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CLASSIC WINES AUCTION CELEBRATES 25 YEARS AND RAISES \$2.2 MILLION DOLLARS TO HELP 42,000 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN NEED

Top Selling Lots included a Weekend in Napa Valley, a Scotland Manor House trip, the Kennedy Center Honors and Wines from Around the World

Editor's Note: Photographs available upon request.

PORTLAND, Oregon – (March 10, 2009) – The Classic Wines Auction, one of the country's top charity wine auctions, continued its steady growth from its beginnings in 1982 when it raised \$9,000 to the staggering amount of \$2.2 million raised at Saturday night's auction to benefit five Portland area charities. The annual week-long events included Taste Walla Walla, Wine by the Glass, Winemaker dinners, an Ambassadors dinner and awards and the Gala Auction at the Oregon Convention Center. The five charities benefiting from the fundraising include Metropolitan Family Service, New Avenues for Youth, Friends of the Children, Trillium Family Services and YWCA Clark County. More than 750 guests attended the 25th anniversary gala event on Saturday, March 7, 2009.

"This year's auction surprised us with everyone's generosity, especially in the current economic climate," said Heather Martin, executive director of the Classic Wines Auction. "The dynamic auction lots, generous guests and distinguished wine ambassadors created a one-of-a-kind event that showcases our commitment to helping children and families in need."

DAVID MACHADO AND JESUS CIBRIAN WOW CROWD WITH LOCAL INGREDIENTS

The line-up of chef talent for the gala auction included David Machado, chef/owner of Lauro Kitchen, Vindalho and opening Spring 2009, Nel Centro in the Hotel Modera. He was joined by Jesus Cibrian, executive chef of Aventura Catering at the Phoenix Convention Center. Dinner included *Organic Nation Vodka-Cured Salmon with Celery Root Remoulade; Duck Leg Confit on Warm Red Cabbage and Bacon Salad; Roasted Beet Napoleon with Tumalo Farms Goat Cheese, Oregon Pears and Hazelnuts;* and *Carlton Farms Stuffed Pork Chop with Apples, Prosciutto and Sage on Garnet Yam puree with Pendleton Whiskey Demi Glace.*

WINE AMBASSADORS ADD WORLD CLASS PANACHE TO EVENT

The honorary wine ambassadors served as hosts for the Ambassador Dinner the Friday evening prior to the Auction, and provided wines to be served at the Friday night dinner and Gala Auction. This honorary distinction is given each year to a designated winery in Oregon, Washington, and California, as well as to an international ambassador. The 2009 Wine Ambassadors included Grace and Ken Evenstad from Domaine Serene in Oregon's Willamette Valley, Champagne Louis Roederer (Reims, France), Long Shadow Vintners in Washington and Pride Mountain Vineyards in Napa, California.

TOP LOTS INCLUDED NAPA VALLEY WEEKEND AT FRENCH LAUNDRY

Top lots at the 2009 Classic Wines Auction included the following:

- Lot #31: French Laundry and Napa Luxury, \$26,000 – three couples will enjoy a weekend in Napa, California traveling by a Bombardier Learjet 40, dinner at French Laundry, a private tour and tasting at Stag's Leap Wine Cellars and spa treatments at the Carneros Inn.
- Lot #11: James Beard Award-Winning Chefs, \$24,000 – Vitaly Paley of Paley's Place, Philippe Boulot of the Multnomah Athletic Club and the Heathman, Caprial Pence of Caprial's Westmoreland Bistro and Greg Higgins of Higgins, will prepare a five-course dinner for 48 people at the Multnomah Athletic Club.
- Lot #45: Scotland Manor House, \$23,000 – One week's stay for up to four couples at Kilmartin Hall in Scotland and American Airlines business class air transportation from Portland to Scotland.
- Lot #29: Kennedy Center Honors, \$21,000 – Spend the weekend in Washington DC with two tickets to the Kennedy Center Honors on December 6, 2009; first class airfare from Portland to Washington; Three nights at the Fairfax at Embassy Row; tours of attractions like the White House, Capitol Dome; passes to the Smithsonian; Diamond bracelet and Marchesa Notte gown and designer tuxedo from Mario's.
- Lot #40: Smart Car, \$18,000 – A Fortwo Passion Coupe with a panorama roof, alloy wheels, air conditioning with climate control, and a trunk filled with wine from four certified bio-dynamic/organic wineries.

Top Wine Lots included:

- Lot #20: Around the World, \$16,000 – A wine lover's treasure trove of wine from around the world including a 2003 Harlan Estates Napa Valley Red, a hundred-year old Nieport Port; and the Grande Dame of French wines, a Chateau Latour Grand Cru Bordeaux from 1950.
- Lot #38: Best of Burgundy, \$13,000 – The best Burgundy producers from the region's great masters.
- Lot #44: A Year of Champagne, \$10,000 (sold twice) – Celebrate with 52 bottles of extraordinary Champagne, including bottles from some of the big houses like Veuve Clicquot, Moët, Taittinger and more.

ORVI and VINI awards Recognize Service to Wine Industry and Philanthropy

The ORVI award was created to honor individuals who have helped the Oregon wine industry grow to world-class stature. The 2009 recipient was H. Earl Jones of Abacela Winery in Oregon.

The VINI award honors individuals who have used their enthusiasm and support of viticulture to create an environment for the enjoyment of wine. The 2009 winner of the VINI award was Dan Agnew, who serves on the Board of Directors of CoHo Distributing and was a Classic Wines Auction Co-Chair in 2008.

The Koerner Rombauer Award for Service

Koerner Rombauer of Rombauer Vineyards in California has been a longstanding supporter of Classic Wines Auction for more than 12 years and served as the California Wine Ambassador in 1998. In recognition of Rombauer's ongoing support and generosity, a new award was created in his name in 2007 to recognize individuals who have consistently served, funded and supported the Classic Wines Auction and its benefiting charities. This year's recipients, Dan and Sallie Dutton, have been involved with the Auction for over 10 years, and Dan served as an Auction Chair in 1998 and 1999.

About Classic Wines Auction:

Based in Portland, Oregon, the Classic Wines Auction, Inc., is a nonprofit organization dedicated to producing the Classic Wines Auction and related food and wine events to raise funds for five local charities benefiting children and families. Recognized as one of the top ten charity auction events by the *Wine Spectator*, Classic Wines Auction has raised a total of \$21.6 million since its inception in 1982. For more information, please visit www.classicwinesauction.com.