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By: Napa Valley Vintners via PR Newswire

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Abundant Generosity and Unexpected Moments Delight Guests at 38th Auction Napa Valley

"We were thrilled to share everything we love and have experienced throughout our lives in the beautiful Napa Valley," commented Angelina Mondavi. "My sisters and I are so grateful for the generosity of our vintners, bidders and community. Their contributions will help children and families in Napa County, from American Canyon to Calistoga. And the icing on the cake was that, along with our guests, we had the time of our lives at this year's Auction Napa Valley!"

Yesterday's main event, the Live Auction Celebration at Meadowood Napa Valley, capped the three-day affair. Starting Thursday, Auction guests enjoyed private dinners with some of Napa Valley's most well-known vintners and rising star wineries hosting these popular parties for the first time. The ever-popular Napa Valley Barrel Auction on Friday was held at the Mondavi family's historic Charles Krug estate and featured an outdoor marketplace that replicated the villages and towns of Napa Valley and their iconic restaurants and wines.

Moments of exceptional generosity and surprise during the weekend included:

- A new fundraising record for the Napa Valley Barrel Auction, which had Auction attendees vying with online bidders from anywhere in the world for the 110 lots of Napa Valley wine futures up for sale.
- Vintner Samantha Rudd of Rudd Oakville Estate and daughter of the late wine and food icon Leslie Rudd announcing a \$1 million contribution from the Rudd Foundation after Lot Two at the Live Auction Celebration.
- The impromptu doubling of Lot 11 featuring four six-liter Imperials of Opus One and a once-in-a-lifetime experience for two couples to attend the Masked Ball at Versailles, France in 2019 that sold to two successful bidders raising a total of \$1.4 million.
- A \$1 million successful bid for Lot 20, donated by the Napa Valley Vintners and Lexus, featuring 18 bottles of Napa Valley wine and an experience at the 2019 U.S. Open Golf Tournament at Pebble Beach.
- A surprise after-dinner performance on Saturday night by Bay Area favorites Michael Franti & Spearhead that brought the Live Auction crowd to its feet, dancing and smiling for nearly two hours.
- Appearances by retired racecar driver turned vintner Danica Patrick, pro golfer Natalie Gulbis and the mother and sister of Golden State Warrior Steph Curry, all of whom had an interest in one of the 32 Live Auction lots sold yesterday.

Next year will mark the 75th anniversary of the NVV. To celebrate, more than 30 past chairs of the NVV Board of Directors are coming together to serve as honorary chairs of Auction Napa Valley 2019, which will be held May 30 to June 2. The honorary chairs are already hard at work to create an exceptional experience for Auction Napa Valley guests. A limited number of packages at \$7,500 per couple go on sale tomorrow (June 4) at noon at auctionnapavalley.org.

2018 Top Lots

Live Auction

- Napa Valley Vintners' Fund-the-Future - \$2,346,000
- Opus One - \$1,400,000
- Napa Valley Vintners and Lexus - \$1,000,000
- JCB and Raymond Vineyards (Buy A Spot) - \$640,000
- Dalla Valle Vineyards - \$480,000
- BOND - \$380,000
- St. Supéry Estate Vineyards & Winery - \$350,000
- Alejandro Bulgheroni Estate - \$300,000
- Amisetta Vineyards, Gamble Family Vineyards and Somnium Wine - \$300,000
- Honig Vineyard & Winery - \$280,000