



**After Another Record Weekend, the Naples Winter Wine Festival Will Return for its 24<sup>th</sup> Year Featuring the Finest Wine and Food with “Generosity in Full Bloom”**

*Nation’s top charity wine auction is scheduled for January 26-28, 2024 at The Ritz-Carlton Naples, Tiburón under the leadership of Festival Co-Chairs Shelly and Ralph Stayer*

**Naples, FL** (May 9, 2023) – The Naples Children & Education Foundation (NCEF), founders of the Naples Winter Wine Festival (NWWF), announced that the 24<sup>th</sup> annual NWWF will take place on January 26-28, 2024 at The Ritz-Carlton Naples, Tiburón. With the theme “Generosity in Full Bloom,” the Festival will once again feature exclusive fine wines, impeccable cuisine and unique, one-of-a-kind auction lots benefiting underprivileged and at-risk children in the local community.

This year’s theme reflects the incredible support consistently provided to the NWWF from patrons around the globe who bid on amazing auction lots and the dozens of award-winning chefs and world-renowned vintners who generously donate their time and talents at intimate private dinners throughout Naples, featuring the very best wines and food and unforgettable experiences.

The 24<sup>th</sup> annual NWWF comes following the record-breaking event in 2023 and anticipation for another hugely successful Festival is already building under the leadership of the 2024 NWWF Co-Chairs Shelly and Ralph Stayer. The Stayers are co-owners of Johnsonville, LLC, the nation’s number one sausage brand and have been supporters of NCEF and the NWWF for several years.

“It is so exciting to see plans already coming together for the 2024 Naples Winter Wine Festival where we will witness “Generosity in Full Bloom,” said 2024 NWWF Co-Chair Shelly Stayer. “Our amazing live auction will once again feature exclusive wine, food and travel packages with every dollar raised under the big tent going to benefit underprivileged and at-risk kids in Collier County.”

The Co-Chairs of the 2024 NWWF bring the perfect combination of professional business and philanthropic experience both in Naples and abroad. Under their stewardship at Johnsonville, LLC, the family-owned business has grown from a small butcher shop in Wisconsin into a thriving, billion-dollar global operation. Ralph was honored as CEO of the Year by Tim Peters in 1988 and was named as a finalist in the Ernst & Young National Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2000.

Beyond business, the Stayer’s true passion is philanthropy. In 2018, Shelly Stayer founded the Shelly Stayer Shelter for Human Trafficking Victims in Immokalee providing a safe haven for victims of human trafficking and domestic violence. She also has chaired some of the highest profile non-profit and philanthropic fundraising endeavors in the states of Florida and Wisconsin.

“It is an honor to be entrusted with leading such an important event as the Naples Winter Wine Festival,” said 2024 NWWF Co-Chair Ralph Stayer. “The 2023 Festival was truly amazing, raising nearly \$26 million for essential children’s services in our community. We hope to build upon that momentum and anticipate welcoming everyone back together for another impactful weekend.”

Ticket packages for the 2024 Naples Winter Wine Festival start at \$15,000 per couple for a Double Magnum package and \$35,000 for two couples to experience a Jeroboam Package. For additional information, please visit: [napleswinefestival.com/about-the-festival](https://napleswinefestival.com/about-the-festival).

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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 elegant, private homes and settings throughout Naples 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 approximately \$269 million, making a profound difference in the lives of hundreds 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 60 of the most effective nonprofits in the community, providing more than 300,000 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.

For additional information on the Naples Children & Education Foundation or the Naples Winter Wine Festival, contact Lisa Juliano at [lisa@napleswinefestival.com](mailto:lisa@napleswinefestival.com) or 239-514-2239.