



## **2020 Classic Wines Auction Announces Year-Long Series of Events**

*Gala Auction, Winemaker Dinners and Corks + Forks events raise funds for five nonprofits serving children and families*

**Portland, Ore. — (October 30, 2019)** Classic Wines Auction, a nationally recognized charity wine auction based in Portland, announces a year-long series of events, including the March 7, 2020 Classic Wines Auction Gala and Auction, more than seventy seasonal Winemaker Dinners, and the June 4, 2020 tasting event Corks + Forks.

Recognized by *Wine Spectator* as one of the top ten charity wine auctions in the country, Classic Wines Auction has held a longstanding mission of supporting local charities working in the communities of Oregon and Southwest Washington. Through ongoing events and the annual Gala Auction in March, Classic Wines Auction has raised nearly \$50 million since 1982.

All funds raised by Classic Wines Auction benefit five nonprofit partners in Oregon and Southwest Washington, including: Metropolitan Family Service (MFS), New Avenues for Youth, Friends of the Children-Portland, YWCA Clark County, and Unity Center for Behavioral Health.

“Our mission is more focused than ever,” said Classic Wines Auction Executive Director Heather Martin. “We are committed to giving as much back to the community as possible by presenting exceptional experiences that highlight the bountiful wine and culinary offerings of the Pacific Northwest.”

The 36th Classic Wines Auction will be held on Saturday, March 7 at the Oregon Convention Center. The 2020 Gala Auction will include a shorter and more impactful live auction and an increased focus on the collaborative impact of Classic Wine Auction’s nonprofit partners in the community. The event will feature local chefs along with honorary wine ambassadors from Oregon and beyond. For the second year, the Auction welcomes Presenting Sponsors Mercedes-Benz of Portland, led by General Manager Richard Fox, and Mercedes-Benz of Beaverton, led by General Manager Romano Boiciuc. Both stores are part of Lithia Motors Inc., a Fortune 500 company founded and headquartered in Southern Oregon.

“There was no question that we would partner with Classic Wines Auction for a second time,” said Fox. “Our organizations share a common goal of making a positive impact in our community. It’s the perfect collaboration for a greater good.”

In addition to the Gala Auction in March, Classic Wines Auction spearheads a seasonal Winemaker Dinner series and the summertime event Corks + Forks, offering multiple ways to participate and give back to the community.

The seasonal Winemaker Dinner series pairs top chefs and restaurants with notable winemakers for a unique, multi-course collaboration. Guests have a unique opportunity to interact directly with chefs and winemakers while enjoying an exceptional dinner and wine pairings. The winter series will be held February 25-27, 2020 and the spring series will take place April 28-30, 2020. Classic Wines Auction will also launch a new summer Winemaker Dinner series in Oregon wine country.

Corks + Forks, a wine and food tasting event, will return to the Redd on Salmon Street on June 4, 2020. More information on Corks + Forks and Classic Wines Auction’s ongoing programming can be found below.

## **2020 CLASSIC WINES AUCTION EVENTS**

### **The 36th Annual Classic Wines Auction**

March 7, 2020, 5 pm

Oregon Convention Center (777 NE Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Portland, OR 97232)

More information: [ClassicWinesAuction.com](http://ClassicWinesAuction.com)

### **Winemaker Dinner Series**

Fall: November 12, 13, 14 & 16, 2019

Winter: February 25, 26 & 27, 2020

Spring: April 28, 29 & 30, 2020

Summer (new!): Dates TBD

Held at select Portland-area restaurants, these unique culinary experiences feature esteemed Pacific Northwest winemakers partnered with local chefs. Menus are specially crafted to complement the wine served with each course. New in the summer of 2020, Classic Wines Auction will bring Winemaker Dinners to Oregon wine country.

More information: [WinemakerDinnersPDX.com](http://WinemakerDinnersPDX.com)

### **Corks + Forks**

Thursday, June 4, 2020

The Redd on Salmon Street, Portland

Corks + Forks is a wine and food tasting event where guests enjoy delicious bites from Portland’s hottest restaurants and sip from the area’s best wineries. Guests can interact with chefs at a live demonstration kitchen, hit the dance floor, taste special pours by guest sommeliers, and get insight on the wine industry from top local experts. Plus, a curated silent auction offers the opportunity to bid on an array of wine and experiences.

More information: [CorksAndForksPDX.com](http://CorksAndForksPDX.com)

### **About Classic Wines Auction**

Consistently recognized as one of the top ten charity wine auctions in the country by Wine Spectator Magazine, the Classic Wines Auction has raised nearly \$50 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. For more information, visit <https://www.classicwinesauction.com/>

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