



IMPORTANT *UPDATED* MESSAGE FOR OUR WINE FESTIVAL GUESTS

In accordance with updated recommendations at the state and local level today regarding preparedness and response to COVID-19, we are adding Saturday's Charity Auction & Luncheon set for Saturday, March 14 at the Hilton Netherland Plaza, to our list of cancellations for this weekend's events, which already includes the Grand Tastings, Education Sessions and Collectors Tasting Room. These events were scheduled for Friday, March 13 and Saturday, March 14.

However, our limited seating Winery Dinner Series set to be held at 14 restaurants across the city tonight, March 12 at 6:30 p.m. will continue as planned.

We are in the process of turning our popular Grand Tastings charity wine auctions into an online auctions, which will be available to the public for online bidding beginning tomorrow at winefestival.com/events-overview/wine-festival-auctions. Bids will be accepted until Sunday night at 11:59 p.m.

We are dedicated to working with our partner restaurants to ensure proper procedures and protocols are in place to limit the spread of illness. With that in mind, we ask, for the benefit of fellow attendees, that if any of our guests are experiencing flu-like symptoms, to please stay home from tonight's dinner series.

We are dedicated to hosting safe events, and we will remain vigilant in safeguarding your well-being.

The CDC recommends the following general respiratory disease spread precautions:

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the restroom; before eating and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.

We are proud to continue to raise charitable funds for 35 local beneficiaries, who collectively help tens of thousands of people in the Greater Cincinnati area each year. With that, we are offering the following options to our 2020 ticketholders:

1. Consider donating the cost of your ticket to support the 35 beneficiaries of the wine festival (no action required on your part).
2. Request that your ticket be transferred to the 2021 wine festival (date to be announced) by emailing: ciwf@bigtickets.com by March 27, 2020.
3. Request a refund of your full ticket purchase price, minus processing fees (which are non-refundable) by emailing ciwf@bigtickets.com by March 27, 2020.

We request the patience and understanding of our patrons as we work diligently to process transfers and refund requests as quickly as possible. **Refunds may take up to 14 business days.**

We look forward to celebrating our 31st anniversary of *giving back one glass at a time* with the community in 2021. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Cincinnati International Wine Festival!

Sincerely,
Kelly Weissmann, Executive Director