



Naples Children & Education Foundation Welcomes New Trustees

Naples, FL (September 14, 2023) – The Naples Children & Education Foundation (NCEF), the founding organization of the Naples Winter Wine Festival, has named Carol and Tom Joseph and Kathy and Andy Mook as Trustees. In this role, they will support NCEF’s vision of making a profound and sustaining difference in the lives of underprivileged children in Collier County.

“We are delighted to welcome these couples as Trustees,” said Rick Germain, NCEF Chairman of the Board. “Their vibrant involvement in business and community service will contribute to our organization, and, as past patrons of the Naples Winter Wine Festival, each of them demonstrates a deep, heartfelt commitment to investing in a broad range of charitable causes in the community.”

Carol and Tom Joseph have resided in Naples since 2012 and are generous philanthropists in both Naples and Wisconsin, focused on educational opportunities for young people. Among the charitable causes supported by the couple are two Boys & Girls Clubs in Wisconsin and a Basic Needs Foundation. The Josephs have attended the Naples Winter Wine Festival since 2022.

Tom attended the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater until his entrepreneurial instincts led him to start his first manufacturing company, Joseph Engineering. In 1988, Tom founded Magnum Products, a leading manufacturer of light towers and generators used in the construction industry.

Carol holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and English and an MBA from the University of Illinois. After a career as an administrative law judge and a corporate HR career at Oshkosh B’Gosh, she joined Tom at Magnum Products. Together, they expanded the business, becoming one of the largest privately held manufacturers of light towers and earning “Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year” in 2005. Magnum Products was later acquired by Generac Holdings.

Kathy and Andy Mook also have attended the Naples Winter Wine Festival since 2022. The retired business executives share a common interest in serving underprivileged children in Naples and Ohio, serving as board members, volunteers and direct youth mentors for various charities.

A graduate of Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, Andy started his career with Ernst and Whinney (now known as Ernst & Young) as a systems consultant. He then sat for and passed the CPA exam. After six years with E&Y, he took an opportunity to purchase a minority interest in a small plastics manufacturer, which later changed its name to InVue. As Executive Vice President, he managed manufacturing, engineering, systems, finance, legal, HR and sourcing, helping InVue grow 50-fold via numerous acquisitions and divestitures. A world traveler, Andy retired in 2021.

Kathy is a retired regional sales manager from Procter & Gamble, where she received the “National Salesperson of the Year” award. She also is a graduate of Miami University in Oxford.

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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 other landmark 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 close to 90 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 or 239-514-2239.