



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Famed Phantom of the Opera Star Franc D'Ambrosio  
To Perform at the Sonoma Valley Harvest Wine Auction**

***Musical Appearance by the "Longest Running Phantom"***

***Added to Impressive Roaster of Auction Weekend Festivities***

SONOMA, Calif. (July 21, 2005) – The Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Alliance is pleased to announce that San Francisco's own Phantom, Franc D'Ambrosio, will be unmasked and back in the Bay Area for one night only to perform a concert as part of the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Sonoma Valley Harvest Wine Auction weekend. D'Ambrosio will take a break from his 76-city nationwide tour to entertain the crowd under the big tent at the Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn on Friday, September 2 at 8:00 P.M., with show tunes from his solo debut CD *Franc D'Ambrosio's Broadway*.

"We are so excited to welcome Franc D'Ambrosio to Sonoma," said Jonnie McCormick, Executive Director of the Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Alliance. "His performance on Friday night at the beautiful Sonoma Mission Inn will be a wonderful kick-off to this year's auction weekend."

D'Ambrosio is best known for playing the Phantom in Andrew Lloyd Weber's Broadway smash *Phantom of the Opera* 2,600 times, which earned him the title "Longest Running Phantom". During his six-year long run as the Phantom in San Francisco, D'Ambrosio

**Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Foundation Beneficiaries:** F.I.S.H., Hanna Boys Center, Kenwood Education Foundation, La Luz, Sonoma Community Center, Sonoma Ecology Center, Sonoma Land Trust, Sonoma Valley Community Health Center, Sonoma Valley Education Foundation, Sonoma Valley Hospital Foundation, Sonoma Valley Mentoring, Wilmar, Valley of the Moon Boys & Girls Club, and Vineyard Workers Services.

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captivated more than five million theatergoers; he has also appeared in numerous on and off-Broadway productions and in the movie *The Godfather Part III*. This is D'Ambrosio's first appearance at the Sonoma Valley Harvest Wine Auction and his concert is just one of the many events taking place during the fun-filled weekend.

The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Sonoma Valley Harvest Wine Auction is a star-studded Sonoma Valley weekend celebrating fine wine, fabulous food and the '30s, '40s and '50s glory days of Hollywood cinema. This year's event, which takes place September 2-4, will be a weekend of activities including winery tours with expert Sonoma Valley grape growers, a spirited wine county picnic, sumptuous and stylish winemaker dinners, and the grand finale - the Sonoma Valley Harvest Auction. All proceeds benefit worthy and deserving Sonoma Valley charities.

Tickets for "An Evening with Franc D'Ambrosio" go on sale June 1 and cost \$50 for general admission and \$100 for preferred seating which includes a "meet and greet" with D'Ambrosio after the concert. All ticket prices include a voucher for two complimentary glasses of Sonoma Valley wine. For more information and to purchase tickets, call 707-935-0803 or visit [www.sonomavalleywine.com](http://www.sonomavalleywine.com).

### **About the Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Alliance (SVVGA)**

Formed in 1992 by merging the Sonoma Valley Vintners Association and the Sonoma Valley Grape Growers Association, the Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Alliance (SVVGA) is a unique non-profit organization comprised of hundreds of vintners and growers whose mission is to promote Sonoma Valley wines and grapes, support cooperation and collaboration among valley vintners and growers, and to develop community awareness of the industry. For more information on the SVVGA, please call 707.935.0803 or visit our Web site at [www.sonomavalleywine.com](http://www.sonomavalleywine.com).

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