

Newport Beach Couple Collects and Donates Extremely Rare Wines From Around the World for Charity at Newport Beach Wine Tasting Benefit

SANTA ANA and NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. (June 26, 2014) – In an astounding effort to curate one of the most-talked-about charity wine benefits of the year, **John and Janice Markley** of Newport Beach have collected and donated **over 350 bottles** of exquisite wines to be uncorked at **The Wooden Floor's 8th Annual Keep the Promise Wine Tasting Benefit** on **September 25, 2014**. According to *Wine Spectator* Magazine, each wine is rated in the top 1-5% in their region, averaging 95pts and retailing at up to \$223 a bottle. The event's special guests include **Kerry and Margie Murphy, owners of DuMOL Wines**, whose wines routinely sell out prior to their release date, and have been served at the White House and state dinners since 2002. This year's benefit includes three DuMOL wines among the 12 featured in the "blind tasting", and aims to net over \$300,000 for The Wooden Floor's successful year-round dance, academic, college preparatory, and family service programs for low-income youth.

The benefit has quickly become one of the region's hot ticket events, selling out each year and bringing together community leaders and philanthropists to raise funds for The Wooden Floor's ongoing success rate of having **100% of its graduates complete high school on time and immediately enroll in college**—a rate about three times higher than that of their socioeconomic peers. Most of The Wooden Floor's graduates come from families with very limited resources and are the first in their families to go to college, which fulfills the organization's vision of breaking the cycle of poverty through generational change. For **Jossue Murillo**, a 2014 graduate of The Wooden Floor, the solid foundation provided to him by the organization was the reason for his success. "If I hadn't had The Wooden Floor, I'd probably be in jail, or I'd probably be dead, or maybe on the streets. If it wasn't for The Wooden Floor, I think I would have been dragged down that negative path," he says. Jossue will be attending Northern Arizona University this fall with plans to become a nurse and work for an international aid organization.

"Maintaining this incredible impact we have for the 375 students we serve is no easy feat," says **Executive Director and Co-CEO Dawn S. Reese**, "As the size of our graduating classes increase, so has the need for the tools and resources we provide for them to be successful in school and in life. With support from individuals like the Markleys, we are able to *keep the promise* we make to each of our students—from here, you can step anywhere. And that *anywhere* is onto higher education."

Wine lover John Markley performs quite a feat of his own, spending years hand-selecting the wines that are featured at each benefit, collaborating with **Steven Poe**, one of only 219 **Master Sommeliers** worldwide, to ensure the wines are the most distinguished and that the event makes the biggest impact for the organization's mission. His long-term investment mirrors that of The Wooden Floor, which invests up to ten years in each student from third grade to college. "There's no other organization making the same investment in these youth, and there's no wine tasting benefit that features the same caliber of wine. We are grateful for the Markleys and all of the event's attendees for their ongoing support," adds Reese.

This year's benefit will feature wines from all corners of the earth, including Argentina, France, Italy, California, and Oregon, alongside artfully prepared hearty hors d'oeuvres.

EVENT DETAILS

8th Annual *Keep the Promise* Wine Tasting Benefit for The Wooden Floor

Thursday, September 25, 2014, at 6pm - Big Canyon Country Club in Newport Beach, CA

Cost: \$350 per person, \$250 of which is tax deductible. RSVP at 714.541.8314 ext. 124 or www.TheWoodenFloor.org/WineTasting

FEATURED RED WINES

2006 Agricola Querciabella Camartina IGT,
Tuscany, Italy. Rated 95 pts. Retail Cost: \$119.

2009 Catena Zapata Malbec, Adrianna Vineyard,
Mendoza, Argentina. Rated 97 pts. Retail Cost: \$90.

2006 DuMOL Pinot Noir "Finn",
Sonoma, California. Rated 97 pts. Retail Cost: \$93.

2009 DuMOL Pinot Noir Syrah "Eddie's Patch",
Sonoma, California. Rated 95 pts. Retail Cost: \$223.

2009 Ferraton Hermitage "Le Meal"
Rhone, France. Rated 95+ pts. Retail Cost: \$117.

1996 Grand Puy Lacoste
Pauillac, France. Rated 95 - 97 pts. Retail Cost: \$141.

FEATURED WHITE WINES

2011 Beaucastel Chataneuf-du-Pape Roussanne Vieilles Vignes,
Rhone, France. Rated 98 pts. Retail Cost: \$129.

2010 DuMOL Chardonnay DuMOL Estate, Russian River Valley,
Sonoma, California. Rated 98 pts. Retail Cost: \$67.

2010 Evening Land Chardonnay Eola-Amity Hills Seven Springs Vineyard
Summum, Oregon. Rated 96 pts. Retail Cost: \$91.

2006 Gagnard Delagrangue Batard Montrachet,
Cote de Beaune, Burgundy, France. Rated 97 pts. Retail Cost: \$105.

2008 Pahlmeyer Chardonnay,
Napa Valley, California. Rated 95 pts. Retail Cost: \$78.

2007 William Fevre Les Preuses, Chablis,
Burgundy, France. Rated 96 pts. Retail Cost: \$7