



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Starry Starry Night – The 22nd Annual Auction of Washington Wines

Premier charity event – August 13-15 – raising money for Seattle Children’s Hospital

SEATTLE (May 1, 2009) – The original, largest and most prestigious charity auction showcasing the stars of Washington wine is coming up August 13th through the 15th. Featuring festive events all weekend long, proceeds benefit uncompensated care at Seattle Children’s Hospital and the Washington Wine Education Foundation.

Since its inception in 1987, the Auction of Washington Wines has raised more than \$21 million, with a majority benefitting Children’s Hospital. The need for this support is greater than ever. More than 60% of patients seen at the hospital require some sort of financial assistance. In 2009, Children’s is expected to provide more than \$100 million in uncompensated care. This distinguished event gives wine lovers the chance to help the Washington wine industry bridge this critical funding gap for our region’s children across the Northwest.

The weekend begins early with Thursday’s informal, outdoor Barrel Auction & Picnic with the Winemakers at the grounds of Chateau Ste. Michelle in Woodinville. The next night is devoted to private winemaker dinners around greater Seattle. Then on Saturday, the Covey Run 10K and 5K Run/Walk and Kids’ Dash will be back in Woodinville.

The culminating event on Saturday evening is the elegant Gala Auction, featuring talented regional chefs preparing a multi-course meal accompanied by outstanding Washington wines. Highlighted auction items include destination vacations, one-of-a-kind wine lots, exquisite dinner parties with some of Washington’s most esteemed winemakers, and much, much more.

For additional information on this premier event, please contact Carol Munro, Director of the Auction of Washington Wines, at (206) 326-5747 or cmunro@washingtonwine.org; or Jeff Ashley, Assistant Director of the Auction of Washington Wines at (206) 326-5454 or jashley@washingtonwine.org. More information can also be found on the website at www.auctionofwashingtonwines.org.

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