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Press Release

***White Truffle Dinner Celebrates the 11th Palm Beach Wine Auction
February 1, 2018***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**GUESTS SAVORED FOUR COURSES OF WHITE TRUFFLE-INFUSED CUISINE IN HONOR OF
THE 2018 PALM BEACH WINE AUCTION BENEFITING ARTS EDUCATION PROGRAMS AT
THE RAYMOND F. KRAVIS CENTR FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

(Palm Beach, Fla.) – Guests at Monday’s White Truffle Dinner celebrating the upcoming 11th Annual Palm Beach Wine Auction were treated to four courses of fine Italian cuisine infused with rare tartufo bianco d’Alba at Trevini Ristorante while sipping select wines from Italy and Napa Valley. The dinner was sponsored by Jen and Ed Dudnyk.

Auction Chairman Ted Mandes welcomed some 75 guests to the dinner by saying, “We’re here because of the more than 60,000 children the Kravis Center reaches with its arts education programs every year,” before thanking host Gianni Minervini, chef-owner of Trevini, as well as the Auction’s sponsors, committee and supporters. “In the last 25 years, the Kravis Center has reached more than 2.2 million local schoolchildren, and the Palm Beach Wine Auction has had a substantial impact in supporting this ongoing mission by raising nearly \$4 million in net proceeds to date. We are investing in the futures of the children and our community.”

Guests of the White Truffle Dinner included Palm Beach Wine Auction sponsors JPMorgan Chase & Co. represented by Scott Bush and William Eady, Jen and Ed Dudnyk, Madeline and Roderic Fink, Steven Gottlieb and Laurie Raber-Gottlieb, Imperial Wine Storage represented by Laura and David Wrightson, and Carolyn and Richard Sloane.

The evening began with a cocktail reception featuring hors d’oeuvres including Scottish salmon tartare with avocado mousse and bufala mozzarella centrifuga with tomato coulis and basil oil, paired with Montenisa Franciacorta.

Following the reception, guests enjoyed the exquisite four-course meal of truffle-infused delights. The antipasto course featured seared foie gras with gorgonzola DOC and celery budino, fresh pear coulis, toasted bread and crispy pancetta dust with a port reduction, paired with a 2014 Antinori Castello della Sala Cervaro. This was followed by a first course of Carnaroli risotto with shaved truffles, served with a 2015 Domenica Amato Chardonnay Bacigalupi Vineyard, represented at the dinner by winemaker Michael Scorsone.

The second course was a seared Maine lobster tail with shaved foie gras, pomegranate reduction, roasted pumpkin seeds, pumpkin sorbet and shaved truffles, also paired with the Chardonnay. The entrée was a pounded veal chop filled with prosciutto, fontina cheese and wild mushroom pâté with porcini mushroom reduction, potato croquettes and asparagus, paired with Beau Vigne's 2013 Romeo & Juliet Cabernets. For dessert, guests were treated to ricotta and limoncello tortino with Caribbean rum-marinated strawberries, cold zabaglione and Swiss chocolate shavings, accompanied by a glass of 2008 Antinori Muffato.

The Palm Beach Wine Auction will take place on February 1, 2018, at the Kravis Center's Gimmelstob Ballroom in the Cohen Pavilion. More than 250 guests will gather to bid on amazingly rare vintages and exquisite experiences while sampling the finest cuisine and wine pairings.

Since its inception, the auction has raised nearly \$4 million net for the arts education programs at the Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts in West Palm Beach. Such programs include the *S*T*A*R* (Students and Teachers Arts Resource) *Series*, which brings tens of thousands of students to the Kravis Center each year for diverse performances in theater, dance and music. To date, the Center has opened the door to the performing arts to more than 2.2 million schoolchildren.

The Auction's mission attracts some of the food and wine industries' most treasured and iconic names, whose donations to the cause offer gastronomic experiences that simply cannot be bought.

The February 1, 2018 event will feature as one of its signature lots a full barrel of **Beckstoffer Vineyards'** 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon from the Las Piedras vineyard, valued at more than \$60,000. Winemakers from **Carter Cellars** will turn this extraordinary lot into 300 bottles of bespoke, private label Cabernet for the lucky bidder.

Another highlight of the catalog valued at nearly \$32,000, features three nights in a presidential suite at the **La Réserve Paris Hotel & Spa**, named in October by Condé Nast as the world's best hotel. The trip includes daily breakfast and a sommelier-led wine dinner at the hotel's Le Gabriel, a two Michelin-starred restaurant.

A signature of the Palm Beach Wine Auction is the exceptional culinary and wine experience for its guests. At the helm of the evening's service, **Chef Jeff Simms** of The Breakers Palm Beach will be joining returning **Chef de Cuisine Zach Bell**, Executive Chef of Addison Reserve Country Club, Delray Beach.

"What makes this event unlike any other in the social season is the caliber of food and wine served," said Mandes. "We are thrilled to have Jeff Simms join the team, and I know everyone who attends will be especially delighted by the wines we are serving this year."

Diners will enjoy pairings of **Beau Vigne's 2014 Bacigalupi**, **Rudd's Edge Hill 2013 Mixed Blacks**, and **Dow's 1977 Vintage Port** served from magnums. As a tribute to the Napa Valley-area vintners who have supported the Auction for many years and are managing disaster recovery from wildfires, a special pouring of one of **Carter Cellars'** exceptional **2013 Beckstoffer To Kalon** vintages, rated at 100 points, will be showcased during the entrée course.

Michael Troise, retired Auction Director for NY Wines/Christie's Fine and Rare Wine Department, will return as the evening's auction director and fromagère for the cheese course, and **Brian Chamis**, sommelier of Café Chardonnay in Palm Beach Gardens, returns to the helm for the event's wine service.

Along with **Ted Mandes** as the event Chairman, **Patrick Park** returns as the event's International Ambassador. Mandes shared other exciting news sure to make the 11th year of the Palm Beach Wine Auction most memorable:

- **Krug Champagne** returns to the 2018 Auction as the signature Champagne for the evening, with the **Grande Cuvée** served to guests upon arrival.
- Fine wine aficionados will delight at the inclusion of such auction lots as rare verticals and top vintages from **Château Cheval Blanc, Château d'Yquem, Château Lafleur** and **Château Palmer**, along with other hidden gems. Very rare California wines by **Carter Cellars, Colgin, Dakota Shy, Memento Mori, Myriad Cellars, Nine Suns, Realm** and **Stag's Leap Wine Cellars** will also be featured.
- Luxury travel experience lots include the La Réserve Paris Hotel & Spa trip, as well as trips to **Cognac** and **Bordeaux, Tuscany, Napa Valley, Montreal**, and a trip to **New York** or **Chicago** for a culinary extravaganza with private round-trip **NetJets** service.

"This year the Kravis Center is launching its new *Dream Awards* for excellence in high school musical theater, and is also partnering with Disney for the new *Disney Musicals In Schools* program to bring theater to under-resourced elementary schools in our community," said Judith Mitchell, CEO of the Kravis Center. "These and more than 20 other performing arts education programs at the Kravis Center reflect the Palm Beach Wine Auction's ongoing mission to support those efforts, and invest in the futures of the children in our community."

The Palm Beach Wine Auction Sponsors are JPMorgan Chase & Co.; Aston Martin, Jaguar, Land Rover, McLaren Palm Beach; Jen and Ed Dudnyk; Susan Hurley Esson; Patricia and Edward Falkenberg; Madeline and Roderic Fink; First Republic Bank; Dr. Steven M. Gottlieb and Laurie Raber-Gottlieb; Imperial Wine Storage; Bill and Marilyn Lane Family Foundation; Jane M. Mitchell; Tuny and David Page; Laurie Silvers and Mitchell Rubenstein; Carolyn and Richard Sloane; Jill and Bill Wachter; Tiffany & Co.; Media Support: Gulfstream Media Group.

The Palm Beach Wine Auction is chaired by Ted Mandes, with Patrick Park as **International Ambassador**. **Committee** members are Amos Dare, Ed Dudnyk, Susan Hurley Esson, Roderic R. Fink, Barbara Evans Golden, Steven M. Gottlieb, Ashley D. Hoffman, John H. Kessler, Peter Lamelas, Shelley Menin, I. Jeffrey Pheterson, Martin Rivard, Jeffrey Sabeau, Laurie S. Silvers, Jill Sloane, Richard Sloane, Daniel J. "Rusty" Staub, Michael Troise, Cory Valentine, Kathryn C. Vecellio and Jill Wachter.

Tickets to the 2018 Palm Beach Wine Auction are \$1,000, by advance reservation. To request an invitation to the Palm Beach Wine Auction, or for additional information, please call 561.651.4320, email pbwa@kravis.org or visit palmbeachwineauction.org. For more information on the Kravis Center's arts education programs, please visit kravis.org/education.

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