



## For Immediate Release

### Media Contact:

Megumi Kato

310.977.1841

[megumi@lawrence-pr.com](mailto:megumi@lawrence-pr.com)

## **Classic Wines Auction Celebrates 35th Anniversary** *One of the Country's Longest Running Charity Wine Auctions Reaches Milestone Year* *Supporting the Local Community*

**PORTLAND, Ore. (Nov. 13, 2018)** - [Classic Wines Auction](#), a Portland-based nonprofit consistently recognized as one of the top ten charity wine auctions in the country by *Wine Spectator* Magazine, celebrates its 35th anniversary in 2019, making it one of the longest-standing charity wine auctions in the U.S.

The 35th Anniversary Classic Wines Auction is scheduled for March 2, 2019 at the Oregon Convention Center. Tickets are on sale now for \$1,000 per person at [ClassicWinesAuction.com](#) and sponsorship opportunities are available. Auction guests will enjoy a gourmet array of food prepared by acclaimed chefs, including a multi-course dinner paired with wines from specially selected wine Ambassadors from around the globe. During the reception, guests will sip the finest wines and enjoy tasting stations presented by local chefs while perusing a multitude of unique auction packages. The Auction itself is an action-packed, energetic extravaganza, providing the opportunity to bid on lavish live auction items ranging from exotic vacations to exceptional wine packages.

This year, thanks to Presenting Sponsor Mercedes-Benz of Portland and Mercedes-Benz of Beaverton, a 2019 Mercedes-Benz G550 SUV, driven by Seattle Seahawks Quarterback Russell Wilson, will also be auctioned off.

Each year, the organization selects Honorary Wine Ambassadors, who represent some of the most esteemed wine growing regions in the world and are renowned for their premium wine labels and vintages. The 2019 Honorary Wine Ambassadors are: Cristom Vineyards (OR), 00 Wines (OR), Doubleback Winery (WA), Woodward Canyon Winery (WA), Rombauer Vineyards (CA), Silver Oak Cellars (CA), Becky Wasserman & Co. (France), and Domaines Ott (France).

“Our 35th anniversary and auction is a significant landmark for the organization, because it means that we have been able to positively impact the local community and the missions of our nonprofit beneficiaries for over three decades,” says Classic Wines Auction Executive Director, Heather Martin. “We are honored to help make a difference in the community and are committed to continuing our efforts for years to come.”

Classic Wines Auction was officially established in 1982 by a group of friends who came together to raise money for Metropolitan Family Service (MFS). Since then, the auction and associated events have raised more than \$46 million for local nonprofits, benefiting more than one million individuals in the Portland community.

The 2019 Classic Wines Auction nonprofit beneficiaries are: [Metropolitan Family Service](#), [YWCA Clark County](#), [Friends of the Children](#), [New Avenues for Youth](#) and [Unity Center for Behavioral Health](#).

Classic Wines Auction has impacted these organizations in a multitude of ways. As a result of funding from Classic Wines Auction:

- 7,000 youth per year are served at 19 after-school programs in low-income neighborhoods via Metropolitan Family Service (MFS).
- 200+ kids have found internships and job placements via New Avenues for Youth.
- 500+ youth have received 16 hours of mentoring each month at Friends of the Children-Portland.
- 12,000 survivors of domestic violence, homelessness, sexual assault, child abuse, and oppression receive assistance free of charge at YWCA Clark County.
- The Unity Center for Behavioral Health has received \$750,000 in services, ensuring that no one is left untreated, regardless of their ability to pay.

"We are deeply grateful for the support we receive through the Classic Wines Auction. The community members we serve count on us, and in turn, we depend on the commitment and generosity of the wider community that is ignited through Classic Wines Auction," says Judy Strand, CEO of Metropolitan Family Service (MFS). "Hats off to the Board and staff who drive this work! As the agency that founded and grew Classic Wines Auction in its first 20 years, it is wonderful to see the expansion and reach at year 35."

Throughout the year, Classic Wines Auction hosts a number of events in support of its nonprofit partners. Upcoming key dates include:

- Fall Winemaker Dinners: November 11, 13, 14 & 15, 2018
- Winter Winemaker Dinners: February 17, 19, 20 & 21, 2019
- Ambassadors Dinner: March 1, 2019
- Classic Wines Auction: March 2, 2019
- Spring Winemaker Dinners: April 23, 24 & 25, 2019
- Corks + Forks: June 6, 2019

More details about the 35th Anniversary Classic Wines Auction, see: <https://www.classicwinesauction.com>

### **About Classic Wines Auction**

Consistently recognized as one of the top ten charity wine auctions in the country by *Wine Spectator*, the Classic Wines Auction has raised more than \$46 million for local nonprofit partners since its inception in 1982. Based in Portland, Ore., 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 organizations benefiting children and families, including: Metropolitan Family Service (MFS), New Avenues for Youth, Friends of the Children-Portland, YWCA Clark County and Unity Center for Behavioral Health. Classic Wines Auction celebrates its 35th anniversary in 2019. More at [www.classicwinesauction.com](http://www.classicwinesauction.com).

For media resources, please see: <https://www.classicwinesauction.com/media>.

###