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Cincinnati International Wine Festival Announces 2020 Honorary Chair and Tickets on Sale October 1

The non-profit festival benefiting 35 local charities will celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2020 with a global flair, featuring 700 wines from 250 wineries around the world.

CINCINNATI – September 16, 2019 – The world-renowned Cincinnati International Wine Festival is proud to announce its 2020 honorary chair in preparation for an extraordinary, globally-focused 30th anniversary celebration next March. Tickets for the eagerly awaited 2020 Cincinnati International Wine Festival go on sale Tuesday, October 1, 2019.

The wine festival is pleased to announce Suzanne Groth, CEO and President of Groth Wineries in Oakville, California, as its 2020 honorary chair. As both an artist and a wine connoisseur, Suzanne is continually inspired and influenced by the vineyards of Oakville that she calls home.

After growing up in the vineyards and after a stint at an art gallery after college, Suzanne began her wine career in distribution sales, selling fine wine to restaurants and retailers. She returned to the family business in 1998, where she eventually acquired an increased level of ownership, and now oversees Groth Wineries' distribution, marketing, sales and more. She is also actively involved in several wine industry-related organizations including The Wine Institute in Napa Valley and the Napa Valley Vintners Association. With each release of a Groth Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, Suzanne produces a new painting, intertwining her art, family, and work.

"It is such a thrill for me to be the Cincinnati International Wine Festival's honorary chair for 2020," said Suzanne. "I am consistently intrigued by how wine brings people together from all over the world, and what better time and place to truly relish the universal language of wine than at this esteemed festival's 30th anniversary celebration."

The Cincinnati International Wine Festival has been uniting wine lovers near and far for three decades. The weekend-long celebration includes wine tastings, gourmet dining, education sessions, silent auctions and more. One of the largest in the country, the festival will feature more than 700 wines from 250 wineries around the world. More than 5,000 people attended last year's events, and even more are expected for the 30th anniversary celebration in 2020.

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“Tickets to the wine festival make the perfect gift, and it’s not too early to begin your holiday shopping,” said Cincinnati International Wine Festival Executive Director, Kelly Weissmann. “Whether you’re a seasoned expert or an intrigued beginner, I encourage you to make plans now to join us for a grand, global celebration of our 30th anniversary in March. It will be a fun, unifying, educational and memorable weekend, and it’s all for a great cause.”

As a locally based, non-profit organization, the festival distributes hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants to dozens of Greater Cincinnati charities each year. Half of each festival ticket purchased is tax deductible and directly benefits 35 local charities with programs dedicated to the arts, education, health and human services. Last year, the festival surpassed a record \$6 million in total philanthropic community impact since its inception in 1991.

The patronage and support of the Greater Cincinnati community enables the festival to continue giving back locally, one glass at a time.

View the 2020 schedule, purchase tickets and learn more at winefestival.com beginning October 1, 2019.

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About the Cincinnati International Wine Festival

The Cincinnati International Wine Festival is a Cincinnati-based 501(c)(3) organization established to raise funds for local charities through the celebration of the wine industry. It features 700 wines from 250 wineries across the globe, all for a great cause. The festival benefits 35 Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky arts, education, and health and human services charities, and has been giving back to the community since 1991. The 30th annual Cincinnati International Wine Festival is March 12-14, 2019 at the Duke Energy Convention Center. Learn more and buy tickets at winefestival.com.