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THE MUSCARELLE MUSEUM OF ART TO HOST SEVENTH ANNUAL DERBY DAY “WINE & RUN FOR THE ROSES” WINE AUCTION

Master Sommelier to Lead Live Auction; Derby Attire, Collectible Wines and Running of the Kentucky Derby Also Highlight This Year’s Benefit Event

Williamsburg, Va. (April 17, 2017) -- The Muscarelle Museum of Art at the College of William & Mary (muscarelle.org) has announced that the seventh annual *Wine & Run for the Roses* wine auction will take place on the scenic lawn of Phi Beta Kappa Hall near the museum in historic Williamsburg, Va., on Saturday, May 6, 2017.

Wine and Run for the Roses is presented by the MCV Foundation and VCU Health.

The event kicks off with a Virginia wine reception, during which wines from ten award-winning Virginia wineries will be featured. Many of the wineries were medal winners in the 2017 Virginia Governor’s Cup competition.

Unprecedented wine lots will be offered at the highly anticipated live and silent auctions, as well as unique lifestyle and travel opportunities. Many of the auction items feature rare lots that can only be found at this event. Hundreds of red and white wines from all over the world will be featured, including from Pomerol, St. Emilion, Saint-Julien, Sauternes, Chambertin, Vougeot, Musigny, Corton, Volnay, Montrachet, Meursault, Chablis, and more.

Guests will be in great company as Master Sommelier Fran Kysela will serve as the live auction’s master of ceremonies along with auctioneer Mark Motley. Kysela has been an honoree of *Wine Enthusiast’s* Importer of the Year, at which time the prominent wine publication noted that Kysela was chosen for the award based on “his clear focus on finding regional wines that has helped define a new, global vision of quality.”

“This occasion is unparalleled in terms of one-of-a-kind items that are available only through this much-anticipated spring event,” said Aaron De Groft, director of the Muscarelle Museum of Art. “Everyone who joins us will have the opportunity to bid on these fabulous lifestyle package and wine lots, and at the same time, will be providing funding to continue to bring world-class art to our community in the years to come.”

An extraordinary array of travel packages offer special opportunities at the live and silent auctions. These include many international travel packages and include a Tuscan villa vacation, an African safari, White Hall Plantation barn party, guest chef dinners, Schrader wine, a “Big Cheese” weekend, a Mercedes Benz lease, and a New York City arts weekend.

Other activities at Wine & Run for the Roses include a wine reception, a race raffle, a hat contest and more.

All proceeds benefit the Muscarelle Museum of Art Foundation, a 501(c) 3 organization, continuing the availability of world-class exhibitions and other art programs in the Williamsburg/Hampton Roads area. Proceeds also help fund the annual Cultural Arts Experience, which takes place in partnership with the Greater Williamsburg Women's Association. Students from local middle schools participate in this annual event that takes place at the Muscarelle and encourages youth arts appreciation and participation. The live auction will feature two "paddle raises" -- one for the cultural Arts Experience and one for the new building fund.

The 143rd running of the Kentucky Derby follows the auction on wide screen televisions. Race time is approximately 6:34 p.m.

Other Wine & Derby Weekend events that take place in addition to Wine & Run for the Roses include two intimate gourmet dinners, including one at The Fat Canary restaurant that will feature wines from Fran Kysela's portfolio, Kysela Pere et Fils. Kysela will serve as host at the Fat Canary dinner.

The event takes place on the lawn of the Muscarelle Museum of Art in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia at 603 Jamestown Road on the campus of The College of William & Mary from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Reserved seat tickets for Wine & Run for the Roses are \$200 per person for reserved seating, or \$100 for general admission. To purchase tickets, visit the event's [ticket site](#). This event is normally a sell-out, so early ticket purchase is recommended.

About the Muscarelle Museum of Art

The Muscarelle Museum of Art is located on the campus of William & Mary at 603 Jamestown Rd in Williamsburg, Va. For more information, call 757-221-2700 or visit muscarelle.org. Follow on Twitter (@Muscarelle), Instagram (@muscarellemuseum) or on Facebook (Muscarelle Museum of Art).

About the MCV Foundation

The Medical College of Virginia Foundation was established in 1949 to inspire and steward philanthropic resources for its MCV Campus Partners at VCU Health. The Foundation currently manages \$500 million in assets to ensure VCU Health remains at the forefront of excellence and innovation in patient care, research and education. Through its 1,500 funds, the MCV Foundation provides scholarships, professorships, research and program funds to support the life-saving work occurring at VCU Health every day. The MCV Foundation's campus partners include: VCU School of Allied Health Professions, VCU School of Dentistry, VCU School of Medicine, VCU School of Nursing, VCU School of Pharmacy, VCU Massey Cancer Center and VCU Medical Center. Visit www.mcvfoundation.org to learn more.

About VCU and VCU Health

Virginia Commonwealth University is a major, urban public research university with national and international rankings in sponsored research. Located in downtown Richmond, VCU enrolls more than 31,000 students in 225 degree and certificate programs in the arts, sciences and humanities. Seventy-nine of the programs are unique in Virginia, many of them crossing the disciplines of VCU's 13 schools and one college. The VCU Health brand represents the health sciences schools of VCU, the VCU Massey Cancer Center and the VCU Health System, which comprises VCU Medical Center (the only academic medical center and Level I trauma center in the region), Community Memorial Hospital, Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU, MCV Physicians and Virginia Premier Health Plan. For more, please visit www.vcu.edu and vcuhealth.org.

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