



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TAOS WINTER WINE FESTIVAL AT THE HARWOOD MUSEUM OF ART

Taos, N.M.—The Harwood Museum of Art is hosting *The Art of Wine*, a fundraising event held in collaboration with the *Taos Winter Wine Festival*, Friday, February 1, 3:30 – 6 p.m. Students in Taos High School’s Culinary Arts Program will prepare and serve delectable and artful hors d’oeuvres, while several wineries including Gruet, Paul Dolan, Vivac and Mathis Wines will offer special tastings. The Taos Winter Wine Festival brings 40 of the world’s best wineries to Taos every winter.



The Art of Wine guests will enjoy private, exclusive access to Harwood Museum of Art exhibitions featuring the Taos Society of Artists, Taos Moderns, historic Hispanic artists, and contemporary artists. Additionally, participants will enjoy behind-the-scenes tours of the Harwood’s state-of-the-art collection storage area. The Museum will close to the public at 3:00 pm in order to accommodate this special event, which benefits the Harwood Museum of Art’s exhibition program and the Great Chefs of Taos, which supports the Taos High School Culinary Arts program.

“The Taos Winter Wine Festival brings in a lot of visitors to Taos,” says Sherry Parsons, Harwood Museum of Art Development Committee and Great Chefs of Taos Board Member. “It only makes sense to pull in the amazing art component, and there’s no better place to host *The Art of Wine* than the Harwood Museum of Art. In addition, the event allows students from the award-winning Taos High School Culinary Arts Program to show off their culinary skills. Through this program, students learn viable job skills that lead to good paying positions in the restaurant and hospitality industry. Pair our event with world class skiing and the restaurants in Taos, and you’ve got a fantastic weekend in one of the most beautiful spots in the world.”

“Few events can boast the number of winemakers or winery owners that Taos Winter Wine Festival can, it’s a unique and intimate opportunity to taste world-class wines with the people who make them,” says Greg O’Byrne Executive Director, Taos Winter Wine Festival.

Chef instructor Damon Simonton will guide the Taos High students, along with Taos High School instructor Benjie Apodaca. Apodaca has done an amazing job with teaching Culinary Arts in Taos, and his students have won numerous awards at the state and national levels.

“We are also having a silent auction with top-notch art including work by Mary Dolph Wood, Bea Mandelman, Robert Ray, and Melissa Zink” adds Parsons. “We really need the community to come out and support this event. We have purposely kept the ticket price low so people will show up and have a great night while supporting these great non-profits.”

“We’re thrilled to partner with the Taos Winter Wine Festival and the Great Chefs of Taos on this fundraising event,” says Harwood Museum of Art Director Susan Longhenry. “The Festival brings many wine connoisseurs to Taos, and we’ve long suspected that these visitors are also art enthusiasts. We look forward to sharing the Harwood Museum of Art with them!”

Cost: \$24 Harwood Museum Alliance members, \$30 non-members.

Where: The Harwood Museum of Art of UNM, 238 Ledoux Street, Taos, NM

Info: 575-758-9826, www.harwoodmuseum.org, www.taoswinterwinefest.com

IMAGES AND INTERVIEWS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

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