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CLASSIC WINES AUCTION SETS DATES FOR 2008 GALA CHARITY AUCTION AND WINE EVENTS; YWCA CLARK COUNTY CHOSEN AS BENEFICIARY JOINING FOUR OTHER PORTLAND AREA NONPROFITS

Ambassadors dinner features chefs Steve Corry from Portland, Maine and Gabriel Rucker from Portland, Oregon; New Fall Oregon Bounty Winemaker Dinner Series Spans Oregon – from Baker City to Bend and Cannon Beach in November 2007

PORTLAND, Oregon – (September 4, 2007) – After another successful – and record-breaking—charity auction in March 2007, the Classic Wines Auction announced the dates for the 2008 week-long celebration of wine and food culminating in the 24th annual gala auction held at the Oregon Convention Center on Saturday, March 1, 2008. Other events during the week include winemaker dinners held throughout the Portland area from Tuesday, February 26 to Thursday, February 28, 2008 and the Ambassadors Dinner on Friday, February 29, 2008 at the Portland Art Museum. Proceeds from Taste Walla Walla in Portland on Monday, February 25th will also benefit the Classic Wines Auction.

FOOD & WINE BEST NEW CHEFS CREATE PORTLAND TO PORTLAND MENU

Steve Corry, chef/owner of Five Fifty-Five in Portland, Maine and Gabriel Rucker, chef/owner of Le Pigeon in Portland, Oregon will team up for the Ambassadors Dinner to create a menu featuring ingredients from both coasts. Both chefs were named as *Food & Wine Magazine's* 2007 Best New Chefs in America.

The line-up of chef talent for the gala auction includes: *John Gorham* of Toro Bravo in Portland, Oregon; *Thierry Rautureau* of Rover's, Seattle; *Johnathan Sundstrom* of Lark and Licorous, Seattle; and *Dominique Geulin* of St. Honore Boulangerie in Portland, Oregon. The week prior to the gala, more than 30 winemaker dinners will feature the finest chefs in Portland and Southwest Washington paired with winemakers from Oregon, Washington and California.

YWCA CLARK COUNTY CHOSEN AS FIFTH BENEFICIARY

The Classic Wines Auction board has selected five area nonprofits to benefit from the proceeds of the 2008 auction events: Friends of the Children – Portland, Metropolitan Family Service, New Avenues for Youth, Trillium Family Services and YWCA Clark County. "Watching our community raise funds for programs that will improve the lives of children and families is the most memorable part of the annual auction," said executive director Heather Martin. Classic Wines Auction, Inc. has raised \$16.4 million for Portland-area charities since its inception in 1982.

NEW FALL OREGON BOUNTY WINEMAKER DINNER SERIES ADDED

Classic Wines Auction will produce the Oregon Bounty Winemaker Dinner series featuring three days of winemaker dinners at restaurants throughout Oregon. Each restaurant will be paired with an Oregon winery for a private dinner to benefit Classic Wines Auction and its charities. The dinner series takes place on Tuesday, November 13 through Thursday, November 15th and is \$150 per person, including a multi-course dinner and wines. For reservations, please call 503-972-0194 or visit www.classicwinesauction.com.

Tuesday, November 13

- Caprial's Bistro (Portland) with Torii Mor Winery and Maysara Winery
- Geiser Grill Restaurant (Baker City) with Marquam Hill Vineyards

- The Heathman Restaurant (Portland) with King Estate Winery and Amity Vineyards
- Our Daily Bread Restaurant (Veneta) with Coehlo Winery of Amity and Winter's Hill Vineyard

Wednesday, November 14

- Campbell House Inn and Restaurant (Eugene) with Tye Wine Cellars
- Carafe Bistro (Portland) with Penner-Ash Wine Cellars and Amalie Robert Estate
- Celilo Restaurant and Bar (Hood River) with Zerba Cellars
- Higgins Restaurant (Portland) with Archery Summit Winery
- Iorio Restaurant (Portland) with Henry Estate Winery and Roxyann Winery

Thursday, November 15

- Dundee Bistro (Dundee) with Ponzi Vineyards and The Carlton Winemakers Studio
- Merenda Restaurant and Wine Bar (Bend) with Rex Hill Vineyards
- Newman's at 988 (Cannon Beach) with Anthony Dell Cellars and Montinore Estate
- Oba! (Portland) with Abacela Vineyards and Winery and Cathedral Ridge Winery
- Youngberg Hill Inn (McMinnville) with Youngberg Vineyards

2007 AUCTION RAISED \$2.8 MILLION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

The Classic Wines Auction raised \$2.8 million for children and families in Portland and Southwest Washington during the week-long events in March 2007. The events also hosted a record number of 1,700 guests, the largest turnout in the event's history. Top lots at the 2007 Classic Wines Auction included a 1930 Sport Packard donated by the Hickey Family for \$120,000 and a trip to a villa in Scotland or Barga, Italy for \$60,000. A "Food, Wine and Design" lot raised \$60,000 and featured a weekend in Napa Valley and San Francisco with restaurateur Pat Kuleto. Renowned wine critic Robert M. Parker, Jr. participated in the "Mike and Robert in Baltimore" package which raised \$31,000 and included dinner for three couples with Mike Etzel of Beaux Frères and his brother-in-law Robert M. Parker, Jr., as well as Dr. Jay Miller of the *Wine Advocate*. "An Insider's Trip to Casa Lapostolle in Chile raised \$48,000 and was donated by the honorary wine ambassador, and Casa Lapostolle owner, Alexandra Marnier Lapostolle de Bournet.

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 local charities benefiting children and families. Named as one of the top ten charity wine auctions for the past six years by *Wine Spectator* Magazine, CWA has raised \$16.4 million for Portland area charities since its inception in 1982. The co-chairs for the 2008 gala auction are Dan Agnew, Linda Hickey and Mark Miller. For more information, please visit www.classicwinesauction.com or call 503-972-0194.