



For Immediate Release

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Classic Wines Auction Kicks Off 35th Anniversary Season of Events Presenting Sponsorship with Mercedes-Benz of Portland and Mercedes-Benz of Beaverton Reflects Commitment to Benefiting Local Community

PORTLAND, Ore. (Oct. 3, 2018) - [Classic Wines Auction](http://www.classicwinesauction.com), a Portland-based nonprofit recognized as one of the top ten charity wine auctions in the country by *Wine Spectator* Magazine, is celebrating its 35th anniversary season in 2019. This year, the Auction welcomes Mercedes-Benz of Portland and Mercedes-Benz of Beaverton as its Presenting Sponsor.

The partnership is bolstered by the support of Mercedes-Benz of Portland spokesperson Russell Wilson, Superbowl-winning quarterback of the Seattle Seahawks. A 2019 Mercedes-Benz G550 SUV that was driven by Russell Wilson himself will be auctioned at the March 2, 2019 Gala Auction event.

Classic Wines Auction and Mercedes-Benz of Portland and Mercedes-Benz of Beaverton share a common commitment to bettering the local communities they serve. This is the first year the entities have partnered in support of Classic Wines Auction nonprofit beneficiaries: Metropolitan Family Service, New Avenues for Youth, Friends of the Children, YWCA Clark County and the Unity Center for Behavioral Health.

"We could not be more excited for our partnership with the Classic Wines Auction during such a remarkable year," says Andrew Plummer, the general manager of Mercedes-Benz of Portland and Mercedes-Benz of Beaverton. "Both of our organizations are extremely committed to making a positive impact, and the 35th Anniversary is the perfect way to bring us together to benefit the community."

More details about the event and the Mercedes-Benz to be auctioned off will be available in coming weeks at www.ClassicWinesAuction.com

"We are so honored to be celebrating 35 years of support for children and families," says Classic Wines Auction Executive Director Heather Martin. "Our work would not be possible without the collective effort of all of our generous supporters, sponsors and guests, and especially by Mercedes-Benz of Portland and Mercedes-Benz of Beaverton. We're looking forward to this special year and to continuing our mission for years to come."

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.

About Mercedes-Benz of Portland and Mercedes-Benz of Beaverton

Mercedes-Benz of Portland and Mercedes-Benz of Beaverton's parent company, Lithia Motors, is a true Oregon success story which opened as a single Plymouth dealership in Ashland, Oregon in 1946, and has since grown into one of the largest dealership groups in the United States. Lithia Motors, Inc. is one of the largest of personal transportation solutions in the United States and is among the fastest growing companies in the Fortune 500 (#294-2018). Consumers can buy, sell and service vehicles digitally or through our 188 coast-to-coast locations. Our mission statement, Growth Powered by People, drives us to continuously improve and to give back to our communities.

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