



## **2018 NAPLES WINTER WINE FESTIVAL RAISES \$15.15 MILLION FOR COLLIER COUNTY CHILDREN**

*World's first 2018 Rolls Royce Phantom goes for \$780,000 during live auction  
Funds Still Coming in Through Online Auction; Closes January 31<sup>st</sup> at 11:59pm*

January 27, 2018 (NAPLES, FL) - The 2018 Naples Winter Wine Festival closed its energetic live auction today, generating a resounding \$15.15 million for children's services and boosting the total amount raised to more than \$176 million since its inception in 2001. Funds are still pouring in from the online auction, which closes on January 31 at 11:59pm.

"We're extremely grateful for everyone who participated and attended in this year's Naples Winter Wine Festival," said Susie McCurry, 2018 Festival Co-Chair. "Thanks to the acclaimed chefs, stellar vintners and of course, our big-hearted guests, this year's Festival was an overwhelming success, which will make a life-changing difference for the children we serve."

Donations to this year's Fund a Need, supporting Children's Hunger and Oral Health, closed out the thrilling day, bringing in on-the-spot contributions of over \$2.3 million which will ensure more at-risk children will have access to nutritious food and proper oral health care—both critical to a child's overall health.

Festival attendees from around the world came together under the tent at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples to bid on 61 once-in-a-lifetime lots, ranging from exceptional wine and culinary experiences to limited-edition cars and exotic travel packages. **The auction's top single bid of \$780,000 went to the world's first 2018 Rolls Royce Phantom**, finished in a Belladonna Purple exterior and Arctic White and Purple interior, the winner will join the editors of Robb Report to help select the "2019 Car of the Year" and stay at the Meadowood resort for two nights while enjoying wine-paired dinners. The lot also included an Imperial of 2014 Alpha Omega ERA etched with the Rolls Royce logo and and 12-month membership to Alpha Omega's ERA Elite Wine Club.

Other auction highlights include:

- **\$650,000 for a 2018 McLaren 720S** and **\$520,000 for a 2019 Bentley Continental GT** - The customized Nerello red 2018 McLaren 720S went to one lucky bidder for \$650,000. The model's design is inspired by the Nerello Mascalese grape from the Mascali area of Catania, Sicily and features grape motifs on the exterior. The winner of the 2019 Bentley drove home in the very first model available in North America, with a Sequin Blue exterior and Portland/Imperial Blue interior. With four seats and improved luggage capacity,

the car also boasts a fully digital, driver-focused instrument panel and a Bentley Rotating Display.

- **\$520,000 for a trip to South Africa and Staglin Family Vineyard** - The winning bid for a 10-day trip to South Africa for two couples went to \$520,000. The couple will travel with Shari and Garen Staglin and 12 bottles of Staglin Family Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon ranging from 2009 - 2014, and will get VIP access to Cape Wine Auction, private tours and tastings at seven wineries, a safari, and luxury accommodations at One&Only, Rupert & Rothschild Manor House, and Singita Lembombo Lodge.
- **\$450,000 for a private performance Thomas Rhett with the Garguilo's** - For \$450,000, the winner and 20 of their closest friends won a living room concert by country music star Thomas Rhett and dinner featuring a special Nashville menu, paired with Garguilo wines. The couple also won 3 Double Magnums of 2014 Garguilo Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon, 2 Custom Heritage Guitars, and first-class airfare to San Francisco to join the Garguilo's for the "Flowering of the Vines" weekend.
- **\$320,000 for diner at Silver Oak and a private performance by Chuck Leavell** - The Duncan Family of Silver Oak and Twomey Cellars will be hosting the winning couple and 24 of their friends at either Silver Oak Winery in Napa, or the bidder's personal home, for a private dinner prepared by Silver Oak chef Dominic Orsini. Guests will enjoy a live piano performance by Chuck Leavell of The Allman Brothers Band and The Rolling stones while sipping wines selected by Kary & David Duncan themselves. The couple took home a Martin OMCXAE Black Guitar, signed by Chuck Leavell and David Duncan, and 1 Balthazar, 1 Imperial, and 1 Double Magnum of 2013 Silver Oak Cellars Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, all signed by David Duncan.
- **\$220,000 for 34 wines from every NWWF vintner** - The winner took home 1 Mangum from each of the 2018 Festival's participating vintners. The lot represents 34 "Love Stories" and celebrates the Festival's vintners who have generously given their time and the fruits of their labors to support the children of Collier County.

The sold-out Festival weekend began Thursday morning with an intimate Vintner Luncheon with headliner Opus One Winery, where guests participated in a vertical tasting of the Estate's 1980, 1994, 1996, 2006, 2007, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 vintages, ten celebrated vintages spanning the winery's four remarkable decades. The masterclass tasting was led by David Pearson, CEO of Opus One, and featured special guest moderator, Antonio Galloni of *Vinous*.

This year's Festival brought together more than 30 of the world's highly distinguished wineries with 18 award-winning chefs and a collective eight Michelin Stars, 15 James Beard Awards, and wines from over 13 wine producing regions, eight countries and five continents for a series of exclusive, curated dinners. Honoring Festival veterans Kary and David Duncan of Silver Oak as Honored Vintner and Chef Gary Danko as Chef de Cuisine.

Although today marks the final day of the 2018 Naples Winter Wine Festival, festival enthusiasts still have the opportunity to bid for a number of remarkable auction lot items through the online auction at [www.nwwfonlineauction.com](http://www.nwwfonlineauction.com).

For all press-related inquiries, please contact [naples@sunshinesachs.com](mailto:naples@sunshinesachs.com) or 212-691-2800.

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#### **ABOUT NAPLES WINTER WINE FESTIVAL**

The Naples Winter Wine Festival, one of the world's most prestigious charity wine auctions, offers a weekend of unforgettable memories. Guests enjoy world-class food and wine during intimate dinners in private homes, and are invited to bid on once-in-a-lifetime travel and wine experiences during an electrifying live auction. Since its inaugural event in 2001, the NWWF has raised more than \$176 million, making a profound difference in the lives of thousands of children.

#### **ABOUT NAPLES CHILDREN & EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

The Naples Children & Education Foundation, the founding organization of the Naples Winter Wine Festival, is improving the educational, emotional, and health outcomes of underprivileged and at-risk children. Through its annual grants and strategic initiatives, NCEF has impacted over 40 of the most effective nonprofits in the community, providing more than 200,000 children with the services and resources they need to excel. NCEF's unique approach, which emphasizes collaboration between organizations and bridges public and private resources, has become a blueprint for how to transform a community, one issue at a time.