

Naples announces its vintner line-up

September 24, 2015 11:04 am

 (1) Comments

NAPLES, Fla. -- Vintners from more than 40 wineries in 13 global wine-producing regions, eight countries, and three continents will head to Naples, Fla., for the 16th annual Naples Winter Wine Festival, taking place from Jan. 29-31.

Since its inception, the festival has raised more than \$135 million to support its founding organization, the Naples Children & Education Foundation, whose annual grants have provided more than 200,000 children with the services and resources.

For the 2016 festival, Paul and Emily Michael of the Peter Michael Winery will serve as Honored Vintners.

Also in attendance will be Ted Baseler of Stag's Leap Wine Cellars and Bo Barrett of Chateau Montelena, who will hold a tasting on Jan. 28, to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Judgment of Paris.

At this 1976 blind tasting, French judges awarded astounded the wine world by awarding the most points to two wines from California, the cabernet sauvignon made by Warren Winiarski, the founder of Stag's Leap Wine Cellars, and the chardonnay made by Miljenko "Mike" Grgich, who was winemaker at Chateau Montelena at the time and went on to found his own winery, Grgich Hills Estates.

Other Napa Valley vintners attending the three-day event include Florencia Palmaz of Palmaz Vineyards; Jennifer and Stephen McPherson of Promise; Susan & Tor Kenward of Tor Kenward Family Wines; Jean Charles Boisset of Boisset Collection; Shahpar & Darioush Khaledi of Darioush; Valerie Boyd and Jeff Gargiulo of Gargiulo Vineyards; Amy Marks of Gemstone Vineyards; Ali and Charles Banks of Mayacamas & Trinity Hill; David Pearson of Opus One; Teri & Ron Kuhn of Pillar Rock Vineyard; Agustin Francisco Huneus of Quintessa; Juan Mercado of Realm Cellars; Annette and Doug Shafer of Shafer Vineyards; Shari and Garen Staglin of Staglin Family Vineyard; Roy Chapin IV of 4 Winds Winery; and Susan Krausz of Arkenstone Estate Winery.

In addition to California vintners from Sonoma County, Paso Robles, Santa Barbara and Arroyo Grande, vintners from Virginia, Oregon, New York, Spain, Italy, France, New Zealand, Montenegro and Australia will also attend.

For more information about the Naples Winter Wine Festival, visit <http://www.napleswinefestival.com> or call 888-837-4919.