



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**A LEGENDARY AUCTION NAPA VALLEY: RAYMOND VINEYARDS AND JOHN LEGEND'S TOP LOT EARNS \$850,000 FOR NAPA VALLEY CHARITIES**

**St. Helena, CA (June 12, 2015)** – Raymond Vineyards' celebrated a legendary weekend at this year's 2015 Auction Napa Valley: its live lot, created in partnership with nine-time Grammy-award, Golden Globe, and Oscar-winning musician, John Legend, earned \$850,000 for Napa Valley charities, making it the highest individual lot at the auction on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015. In what many have described as the highlight for this year's event, Mr. Legend stunned the crowd with a surprise appearance and live performance of his hit song, "All of Me", immediately prior to Raymond's Live Auction Lot. The Raymond Vineyards Auction Lot includes a private performance by Mr. Legend for thirty, at the home of Raymond Proprietor, Jean-Charles Boisset, as well as dinner by Raymond Chef, Michel Cornu, and six three-liter limited-edition etched bottles of LVE: Legend Vineyard Exclusive wines, a new collection of wines created by John Legend in collaboration with Raymond Winemaker Stephanie Putnam and Boisset, to be released in Fall, 2015. The winery is accepting mailing list sign-ups for those that wish to be the first to have access to purchase the LVE limited-edition wines at [www.raymondvineyards.com](http://www.raymondvineyards.com).

Additionally, Raymond Vineyards contributed to Atelier Melka's Barrel Lot Cabernet Sauvignon, which took home the highest bid of the day at Friday's Barrel Auction, selling for more than \$100,000. Philippe Melka is the consulting winemaker for Raymond Vineyards.

This year's 35th annual Auction Napa Valley, organized by the Napa Valley Vintners (NVV) with a mission to utilize the worldwide reputation of Napa Valley wines to enhance the well-being of the Napa County community, brought in more than \$15.8 million for nonprofit organizations focused on community health and children's education in Napa County.

Speaking of the auction, Mr. Legend said, "What an amazing experience it was to sing at Auction Napa Valley. I'm also so honored and excited to be a part of the Napa Valley community. It was a pleasure to contribute my time and energy towards something so powerful that will help to create a more positive future for the local community."

Jean-Charles Boisset added, "Auction Napa Valley 2015 was a remarkable moment for Napa! We are ecstatic that we were able to contribute to the Napa community and the charities that benefit from the generous funding of the donors at Auction Napa Valley. It is thanks to the incredible stewardship of Honorary Auction Napa Valley Chair, David Pearson, and the remarkable leadership of the NVV team that this year's auction was so successful. I'm extraordinarily grateful to my dear friend, John Legend, for being here and sharing his passion, his time and generosity with the Napa Valley."

Since joining the Boisset Collection in 2009, Raymond Vineyards has consistently been among the top fundraisers at the annual Napa Valley Auction, with live lots earning more than \$2.4 million for the Napa Valley community in the six years of participation. Raymond also hosted the 2013 record-breaking Barrel Auction, and has been a consistent presence supporting charities in the Napa Valley, hosting fundraisers, events and contributing to auctions for organizations including the Land Trust of Napa Valley, Festival del Solé, the Napa Film Festival, and the Napa Valley Hospices and Adult Day Services, among many others. Raymond's contributions to the Napa community mirror the Boisset family's global commitment to philanthropic efforts in the regions where its wineries are present.

### **About Raymond Vineyards**

Raymond Vineyards, founded in 1970, comprises more than 300 acres in Rutherford, St. Helena and Jameson Canyon. Five generations of the Raymond family created a Napa icon, with an enduring reputation for elegant wines with a beautiful balance of finesse, power and complexity. Today, guided by the vision of Proprietor Jean-Charles Boisset, Winemaker Stephanie Putnam, and Winegrower Eric Pooler, Raymond Vineyards is one of the wine world's most dynamic winery destinations. Blending phenomenal wines with guest experiences that unite education, passion and entertainment, the winery offers diverse opportunities to explore wine, leading it to be named *Sunset's* "Best Tasting Room – Experience Beyond Tasting" in 2011, 2012 American Winery of the Year by *Wine Enthusiast*, and one of *Wine Spectator's* Top 100 Wines of 2013 for the 95-point rated 2010 Generations Cabernet Sauvignon. Raymond's estate vineyards are certified organic and Biodynamic, and the winery generates 100% of its energy needs from on-site solar panels. To learn more, please visit: [www.raymondvineyards.com](http://www.raymondvineyards.com).

### **About Boisset Collection**

Boisset is a family-owned collection of historic and unique wineries bound together by a common cause: authentic, terroir-driven wines in harmony with their history, their future and the land and people essential to their existence. With more than twenty historical and prestigious wineries in the world's preeminent terroirs, including the Côte d'Or, Beaujolais, Rhône Valley, California's Russian River Valley and the Napa Valley, each house retains its unique history, identity, and style, and all are united in the pursuit of fine wines expressive of their terroir. To learn more about the Boisset Collection, please visit [www.boissetcollection.com](http://www.boissetcollection.com).

### **Media Contact:**

Tamara Stanfill, Boisset Collection, 707.963.6939, [tamara.stanfill@boisset.com](mailto:tamara.stanfill@boisset.com)

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