



For Immediate Release

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WINE ENTHUSIASTS RAISE THEIR GLASSES, PADDLES AND PROCEEDS FOR CHILDREN IN NEED!

5/4/07 Destin, FL. - Exquisite cuisine, fine wine and furious bidding set the tone for the 2nd Annual Destin Charity Wine Auction, April 20th and 21st in Destin, FL. Wine lovers from across the country descended on the world-class Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort to enjoy a weekend of food, wine and mingling with some of the worlds most renowned chefs and wine celebrities to support local charities benefiting children in need.

Through the generous contributions and sponsorships of the 350 attendees, the Foundation raised a record-breaking \$750,000 in support of the children's organizations, far exceeding the goal of \$500,000. "The Destin Charity Wine Auction is a true expression of the Emerald Coast's commitment to our children" said Executive Director, Jennifer Kolar, adding "the support and generous contributions from local businesses and private philanthropists has been overwhelming. The end result is our children receiving the financial support they need to stay safe and lead productive and healthy lives."

The weekend kicked-off with a VIP luncheon at Vin'tij Wine Bar and Bistro to honor the celebrity vintners and the event's major corporate sponsor, ITS Technical Services (www.itechserv.com). The festivities continued on Friday evening with twelve private Patron dinners hosted in exquisite residences along the Emerald Coast, each showcasing a nationally celebrated vintner and chef. This year's event attracted the following high profile wine makers; Joel Aiken (Beaulieu Vineyard), Tom Johnson (Silver Oak), Bob Cabral (Williams Selyem), Garen and Shari Staglin (Staglin Family Vineyards), Julianna Martinelli (Martinelli Vineyards and Winery), David Arthur Long (David Arthur Vineyards), Dan Kosta (Kosta Browne Winery), John and Carri Holdredge (Holdredge Winery), Ric Forman (Forman Vineyards), Deborah and Justin Baldwin (Justin Vineyards and Winery), Eric Fidel (Groth Vineyards & Winery), Dan Philips (The Grateful Palate), Clarke Swanson (Swanson Vineyards), Anthony Truchard (Truchard Vineyards), Gianni Abate (Morgan Winery), and David Miner (Miner Family Vineyards) shared their special wines.

The dinners featured the culinary delights of several of the nation's top chefs, such as; Paul Albrecht, Toni Acireale, Cindy Hutson, Debbie Gold, Shane Touhy, Tim Creehan, Elizabeth Bartow, Johnny Earles, Pom Souvannasoth, Matthew Medure, Ross Peterson, Andrew Seltz and Tom Gray.

Saturday night's events were held at the Grand Sandestin in the Magnolia Ballroom with a silent auction and walkabout offering award-winning wines from internationally acclaimed vintners, poured and paired with fine cuisine created by a selection of the area's top chefs. The imaginations and pocketbooks of guests were captured as the memorable evening continued when the doors to the live auction opened and attendees were treated to a magical affair of bidding on exotic trips, exceptional wines and luxury packages. The bidding continued late into the night as guests raised their paddles to support this great cause.

The weekend's events served as a culmination to the 21st Annual Sandestin Wine Festival. The four-day festival brought together celebrity vintners, world-renowned wines and an array of fine cuisine, enabling wine enthusiasts to partake in more than a dozen special events. More than 600 wines were available for sampling during the Grand Wine Tasting, presented by Trustmark Bank, with a Retail Wine Tent offering attendees the opportunity to purchase at special festival prices.

Destin Charity Wine Auction Sponsors

The Destin Charity Wine Auction's Founding Sponsors are Chan's Wine World and Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort. The Major Corporate Sponsor of the 2007 event was ITS Technical Services based out of Alpharetta, GA. 2007 Patron Dinner Sponsors included Resort Interiors and Parish National Bank / Access Mortgage. 2007 \$5,000 sponsors included Community Bank, Whitney Bank, First American Title, McNeese Title, Life Options Institute, Viking, James F. & Peggy Adams, Tom & Kay Martin, Hugh & Judy Sutherland, The Becnel Family (Silver Shells).

Benefiting Charities

Children In Crisis

Children In Crisis, Inc. is a non-profit, 501(c)(3), charitable organization of caring people working together to provide homes and establish hope to the foster children of our community. In a perfect world, we would have enough voluntary foster and shelter care homes in Okaloosa and Walton Counties to meet our growing needs.

The Mattie Kelly Arts Foundation

The Mattie Kelly Arts Foundation is a pro-active partner in education through 'All Kinds of Art' to provide resources for students to explore their interests and develop their talent in the arts. This educational outreach program reaches thousands of students in Okaloosa and Walton Counties annually to bring art enrichment through the literary, performing and visual arts with live touring performances, after school and summer camp programs. The Foundation reaches at-risk students and provides scholarship assistance to financially disadvantaged students.

The Sacred Heart Foundation

Sacred Heart Foundation is the private fund raising arm of Sacred Heart Health System, a Catholic health ministry committed to serving all persons with special attention to the poor and

vulnerable. Gifts received through Sacred Heart Foundation have provided millions of dollars of healthcare to poor, uninsured and low-income individuals and families throughout Northwest Florida and Southeast Alabama.

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