



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COLUMBUS FOOD & WINE AFFAIR ANTICIPATES SENSATIONAL SIXTH YEAR

Columbus, OH— Culinary magic. Award-winning wines. This is where the Columbus Food & Wine Affair begins, but far from where it ends. This proven event provides the setting for more than 25 of Central Ohio's finest restaurants to display their most delectable offerings, and it opens the door to over 450 international wines. Add to that an abundant silent auction and beautiful music, and you have all the ingredients necessary to create a spectacular evening. Best of all, the gala affair benefits a number of Columbus-area charities and the Central Ohio Restaurant Association. The Grand Tasting, open to the public, is set for 6:30 to 10 p.m., Friday September 5, at the Franklin Park Conservatory, 1777 E. Broad Street, Columbus 43203.

In a relatively short time, the Columbus Food & Wine Affair has gained a reputation for bringing people together with a passion for great food, excellent wine and the opportunity to give back to the community. In its first five years, the event raised more than \$250,000 for local charities.

The two-tiered event begins with an annual ***Wine Competition*** to be held Saturday, August 9 at the Columbus Fish Market, 1245 Olentangy River Road, Columbus, Ohio 43212. Wines being judged are the same that will be featured at the Grand Tasting. Medal recipients will be announced at the Grand Tasting.

In support of our community, the proceeds from the *Columbus Food and Wine Affair* benefit Central Ohio Restaurant Association, WBNS-10TV Family Fund, Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital, United Way of Central Ohio, Adventures for Wish Kids and the Ian Adams Van Heyde Scholarship Fund.

T Founding sponsors include: Cameron Mitchell Restaurants, Heidelberg Distributing, CORA, WBNS-10TV, and Mix 97.1. Reserve Level sponsors include American Express, Giant Eagle, San Pellegrino, Southwest Airlines, SYSCO Central Ohio, Franklin Park Conservatory, and Madison & Fifth.

Sponsor opportunities are available by contacting gailbaker@columbus.rr.com. Tickets to the Grand Tasting are \$100 each and can be purchased online at www.foodandwineaffair.com.