



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **PREMIUM WINES PRESENTED AT THE GRAND TASTING & SILENT AUCTION OF THE HILTON HEAD ISLAND WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL**

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC (February 16, 2012) – Excitement is building for the Grand Tasting and Silent Auction on March 9, 2012. This ultimate wine event sold out last year and will most likely sell out quickly again. It's the perfect venue for wine enthusiasts and collectors that appreciate premium wines. Most of the wines tasted at the Grand Tasting are priced on the upper end of the scale, average prices per bottle ranging from \$50 per bottle. The silent auction lots are also many of the premium wines assembled in lots of three, six or twelve. According to Silent Auction Chairman, Dr. Bob Hohman "The Grand Tasting Silent auction is where a savvy wine collector can score some unbelievable deals on premium wines. The lots for the auction this year are some of the best we've had available in many years."

The Grand Tasting and Silent Auction takes place at Sea Pines Resort, Harbour Town Conference Center from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. on March 9, 2012. The featured menu is a delectable selection of servings throughout the evening, including Barelo Braised Beef Short Ribs to Scallop & Lobster Tamales. There is a 4:30 – 5:30 Trade Hour Tasting planned for food and beverage wine buyers by invitation only.

The Great Chefs of the South Wine Dinners will take place at various locations on Hilton Head Island, Monday March 5 through Saturday, March 10, 2012, with restaurant and menu details available online. The Grand Tasting and Silent Auction will be held on Friday, March 9 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at Sea Pines Resort, Harbour Town Conference Center, tickets are \$65 per person and available online or at Roller's Wine & Spirits, Coligny Plaza. The Wine & Food Festival and Silent Auction will be held from 12 – 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 10, 2012 at the Coastal Discovery Museum at Honey Horn. Additional information and tickets are available for purchase online at [www.hiltonheadwineandfood.com](http://www.hiltonheadwineandfood.com) or Wine & Food Festival tickets available for \$39.99 through March 9, 2012 at Walgreens nationwide. The 2012 Hilton Head Island Wine & Food Festival's Silent Auctions benefit educational opportunities for students in the Hospitality programs of study at the University of South Carolina Beaufort and the Technical College of the Lowcountry through the John T. and Valerie Curry scholarship fund.

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