



Annual Classic Wines Auction Returns Saturday, March 7
36th annual auction revenues impact key social issues faced by children and families in Oregon and SW Washington

Portland, Ore. (February 13, 2020) — Classic Wines Auction, a Portland-based nonprofit benefiting children and families in Oregon and SW Washington, will hold its 36th annual Gala Auction presented by Mercedes-Benz of Portland and Mercedes-Benz of Beaverton at the Oregon Convention Center on Saturday, March 7 at 5 pm. Limited tickets are available now.

The 2020 Gala Auction includes curated packages including fine wines, exclusive global travel opportunities, and singular experiences not available anywhere else. Live auction items include an excursion to Chile to witness the 2020 full solar eclipse, an exclusive tour of the Krug Champagne house, a Mercedes-Benz G-550 driven by Portland Trail Blazers star CJ McCollum, and many more.

“Our Auction and year-round programming have supported the missions of our nonprofit partners for more than 35 years,” says Classic Wines Auction executive director, Heather Martin. “We are proud to be impacting key social issues and contributing to our partner organizations’ ongoing and overarching goals.”

Some of Portland’s top culinary talent welcome guests at the auction reception and during the evening’s multi-course dinner. This year’s auction will feature Allan Wambaa from pacificwild Catering; Ryley Eckersley from Quaintrelle; Joey Gibson from Parallel Food & Drink; Althea Grey Potter from Oui! Wine Bar + Restaurant; Sarah Schafer from Irving Street Kitchen; Matthew Sigler from Il Solito; Sara Woods from Vaux at the Canopy Portland.

In addition to the star culinary talent, wines from Honorary Wine Ambassadors will be featured at the Auction and the Ambassadors Dinner. The 2020 Honorary Wine Ambassadors are: Ponzi Vineyards in Oregon, Pepper Bridge Winery in Washington, Heitz Cellar in California, and Krug Champagne in France.

An invitation-only Ambassadors Dinner will be held on March 5 to honor these Ambassadors. The reception and dinner will feature acclaimed Portland chefs: Aaron Barnett of La Moule and St. Jack, Sandra Arnerich of Renata, and Gabe Rucker of Le Pigeon and Canard.

Starting in late February, bidders are invited to bid remotely on select auction packages from their phone or computer. Mobile bidders have access to exclusive prizes such as a private dinner with actor Kyle MacLachlan, elevated wine tastings at premier wineries, and luxury travel packages to California wine country. Information about the various ways to bid on packages is available at: www.ClassicWinesAuction.com/auction.

Auction tickets are on sale now for \$1,000 per person at ClassicWinesAuction.com

Throughout the year, Classic Wines Auction hosts a number of events in support of its nonprofit partners, culminating in the March auction. This past fall, the organization hosted a series of collaborative dinners pairing top Willamette Valley's winemakers and Portland's hottest restaurants. The dinner series will continue in the winter (February 25, 26 and 27), spring (April 28, 29 and 30), at Corks + Forks (June 4), and in a new summer series taking place in the Willamette Valley.

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/>

###

Media contact:

Kayt Mathers

kayt@playnicepr.com

503-351-6572