

2018 NAPLES WINTER WINE FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES OPENING OF ONLINE AUCTION Those unable to join the year's sold-out NWWF still have the chance to win unique culinary and artisan experiences

January 15, 2018 (NAPLES, FL) - The Naples Winter Wine Festival (NWWF) has today announced that the 2018 Online Auction is officially live—featuring rare wines, unique dining experiences, luxurious beach getaways and much more. Since its launch in 2015, the NWWF Online Auction has provided additional participation opportunities to the local community, as well as supporters nationwide who may not be able to attend the live auction. Every year, it raises close to \$200,000 to benefit disadvantaged and at-risk children of Collier County.

"The Online Auction has an outstanding collection of auction lots available this year, which encompass some of the best local wine, food, and experiences that our generous partners in Naples have to offer," said Adria Starkey, 2018 Online Auction Co-Chair and Lifetime Trustee. "We are thrilled to open up the NWWF auction experience to an even larger audience, which expands our reach and mission to help improve the lives of underprivileged children in our community."

Online bidders have the chance to win a variety of one-of-a-kind items and experiences: rare bottles of wine, exclusive visits to boutique wineries, dining with several 2018 NWWF Celebrity Chefs, tickets to major sporting events and unique culinary experiences.

Auction lot highlights include:

- An evening with Cliff Williams of AC/DC In addition to an autographed guitar from the rock legend himself, the winner of this auction lot will have a special dinner with Georganne & Cliff Williams and Grace & Ken Evenstad at Sea Salt Naples, with wine provided by Domaine Serene. The Evenstads will graciously pair these wines with the magnificent cuisine of Sea Salt.
- A single-family home design by MHK Architecture & Planning Build your dream home with approximately 100 hours towards a schematic design from the talented design professionals of MHK Architecture & Planning, who have created some of the most desired architectural pieces in Southwest Florida. The winner will receive a schematic design to include a site plan, floor plans of each level and an architect's illustration of the front of the house. Founder and owner, Matthew Kragh has been honored with many awards and is proud to have created such dynamic projects as

Naples Square, the Mangrove Bay Development and the upcoming 1075 Central Avenue downtown development.

- An Extravagant Dinner at D'Amico Naples Family of Restaurants The winner and a group of nine guests will experience a luxurious night out on the town. The evening will begin at The Continental on beautiful Third Street South for a personal craft cocktail experience with a talented Continental craftsman. After cocktails, a limo will provide transport to Café Lurcat where guests will enjoy a light appetizer and salad paired with select wines. From there, the limo will bring the group to Campiello for an exquisite entrée and wine pairing before arriving at its final destination, The Continental, for a luscious dessert or apéritif with Amaro, along with music and dancing
- A Dinner and Private Cooking Class at Dallas' Revered Knife Restaurant Dallas is where you'll find John Tesar's reinvention of the steakhouse experience, Knife named one of *Eater*'s "Most Anticipated Openings," *Esquire* magazine's "Best New Restaurants," *Zagat*'s "Hottest New Restaurants," *Maxim's* "America's Best Steakhouse Specialties," *D Magazine's* "Best Steakhouse in Dallas" in 2015 and 2016, and featured on *Esquire Network*'s "Restaurant Revolution." In addition to savoring one of the best steak dinners in the country, guests will spend two nights at acclaimed The Highland Dallas and enjoy a private cooking class with chef John Tesar, a four-time James Beard "Best Chef: Southwest" semi-finalist and "Top Chef" contestant, specializing in modern American cuisine prepared with authentic European techniques.
- DuMOL Since its beginning in 1996, DuMOL has had a stellar lineup of wines which today includes Pinot Noir, Syrah, Chardonnay, and Viognier. This NWWF auction lot will consist of a 5 Liter of 2007 DuMOL estate Pinot Noir etched with the 2012 NWWF logo and Magnums of the 2009 DuMOL isobel Chardonnay, 2009 DuMOL estate Pinot Noir and 2009 DuMOL ryan Pinot Noir. Partners Michael Verlander, Kerry Murphy, and winemaker/partner Andy Smith believe in blending, but produce single-vineyard wines when the vineyard warrants.
- An Intimate Tasting at Fogline Vineyards Launched in 2009, Fogline Vineyards produces small lots of Pinot Noir, Zinfandel, Syrah and Chardonnay. The winning bidders will not only enjoy a tour and tasting at this coastal winery, but also one of only 12 Magnums of Fogline Vineyards Rosé of Syrah bottled. The Fogline Vineyard is located in the Sonoma Coast appellation, at the top of Sonoma Mountain. This area of the Sonoma Coast is known as the Petaluma Gap, noteworthy for the wind and fog that blows in through a gap in the coastal hills, which create the distinct environment needed to grow world-class Pinot Noir and Chardonnay.
- **Golf Outing at Old Collier Golf Club** Four lucky golfers will get to experience this private Golf Club with one round of golf and a delicious lunch in the dining room overlooking the course. Tucked alongside the Cocohatchee River in Naples, Florida, the Old Collier Golf Club is perhaps Naples' best-kept secret west of US 41. It was created

for its members, a limited number of individuals who appreciate the traditions of the game of golf and who enjoy each other's company. Exclusive is an understatement. An environmental sanctuary, the Club's members share its 267 acres with a wide variety of wildlife.

- Outstanding in the Field Dinner They call themselves "a roving culinary adventure" and "a restaurant without walls." Since 1999, Outstanding in the Field has set up a long table at rural farms and urban gardens, on mountaintops and in sea caves, on islands and ranches. Occasionally, the table is set indoors: a beautiful refurbished barn, a cool greenhouse or a stately museum. Wherever the location, the theme of each dinner is to honor the people whose good work brings nourishment to the table. Two guests will choose an event around the country or the world that speaks to them and puts themselves in this amazing picture.
- Work of Art from Guadalupe Center This auction winner will receive a work of art created by the students of the Early Childhood Education program at the Guadalupe Center in Immokalee, Florida. "From Our Hearts to Yours" is what the children of the Guadalupe Center call the piece of art they created during their art classes this year. The wood framed piece composed of 110 4x4 inch hearts created by the students is joyful and colorful and hopeful! The children used different mediums and materials—buttons, tissue paper, puffy paint, newspaper—and all of the squares are attached to the board with velcro so the winning bidder can move them around to their heart's desire!

A full roster and additional details on these exciting online auction lot items are available at <u>www.nwwfonlineauction.com</u>.

To inquire about the Festival or online auction, please contact <u>info@napleswinefestival.com</u> or 239-514-2239.

For all press-related inquiries, please contact 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 wines and food 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 \$161 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.