

Benefit

829 Pacific Coast Wine Festival Raises Glasses and Funds for Pacific Symphony

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More than 325 guests gathered en force on Saturday, February 9 at the 5-Star Island Hotel for the Pacific Coast Wine Festival in support of the Pacific Symphony.

Now in its sixth year, the PCWF presents 50 top wineries and is fast becoming one of the most respected wine auctions in California. The event was co-chaired by Mike Kerr, Fred Salter and Valerie Van de Zilver, who together planned the elegant evening filled with great wine, food, music and conversation.

Among the evening's world-class wine experts, Master Sommelier Michael Jordon shared wines from the Piedmont region of Italy, and Master of Wine and Cape Wine Master Peter Koff, represented wines from South Africa. The finest French and Italian selections, including Mouton, pleased those with Old World



Pacific Symphony Board Member Nick Greenko with Karlyne Greenko, Michele Forsyte and Pacific Symphony President John Forsyte.



Master Sommelier Michael Jordon talks with guests during the wine tasting reception.

tastes, but the California wines were no less exceptional, ranging from cult and storied artisanal wines to those that needed no introduction.

The sensational evening of high-quality tasting also included a wine-paired culinary feast and a silent and live auction that included both

rare bottles of wine and exceptional experiences—all of which raised glasses, spirits and \$200,000 (net) for Pacific Symphony's artistic and education programs.

Cumulatively, PCWF has brought in more than \$800,000, with each event consistently topping itself and

attracting both wine enthusiasts and music supporters.

The Pacific Symphony presents more than 100 concerts a year and a rich array of education and community programs that serve more than 275,000 Orange County residents.



Co-chairs of Pacific Symphony's Wine Festival Fred Salter, Valerie Van de Zilver, and Mike Kerr.

PHOTOS BY NICK KOON