21 states beyond Florida, and one even came all the way from London, England.

"Although I wasn't able to attend the Naples Winter Wine Festival, I was thrilled to become a part of it by bidding in the Online Auction," said local bidder Randy Smith, who won VIP tickets to a Florida Gators football game as a guest of UF President W. Kent Fuchs. "It's a great way to have the entire community involved in supporting the Festival's mission to help the children in Collier County."

The Online Auction's top bid of **\$13,000** went to an exclusive golfing experience at TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL—widely regarded as the world headquarters of professional golf. With this lot, four lucky people will be whisked off to Jacksonville from Naples via private jet to enjoy a round of golf. Winners will also be treated to an overnight stay with lunch and dinner.

Additional Online Auction highlights include:

- **\$8,000** reserved one week in a three-bedroom luxury cottage with private dining at Linville Ridge, a favored summertime refuge in the North Carolina mountains offering a variety of activities such as golf, tennis, and spa treatments.
- **\$7,000** bought a rare collection of Aloft and Dark Matter Wines, as yet unavailable to the public, plus a private dinner with the famed Mondavi family at their Howell Mountain property.
- A caviar-and-champagne cruise aboard a 60-foot Hatteras yacht was snapped up for **\$5,000**.
- **\$5,000** was the bid for a round of golf and lunch in Naples at the exclusive Old Collier Golf Club, an 18-hole championship course designed by noted golf course architect Tom Fazio.
- Bidders claimed a family-style picnic lunch for ten people at Gargiulo Vineyards in Napa Valley for **\$5,000**.

The Online Auction was made possible with the incredible support of many local organizations, including 13 restaurants and 21 Naples-based businesses that donated an array of fine dining experiences, shopping excursions, luxury staycations and more. Funds raised from the auction help support the work of the Naples Children & Education Foundation, which will award this year's grants to local organizations serving Collier County children in need on March 13, 2017.

### 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](http://Napleswinefestival.com).

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