

SOCIETY

2020 Naples Winter Wine Festival auction at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples



The 20th Naples Winter Wine Festival came to a grand finale following its electric live auction Saturday, Jan. 25, which raised just over \$20 million for the underprivileged and at-risk children of Collier County, a record-breaking number. This brings the total amount raised by the festival to more than \$210 million since its inception in 2001. The festival opened with a special performance by Kool & The Gang. Other celebrity attendees included comedian Sebastian Maniscalco, TV personality Judge Judy and PGA golfer Greg Norman, who generously gave back by supporting an auction lot that included golfing with fellow PGA golfer Jack Nicklaus. This year's top lot was "When the Majestic Meets the Mediterranean," a one-week Mediterranean cruise for five couples aboard a 201-foot super yacht, which went for \$1,050,000.

Piero Antinori, a wine festival vintner of Marchesi Antinori in Florence, Italy; Laura Catena, managing director of Bodega Catena Zapata and founder of the Catena Institute of Wine; Jeff Gargiulo, one of the founders and trustees of the Naples Winter Wine Festival ; and Jaime Araujo Bezan of Accendo Cellars.

- 1. Don DeMichele and his wife, Darlene DeMichele, center, celebrate a winning auction bid
- 2. Auctioneer Humphrey Butler
- 3. Eric Portella, Ken Kochenour and Candice Kochenour
- 4. Bridgett Chandley and Ryann Cindrich
- 5. 2020 festival VIPs Nancy and Joe Masterson, center, are joined on auction day by their son and daughter-in-law Michael Masterson, left, and Gloria Masterson, right.
- 6. Sam Simon
- 7. Mary Pat Hussey, lifetime trustee
- 8. Andy Anderson, right, is congratulated after securing a winning bid
- 9. Ashley Gerry

ERIC STRACHAN / FLORIDA WEEKLY