

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Who: Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation

Where: Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows

When: Sunday, May 6, 2018
5 p.m. – 9 p.m.

What: Santa Monica-Malibu Wine Auction

For more information or to attend, contact Ann Conkle at ann.conkle@smmef.org or 310-396-4557.

Santa Monica-Malibu Wine Auction Returns to the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows; Gala Food and Wine Tasting Will Raise Funds for all Santa Monica and Malibu Public Schools

The Wine Auction is presented by Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows/MSD Capital, Kaiser Permanente and Santa Monica Place/Macerich

The Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation is hosting its 3rd annual Santa Monica-Malibu Wine Auction on Sunday, May 6 at the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows, the event's sponsor hotel in Santa Monica. At the elegant event, presented by Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows/MSD Capital, Kaiser Permanente and Santa Monica Place/Macerich, guests will sample tastings from more than 30 wine and food vendors. The evening will also feature exciting live and silent auctions, dessert tastings and dancing.

Full details about the event are available at smmwineauction.org. Tickets range from \$150 to \$225.

"We invite all parents and community members to this incredible celebration of wine, food and our schools," said David Vukadinovich, President of the Ed Foundation Board of Directors. "It's an extraordinary evening of top-notch tasting and auctions, all to raise funds for arts, STEM, instructional aides, and more for our students."

The first two Wine Auctions raised a combined \$374,000 for local schools. All proceeds from the event benefit the Education Foundation, which funds programs at every school in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. SMMEF-funded staff and programs include arts education for the district's 4,900 elementary students, 87 instructional assistants, and enrichment grants for all 16 schools in the district. Most schools decide to use these grants to provide STEM programs, expanded arts curriculum, or student wellness programs.

Participating restaurants at the event will include Bareburger, Blue Plate Oysterette/Taco, Caffè Luxxe, Del Frisco's Grille, Fig, Herringbone, Little Fatty, Locanda del Lago, Lunetta, Margo's, Melisse, Milo & Olive, Red O, Sushi Roku, Upper West Restaurant and Upstairs 2.

Wine, beer and spirit tastings include The Wine House, Bonaccorsi Wine Company, Carlisle

Winery & Vineyards, Domaine de la Cote, Dragonette, Empress 1908 Gin, Far Niente Winery, Folk Machine, Foxen, Margerum, Nomadica Wine, Orin Swift, Pali Wine Co., Prisoner, Revel Wine, Sandhi, Stolpman and Three Weavers.

The event's wine auction lots will include wines from some of the above, plus Hourglass, Chateau Lafite Rothschild, Sine Qua Non, Aonair, Gaja, Caymus Vineyards, Kistler, JM Cellars, Betz Family Winery, Duckhorn Vineyards, Delille Cellars, Veuve Clicquot, Justin, Frank Family Vineyards, The Ojai Vineyard, Turley Wine Cellars, Bonaccorsi Wine Company, Upchurch Vineyard, Epoch Estate, Arrow & Branch and much more.

Many local businesses are sponsoring the event through the Education Foundation's Corporate Partner program. In addition to the presenting sponsors, they include Cedars-Sinai; Edison International; FreeAssociates; Harding Larmore Kutcher & Kozal, LLP; OneWest Bank; Pacific Park; Pence Hathorn Silver; Saint John's Health Center Affiliation Endowment Fund; Stifel; UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica; DLR Group; Gelson's Markets; Keygent LLC; and Khedr Management Company.

Tickets available at smmwineauction.org.

About the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation

Contributions to the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation fund excellent programs at every SMMUSD school – from arts to STEM to wellness – that shape our future problem solvers, visionaries and global citizens.

Established in 1982 by a dedicated group of parents, community leaders, and local business owners, the Ed Foundation raises funds to enhance and supplement the curriculum of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. The Foundation's mission is to engage the community to invest in a vibrant educational experience for all students in the Santa Monica and Malibu public schools. To learn more about SMMEF visit <http://www.smmeff.org> or www.facebook.com/smmeff.

####