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**Ed Foundation's Santa Monica Wine Auction Raises
\$333,000 for Local Public Schools**

Santa Monica, Calif., May 29, 2019 – On Sunday, May 19, the fourth annual Santa Monica Wine Auction raised \$333,000 for staff and programs in Santa Monica public schools. The sold-out gala event at the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows, the event's sponsor hotel in Santa Monica, featured food and wine tastings from top local restaurants and renowned wineries. Guests enjoyed the tastings under the Fairmont's gorgeous, historic fig tree while also bidding in live and silent auctions.

"The evening was stunning!" said Linda Greenberg, Executive Director of the Santa Monica Education Foundation. "We are so thrilled with the success of this highly anticipated, sold-out event. The Santa Monica Wine Auction is such an incredible testament to this community's commitment to excellent education. Each aspect of this event depends on community support, from our sponsors to our volunteers to our wonderful tasting partners. Santa Monica's schools are strong because of this incredible support for our local public schools. I was impressed to learn that Samohi was recently ranked in the top 4% in the nation"

The three previous Wine Auctions have raised a combined \$659,000 for local public schools. This year's event brings the total to near \$1 million.

The money raised will directly fund arts programs, classroom aides, STEM and student health and wellness programs in Santa Monica public schools next year. Annual donations and Ed Foundation endowments are funding \$2.6 million in programs during the current school year. Fundraising for 2019-2020 school-year programs will continue through June 30, 2019. For more information or to make a donation, go to smedfoundation.org.

The event's present sponsors were the MSD Capital, owner of the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows; Bird; David Yun and the Eighty8 Group; Santa Monica Place, owned by Macerich; OneWest Bank; The Plaza at Santa Monica; and Saint John's Health Center Foundation.

The Wine Auction featured more than 30 outstanding wine and food tastings. Restaurants at the event included Art's Table; Blue Plate Oysterette; Border Grill/Socalo; Caffè Luxxe; The Gallery; Guidi Marcello, Ltd; Herringbone Santa Monica; The Independence; Little Fatty/Accomplice Bar; The Lobster; Local Kitchen and Wine Bar; Lunetta; North Italia Santa Monica, Red O, Taste of Mexico; Sushi Roku; Tiato/An Catering by Crustacean; and Upper West Restaurant.

Wine, beer and spirit tastings included The Wine House, Aum Cellars, Beckman Vineyards, Bonaccorsi Wine Company, Crocker and Starr Winery, The Dalmore, Empress 1908 Gin, Fulldraw Vineyard, Law Estate Wines, Maritana Vineyards, Nicolas-Jay, P. Harrell Wines, RAEN Winery, Rideau Vineyard, Sokol Blosser, Uplifter's Spirits, and Villa Creek Cellars.

Many local businesses are sponsoring the event through the Education Foundation's Corporate Heroes program. In addition to the presenting sponsors, they include Cedars-Sinai; FreeAssociates; Harding Larmore Kutcher & Kozal LLP; Harley Ellis Devereaux/Moore Ruble Yudell Architects; Kilroy; Sir Speedy Santa Monica; Sunnin; UCLA Medical Center; DFH Architects LLC; DLR Group; Downtown Santa Monica; Gelson's; Khedr Management Company; and Jones Hall, A Professional Law Corporation.

About the Santa Monica Education Foundation

Contributions to the Santa Monica Education Foundation fund excellent programs at every Santa Monica public 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 schools. The Foundation's mission is to engage the community to invest in a vibrant educational experience for all public school students in Santa Monica.

To learn more about the Ed Foundation, visit smedfoundation.org.