



A Culinary Evening with the California Winemasters toasts 20 years of giving.

When the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation hosted the 20th annual “A Culinary Evening with the California Winemasters” on the “Midwest Street” backlot at Warner Bros. Studios in Burbank, California, 1,400 guests from all across the country attended the sold-out event.

Over 45 celebrity chefs from around the world were paired with 69 of California’s most talented winemakers to present a tasting and hors d’oeuvres extravaganza.

The event raised over \$1,490,000 for the Foundation’s vital research and care centers. Honorary Chairmen Pam Starr of Crocker & Starr Wines and Josiah Citrin of Méliisse Restaurant in Santa Monica joined American Airlines, Go Country 105 FM, Dole Food Company, Cobblestone Vineyards, the Alfred Hitchcock Family, Warner Home

Video, Oracle Corporation, Flask Fine Wines, Universal Studios, Ameristar Casinos, Inc. and BJ’s Restaurant Foundation in presenting this year’s exciting event.

Toyota Motor Sales U.S.A., Inc. donated the limited drawing prize, a 2010 Prius. Premier auctioneer DawnMarie Kotsonis conducted the live auction. The 2009 event boasted one of the most extravagant auctions in history with over 900 live and silent auction items from fantasy trips to exclusive collector wines.

The live auction this year included an eight-day Sake trip to Japan that sold for \$19,000; a D.R. Stephens wine dinner at Drago Centro with CNN’s Larry King that was auctioned off for \$18,000; and a one-of-a-kind “Green Basket” created by artist Dale Chihuly paired with a 24.0L of Pursued by Bear produced by co-vintners

Eric Dunham and Kyle MacLachlan that sold for \$41,000. Both vintners took the stage to sell their lot and added a wine dinner for 10 created by noted chef Thomas Moran.

Live auction wine lots featured a unique Imperial of 2005 Chateau Haut Brion that sold for \$25,000; a 115-bottle collection from the Mount Veeder Appellation that was auctioned off for \$11,000; a five-year year of 2001-2005 DRC La Tache that sold for \$20,000; and two magnums and four bottles of 1995 Ramonet-Montrachet that sold for \$9,000.

Silent auction lots that were real crowd pleasers included: a four-day stay including air travel for two couples at the luxurious Capella Madregal in Los Cabos that sold for \$5,000 and a four-day trip to Tuscany with a stay at Il Boro as guests of the Ferragamo family that sold for \$4,800. Among the most popular wine lots were an 11-bottle lot of Sine Qua Non that sold for \$4,500 and a 3.0L of 1995 Peter Michael Les Pavot with a sale price of \$2,400. ■