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TASTE OF SONOMA FINDS A NEW HOME FOR 2017 AT SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY'S GREEN MUSIC CENTER

(Sonoma County, CA) – Taste of Sonoma, a signature food and wine event of the annual multiday Wine Country Weekend, announced this week plans to move to the Green Music Center after calling MacMurray Ranch home for the past 12 years. The move is an effort on the part of the Sonoma County Vintners trade group to revamp the county's largest wine gathering, which in past years has drawn some 6,000 people annually over Labor Day weekend to sample local wines and foods, bid on wine lots at auction, dance under the stars, and meet winemakers at intimate lunches and dinners.

The event will take place over the course of two days instead of one. The Harvest Wine Auction, traditionally held the Sunday of Labor Day weekend, will be moved to Sept. 16 at a new location, the La Crema Estate at Saralee's Vineyard in Windsor. Last year, the auction was held at Kenwood's Chateau St. Jean Winery and raised a record \$4.6 million for local charities.

At Taste of Sonoma, over 200 wineries pour thousands of wines, with over 60 local chefs preparing their most perfect pairings. Additionally, there is the opportunity to experience seminars and demonstrations that cover a wide range of topics from terroir to technique, as well as chef's tips and tricks. Taste of Sonoma is the wine event of the year, and it promises a day of fabulous wine, food, and fun.

Further details for Taste of Sonoma and the Harvest Wine Auction will be available soon.

ABOUT SONOMA COUNTY VINTNERS

Sonoma County Vintners (SCV) is the leading voice of Sonoma County wine, dedicated to raising awareness of Sonoma County as one of the world's premier wine regions, noted for its heritage of artisan winemaking, distinct growing regions, and extraordinary quality. Founded in 1944, SCV represents more than 200 wineries and affiliated businesses throughout the county. To learn more about Sonoma County Vintners, visit: www.SonomaWine.com.

ABOUT SONOMA WINE COUNTRY WEEKEND

Sonoma Wine Country Weekend is the signature celebration of Sonoma County's wines, winegrowers, chefs and the independent, generous spirit of this world-class wine country destination. A partnership between the Sonoma County Vintners and Sonoma Valley Vintners and Growers Alliance, the events have raised more than \$24 million to date to invest in Sonoma County's future. For more information about Sonoma Wine Country Weekend, visit SonomaWineCountryWeekend.com.

ABOUT SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Sonoma State University is a public liberal arts college located in California's premier wine country, one hour north of San Francisco. Nestled at the base of the idyllic Sonoma Mountains, the campus is home

to more than 9,000 undergraduate students and is among the most popular campuses in the California State University system. Named a "Most Wired" campus by The Princeton Review and a "Best Regional University" by U.S. News & World Report, SSU was first in the country to offer an undergraduate degree in Wine Business. For more information, visit sonoma.edu.

ABOUT THE GREEN MUSIC CENTER

Nestled in the picturesque foothills of Northern California's esteemed wine country, the Green Music Center (GMC) is a focal point for arts in the region, with its spectacular 1400-seat Weill Hall, an acoustically exceptional venue with a modular rear wall that opens to terraced lawn seating, providing picturesque views of the surrounding countryside, and the 240-seat Schroeder Hall, a cathedral-like recital hall designed specifically to accentuate instruments, organ and voice in a small, intimate setting. A program of Sonoma State University, the GMC presents year-round programming of top classical, contemporary, jazz, and world music artists, and is home to the Santa Rosa Symphony. For more information, please visit gmc.sonoma.edu.