

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**The Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Alliance Announces
Second Annual *VinOlivo*
Sumptuous Tasting of Sonoma Valley Wine, Cuisine and Olive Oil
Celebrates Annual Sonoma Valley Olive Festival – Highlight Includes Tasting and
Auction of Wineries’ Future Releases**

SONOMA, Calif. (December 12, 2006) – The Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Alliance (SVVGA) will host their annual fundraising event *VinOlivo* on Saturday, February 17, 2007 at the Lodge at Sonoma Renaissance and Spa, as part of the 6th Annual Sonoma Valley Olive Festival.

This epicurean showcase is highlighted by the rare opportunity to taste and purchase future releases of Sonoma’s finest wines – straight from the barrel. The list of Sonoma Valley wineries expected to pour barrel samples of their future releases includes Benziger Family Winery, Blackstone Winery, B.R. Cohn Winery, Charles Creek Vineyard, Chateau St. Jean, Cline Cellars, Kunde Estate Winery & Vineyards, Moon Mountain Vineyard, Nicholson Ranch, Ravenswood Winery, St. Francis Winery, and VJB Vineyards & Cellars.

Guests will also partake in food samplings from over 20 of Sonoma Valley’s finest restaurants and caterers, socialize with winemakers as they pour their current releases, enjoy local olives and olive oils crafted by Sonoma County’s artisan producers, and indulge in a Port & Chocolate Fondue Extravaganza. *VinOlivo* will also include a silent auction featuring signed magnums and reserve case lots, and entertainment provided by Flamenco guitarists.

“The Sonoma Valley Olive Festival is a great time of the year! This is a festival that is unique to our valley, and we are thrilled to join in this annual celebration with *VinOlivo*,” says Grant Raeside, SVVGA Executive Director.

VinOlivo is being held at the Lodge at Sonoma Renaissance and Spa located at 1325 Broadway on Saturday, February 17 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Tickets are now on sale and cost \$65 per person in advance and \$75 per person if purchased at the door on the day of the event. For more information and to purchase tickets, contact the SVVGA office at (707) 935-0803 or visit www.sonomavalleywine.com.

About the Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Alliance (SVVGA)

The Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Alliance (SVVGA) is a unique non-profit organization. It was formed in 1992 through a merger of the Sonoma Valley Vintners Association and the Sonoma Valley Grape Growers Association. Hundreds of vintners and growers are sharing a mission to promote Sonoma Valley wines and grapes, support cooperation and collaboration among vintners and growers, and develop community awareness of the industry. The annual Sonoma Valley Harvest Wine Auction is produced by the Alliance and has raised over \$5 million for local Charities over the last 14 years. For more information on the SVVGA, please call (707) 935-0803 or visit www.sonomavalleywine.com.

About The Sonoma Valley Olive Festival

The Sonoma Valley Olive Festival, currently in its sixth year, is a celebration of the senses. Taking place December through February, the Olive Festival brings special events to the Sonoma Valley, as well as a range of festival promotions with local lodging, spas, wineries, restaurants and retail shops. For additional information on the Sonoma Valley Olive Festival including event specifics and information on Olive Festival sponsors and participants, please contact the Sonoma Valley Visitors Bureau at (707) 996-1090, or visit the Sonoma Valley Olive Festival's Web site at www.olivefestival.com.

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