



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CASA PACIFICA** - a California Non-profit 501 (C)(3)

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### **Casa Pacifica Angels Wine & Food Festival's Cup Runneth Over as Record-Breaking \$220,000 is Raised**

*Camarillo, CA* – “A solid sea of people and market umbrellas filled the courtyard when I looked out across the Festival grounds and I had to run to get our Director of Development to see – I just couldn’t believe the view!” grinned Carrie Hughes, the Assistant Director of Development for Casa Pacifica Centers for Children and Families about this year’s Angels Wine & Food Festival held at California State University Channel Islands on June 7th. Ms. Hughes has served as the agency’s point person collaborating with the Casa Pacifica Angels Auxiliary for the past ten years on this premier fundraising event that benefits Casa Pacifica, a crisis care and residential treatment facility for abused, neglected, or at-risk children located in Camarillo. “Our attendance has grown each year, but this year the increased number was noticeable and it made a big difference. Close to 4,000 guests attended. We broke our previous proceeds record and met our goal of breaking the \$200,000 mark, raising \$220,000 this year! That makes this event the largest fundraising event in the history of the Angels or our agency.”

The Wine & Food Festival has grown from its modest beginnings at the Pierpont Inn in Ventura sixteen years ago, not only in size but also in reputation to become Ventura County’s Best Cultural Event (as voted by readers of the VC Reporter in 2008). The Festival featured wines from over 150 wineries, microbrews, specialty drinks, and food from 79 restaurants, caterers, bakeries, and specialty shops primarily located in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, with a few wine selections coming from as far north as Napa Valley and as far south as San Diego. Excellent entertainment is another attractive feature of the event and this year included flamenco Spanish guitarist Benise, a “Tribute to the 80s” rock band the Spazmatics (who always inspire enthusiastic dancing), and special appearance by the Rey Fresco Band, an up-and-coming group of local Ventura County musicians.

New this year was the “Best in Fest” Culinary Competition judged by a panel of celebrity chefs and media personalities. The winning dishes from a full field of competitors were: First Place – Tim Kilcoyne, The Side Car Restaurant, for his Niman Ranch Crispy Pork Belly, Organic Blueberry-Chipotle BBQ sauce, and Tamai Family Farms creamed corn; Second Place - Michael Muirhead, Safire American Bistro, for his Seared New Bedford Sea Scallop with Red Thai Coconut curry, Asisan Sesame-Citrus vinaigrette and Lotus Chip; and Third Place – Nic Manocchio, C-Street at Crowne Plaza, for his Seared Diver Scallop on Toasted Ciabatta with microgreens and Ventura Limoncello vinaigrette and Ventura Limoncello panna cotta with raspberry sauce.

The Four Seasons Hotel Westlake Village hosted the VIP Lounge that featured its own entertainment by Sound Effects, and exclusive specialty beers and wines. A large silent auction offered themed baskets for those who needed to feed their shopping bug, as did a sports memorabilia section and art sale. A life-sized bronze statue of Casa Pacifica’s therapy dog Archie (an 180-pound Newfoundland) and three children, commissioned by the Hogan Foundation and Ed and Lynn Hogan, was unveiled during the Festival and several people were the first to place donations inside the statue’s collection shoot in Archie’s mouth. “Everyone seemed to have such a good time. Faces were smiling and relaxed. There were excellent selections from so many wonderful vendors it was hard to get around to taste everything. This event just keeps getting better and better and we are so grateful to everyone on the Wine & Food Festival committee who works so hard to make the Festival such a great experience,” offered Vicki Murphy, the Director of Development & Operations for Casa Pacifica.

The hosts of the event the Zarley Family, along with the Casa Pacifica Angels are proud to have presented this premier event. Sponsors of the Wine & Food Festival event included **Entertainment Sponsor** – Ventura Rental Party Center; **Champagne Sponsors** – Kavlico Corp, PODS, WorldWebWerks/Scott Volkmann; **Cabernet Sponsors** – Anonymous, Red Rose Inn & Suites; **VIP Lounge Sponsor** – Four Seasons Hotel Westlake Village; **Merlot Sponsors** - Affinity Bank; Colton Lee Communities, LLC; DEX; Five Star Bookkeeping; Lisa West & David C. Jaffe; Fairis Hansen Trust/Leigh & Stan Jensen; Jaks Marketing Group; LGR Media Services, Inc.; Premier Event Productions; Dr. Daniel C. Smith & Maureen Monroe Smith; Janet & Greg Van Huisen; and Your Neighborhood Florist.

For more information on this year’s Casa Pacifica Angels Wine & Food Festival and to see photo galleries from this year’s exciting event as well as interactive Dining and Winery Guides, please visit [www.cpwineandfoodfestival.com](http://www.cpwineandfoodfestival.com).

Casa Pacifica is a crisis-care and residential treatment facility for abused, neglected, or at-risk children in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties. The agency is the largest non-profit provider of children’s mental health services in both counties and administers a number of community-based programs which are designed with the intent to strengthen families and keep children in their homes. For more information about Casa Pacifica visit its website [www.casapacifica.org](http://www.casapacifica.org) or call the Development Department at (805) 445-7800.