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Sonoma Valley Winery Gingerbread Contest Rings in "Holidays in Sonoma Valley" Celebration

Sonoma, CA – December 1, 2015 -- Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Alliance (SVVGA) has announced the contestants in its 10th annual Sonoma Valley Winery Gingerbread Contest where member wineries engage in a friendly competition to create the most magnificent gingerbread masterpiece. For 2015, wineries were asked to draw inspiration from Sonoma Valley's heritage-driven moniker "In Sonoma Valley The Roots Run Deep" with a Holiday Twist!

This unique event is one of several celebrated elements featured in "Holidays in Sonoma Valley," a calendar of local festivities including Open Houses, Winemaker Dinners, Santa visitations, Toy Drives, and Musical Performances.

For the complete list of holiday activities, visit the Events Calendar at www.SonomaValleyWine.com.

Beginning November 27th and continuing through December 31st, 2015, each winery will display these decadently clever creations in their respective tasting rooms. Visitors can pick up a map of all participating wineries at any location, and are invited to vote for their favorites either via the on-site paper ballots or online on the Sonoma Valley Wine Facebook page. As an added bonus, each time voters cast a ballot either in person or online; they'll be entered to win a case of hand-selected Sonoma Valley wines.

With 10 participating wineries, holiday cheer will be spread throughout Sonoma Valley. The 2015 contestants include:

- [Benziger Family Winery](#): Benziger joins the 2015 competition with a "Sweet-Treats Tasting Room" replica made by wine club member, Matt Knudsen and his daughter Gabby Knudsen.
- [B.R. Cohn Winery](#): The defending champion from 2014, B.R. Cohn's entry will showcase its deep Sonoma roots by featuring its historic 140 year old Picholine olive grove and its 40 year old Cabernet Sauvignon Vineyard.
- [BRYTER Estates](#): BRYTER's 2015 entry will showcase their very first vintage of 2007 "Inspired" Cabernet Sauvignon, its flagship wine.
- [Buena Vista Winery](#): Established in 1857, few wineries have roots as deep as Buena Vista's. Perhaps fittingly their 2015 Gingerbread entry will be a replica of the winery as it was in 1857.
- [Chateau St. Jean](#): Entitled "Confectionary Kingdom," Chateau St. Jean's 2015 entry is being built in part with the assistance of children from the Boys & Girls Club of Sonoma Valley.
- [Hamel Family Wines](#): The Hamel Family's gingerbread creation will be a confectionary expression of the deep "roots" that support their winemaking philosophy. (*While guests are welcome to stop by to view Hamel's entry, actual wine tastings are offered by appointment only, please visit their website to schedule*).
- [Imagery Estate Winery](#): "The Label Parthenon" will feature edible replicas of 15 Artist series wine labels from the past 15 years. The culinary artists behind their entry are "IMAGERY groupies" from Dallas, Texas.
- [Larson Family Winery](#): Created by CIA Graduate Chef Linda Rodriguez, Larson Family Winery's whimsical entry is a tribute to the four-legged friends who have helped work and serve their farm since the late 1800's. It stars their three family Labradors: Bubba, Buster and Pete from the winery's ever popular Three Lab Cab label.
- [Madrone Vineyard Estate](#): One of Sonoma Valley's oldest wineries, Madrone Vineyard Estate's gingerbread house is a celebration of the deep roots behind its small lot wines. The winery still crafts wine from its historical vineyards which date back to the 1800's.
- [Muscardini Cellars](#): In a nod to the artwork for which the Kenwood Winery is known, Muscardini Cellars' entry will feature an "edible painting" in a gilded frame hung above the fireplace. The painting will feature the historic 1800's school which houses the tasting room.

For those winery guests that want to spend a day touring the Gingerbread creations, Pure Luxury Transportation is offering special preferred pricing. Call 800-626-5466 and mention "Sonoma Valley Winery Gingerbread Contest" to receive the special program pricing.

Additional Holidays in Sonoma Valley events are being added daily. For more information visit the Event Calendar at www.SonomaValleyWine.com. Photos available upon request. # # #