



People Helping People and Artists Partner to Help Vineyard and Farm Workers

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Solvang— People Helping People (PHP) and twelve local artists are partnering to help each other and local vineyard and farm workers at the upcoming 2nd Annual Vino de Suenos (Wine of Dreams) Release Celebration. The event to be held on Saturday, November 7th at 3 PM at the Santa Ynez Marriott will feature original art adapted to wine labels for PHP's Vino de Suenos brand. The originals will also be available for purchase in a silent auction.

The artists' works adorn premium varietal wines from Santa Barbara County vintners including Alma Rosa, Au Bon Climat, Buttonwood, Cold Heaven, D'Alfonso-Curran, Fiddlehead, Foxen, Hitching Post, Kalyra, Longoria, Makor and Vogelzang Wineries. Each of the wineries has donated 10 cases of wine for tasting and sale to raise funds to support the services PHP furnishes to vineyard and farm workers.

Dean Palius, Executive Director of PHP said that this is a unique event that draws together two groups of artists, winemakers and painters/photographers, to help a group of workers

that are the backbone of an industry critical to the local economy. "This event has great energy and synergy," Palius said. "We are able to promote local artists and the wine industry that are in turn able to donate their work to benefit PHP and the vineyard and farm workers we serve," stated Palius. "It's clearly a win/win for the entire community."

Artists participating in the 2009 VINO de Suenos Release Celebration include Kari Crist, Darby Holden, Christianna Hunnicutt, Christina Locascio, Alissa Massey, Zoe Nathan, Karina Puente, Luis Ramirez, Joel Serrato, Suzi Trubitz, Jose Villa, Nancy Yaki, and Seyburn Zorthian.

According to Karina Puente, one of the VINO de Suenos artists and the art coordinator for the event, an addition for this year's fund raising is that each label artist will also be hand painting a bottle of the wine adorned with their label art. The one of a kind "artist" bottles will also be available at the event auction.

One of the new local artists participating in this year's event is Nancy Yaki. Nancy is a recent transplant to the area from Alaska via Arizona and serves as a fine arts instructor at Dunn School in Los Olivos. Dunn is a private middle and high school.

"I wanted to be one of this year's artists as soon as I heard about the event," Yaki said. "Helping vineyard and farm workers here locally is a great cause and while I do not have a lot of money to donate, I do have my work," she added. "I am also quite pleased to have my vision of Lake Cachuma memorialized on the wonderful wine of Bruno D'Alfonso and Kris Curran."

“Now a resident of the Santa Ynez Valley, I naturally felt an affinity with Lake Cachuma. This piece of work represents the synergy I feel when all the elements are present – the water, the land, the light and my perception all engaged in a lyrical dance.”

In addition to the wine tasting, wine sale and art auction, the November 1st release event will feature live music from and appetizers from the Santa Ynez Valley’s premier caterer, New West Catering. Tickets are \$40 and include a 15 ounce logo wine glass. Tickets are available at www.vinodesuenos.com , www.syvphp.org, or contact People Helping People at (805) 686-0295.

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