



Columbus Wine Festival presented by Giant Eagle returns July 30-31 Proceeds to benefit Franklin Park Conservatory

May 11, 2010; Columbus, OH -- The second annual **Columbus Wine Festival presented by Giant Eagle** is set for **July 30th and 31st** at Franklin Park Conservatory, 1777 E. Broad Street, just east of downtown Columbus.

Set within the 88 acres of Franklin Park, the event offers a variety of tastings, food & wine education, cooking demonstrations by local chefs and live musical entertainment in a fabulous outdoor setting. Festival guests can taste from a selection of more than 200 domestic and international wines and enjoy food from some of the finest Columbus area restaurants.

A festival highlight is the Belgian Beer Café presented by Stella Artois. Beer experts will showcase the natural affinity between Belgian beer and fine food, educating adult festival attendees about proper beer pouring techniques, the importance of using the right glassware and food pairing ideas for Belgian beers Stella Artois, Hoegaarden and Leffe.

Adult Wine Tasting Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$35 at the gate. This ticket price includes a souvenir wine glass, 10 tastings, a Festival Program and food and wine demonstrations and musical entertainment. **Additional tasting coupons** may be purchased at the festival. **Designated Driver Tickets** are \$10 in advance or at the gate. This ticket includes two non-alcoholic drinks, a Festival Program, food and wine seminars, access to cooking demonstrations, musical entertainment and a souvenir wine glass upon departure. Attendees under 21 are admitted for free when accompanied by a paid adult. For groups of 15 or more, tasting tickets are discounted to \$22.50. To purchase group tickets, order 15 or more tickets online or call 877-772-5425.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.columbuswinefestival.com or by phone at 877-772-5425. Phone center hours are 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Central time – 7 days a week. Tickets will also be available for purchase on-site at Franklin Park Conservatory on the day of the festival.

The festival's proceeds will benefit the Franklin Park Conservatory, a premier horticultural and educational institution showcasing exotic plant collections, special exhibitions and signature collections. The Conservatory's mission is to nurture plants and people and to promote environmental appreciation and ecological awareness for everyone. The Conservatory houses 400 species of plants from a variety of global climate zones.

The Festival is proud to be associated with the following sponsors: Giant Eagle, The Columbus – A Renaissance Hotel, FIJI Artesian Water, U.S. Bank, Heidelberg Distributing Company, Oliver Winery, Black Box Wines, Stella Artois, Leffe, Hoegaarden, WJ Deutsch & Sons and WOW! Media partners include: Columbus Alive!, Ohio Magazine, Columbus Monthly, Metromix Columbus and The Wine Buzz.

Festival hours are Friday from 4:00-10:00 p.m. and Saturday from 3:00-9:00 p.m. For more event details, visit www.columbuswinefestival.com or call 847-382-1480. Also, follow the Festival on Twitter at www.twitter.com/winefestivals.

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