



SVHWA Proceeds Release

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SVVGA Office: 707-935-0803

Wine Industry Finds Joy, Gives Big Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Give Close To \$420,000

(SONOMA, Calif.) -- In the true spirit of the season, the Sonoma Valley Vintners and Growers Alliance (SVVGA) distributed nearly \$420,000 on December 13th to ten Sonoma Valley charities. The donations, proceeds from the 2002 Sonoma Valley Harvest Wine Auction (SVHWA), cap a decade of auctions since 1993 that local wineries and grapegrowers have sponsored to raise more than \$2.7 million that they have donated directly to the community.

"Over the years, our industry has had a positive impact on so many worthy Sonoma Valley charitable organizations," said SVVGA Executive Director Jonnie McCormick, "The joy of giving is what makes it all worthwhile for our local vintners, growers, volunteers and everyone involved in the Sonoma Valley Harvest Wine Auction." The SVVGA has donated more than \$1 million to the Sonoma Valley Hospital Foundation alone in the ten-year history of the SVHWA.

In addition to \$10,000 which has been set aside this year to establish a new annual scholarship program for Sonoma Valley High School graduating seniors and two smaller grants, SVVGA Treasurer Steve Dale presented checks to representatives from:

El Nido Teen Center \$15,000
Kenwood Education Foundation \$12,000
La Luz Center \$16,000
Sonoma Ecology Center \$13,000
Sonoma Valley Community Health Center \$127,000
Sonoma Valley Education Foundation \$31,935
Sonoma Valley Hospital Foundation \$67,740
Sonoma Valley Mentoring Alliance \$23,935
Valley of the Moon Boys & Girls Club \$42,870
Vineyard Workers Services \$53,870

The irreverent and vivacious Sonoma Valley Harvest Wine Auction has grown to become one of the nation's most successful and popular charity wine events. The 11th Annual Sonoma Valley Harvest Wine Auction will be held Labor Day Weekend 2003. To request an invitation for the 2003 Sonoma Valley Harvest Wine Auction or for information call



707.935.0803 or send an email to info@sonomavalleywine.com. The Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Alliance is located at 17964 Sonoma Highway, Sonoma. For more information call 707.935.0803.

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