



Fine Arts Center

COLORADO SPRINGS

Taylor Museum

Bemis School of Art

Performing Arts

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Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WINE FESTIVAL OF COLORADO SPRINGS 20th Annual Festival features “The Wines of Spain”

COLORADO SPRINGS (Feb. 11, 2011) – The Wine Festival of Colorado Springs, the premier wine festival in the Front Range, will feature *The Wines of Spain*, March 11-12, with events held at The Broadmoor, Garden of the Gods Club and Amuzé at the FAC.

All proceeds will benefit the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center.

Often called a “sleeping giant” in the wine world, Spain has the largest area of land dedicated to viticulture of any country in the world. Archaeologists believe that grapes were first cultivated in Spain sometime between 4000 and 3000 BC., and the many wines, from the reds of Rioja and Ribera del Duero, the reds and whites from the Penedès, to the fine sparkling wine known as Cava, have come a long way. Spanish winemakers often use the word *elaborar* (to elaborate) rather than *fabricar* (to produce or make) when describing their winemaking philosophy, seeing themselves as nurturers of their natural bounty.

“In its 20th year, the Wine Festival has become one of the premier events in Colorado Springs,” said Sam Gappmayer, FAC President and CEO. “With events ranging from tasting seminars, to the auction dinner, there is something for nearly everyone at the Wine Festival.”

The weekend-long Festival kicks off at the Broadmoor Hotel on the evening of Friday, March 11, with the **Spanish Wine Experience Seminar**. The perfect preview of this unique weekend, our Spanish wine ambassadors will offer a tasting and discussion of the vast and rich fabric of grape varieties, history and unique style that comprise the wines of Spain. Next up is the **Grand Tasting**, featuring over 300 varieties of wine, culinary delights from a wide assortment of the region’s finest restaurants and caterers, a silent wine market auction, music and dancing.

During the day on Saturday, March 12th, you can educate your palate at the **Spanish Wine, But What Cheese? Seminar** at the Garden of the Gods Club, where our guests and *fromagère* (or cheese expert) carefully choose the cheeses that best accompany the wines, and at the **Transforming Food & Wine**

Seminar at Amuzé at the FAC. Delving into the science of molecular gastronomy, Chef Bill Sherman will work with our guests' wines to create a luncheon you will long remember.

The culmination of the Festival is the **Gourmet Wine Dinner and Live Auction** held at the Garden of the Gods Club on Saturday, March 12. A five-course, world-class gourmet dinner, each course paired with the elegant wines of our distinguished guests, will be followed by an exciting live auction of rare and one-of-a-kind collectible wine and wine-related lifestyle packages.

The Festival has benefitted the Fine Arts Center since 2006. In its 20th year, the Festival has become one of the preeminent arts fundraisers in the Pikes Peak region, raising millions of dollars for art causes and bringing some of wine's biggest names and wineries to Colorado Springs.

Featured Guests

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Maite Esteve | Vins El Cep S.A. Marquès de Gelida |
| Andrew Holod | Grapes of Spain |
| Bárbara de Miguel | Bodegas Emilio Moro/Bodegas Cepa 21 |
| Ricardo Peñalba | Bodegas Peñalba Lopez |
| Marc Picon | Parés Baltà |
| Sonia Rodríguez | Bodegas Sierra Cantabria/Veñedos de Párganos/Bodegas Teso la Monja |

Wine Festival Committee

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Elizabeth Youngquist | Event Chair |
| Jim Little, Coaltrain Wine & Spirits | Logistics/Distributors & Wineries |
| Michelle Talarico, Cravings | Grand Tasting Logistics/Restaurants |
| Connie King, Russ Noblett, Monika Randall | Seminars |
| Cathy Matthews, Sharon Butts | Silent Auction |
| Connie Christofferson | Live Auction Lifestyle Acquisition |
| Dan Ferguson, Brian Bennett | Wine Donations |
| Denise Bac | Broadmoor Liaison |
| Chelle Mason | Wine Festival Coordinator |

EVENT SPONSORS

This event is made possible by the generous support of the FAC Annual Sponsor, **El Pomar Foundation**; Presenting Sponsors, **Winslow BMW of Colorado Springs, Amnet** and **The Gazette**; and Founding Sponsors, **Coaltrain Wine & Spirits** and **Cravings**. **KLITE 106.3, Blue Fox Photography, Laser Sound** and **Jean-Marie Designs** are In-Kind Sponsors.

TICKET INFORMATION

All events are open to the public with FAC Members receiving discounted rates. Reservations are required for all events, except for the Grand Tasting, where walk-ins are accepted. Call the FAC Box Office at 719.634.5583 to reserve your spot or go online at csfineartscenter.org. Tickets can be purchased by event or via the Gala Festival Package, which includes admission to all events.

Gala Festival Packages

\$325 per FAC member | \$380 per non-member

(includes all events; no substitutions, exchanges or refunds)

Tickets for all events guaranteed until Feb. 15, 2011.

LODGING

The [Broadmoor Hotel](#) and the [Garden of the Gods Club](#) are offering special room rates. Available on a space available basis; mention “Wine Festival” to make reservations

- \$130 at the Garden of the Gods | Call 719.632.5541
- \$135 at the Broadmoor Hotel | Call 800.634.7711

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

The Spanish Wine Experience

5:30 p.m.

The Broadmoor | Broadmoor Hall | 1 Lake Avenue
\$30 per guest

Often called a “sleeping giant” in the wine world, Spain has the largest area of land dedicated to viticulture of any country in the world. Join our Spanish wine experts in a tasting and discussion of the vast and rich fabric of grape varieties, history and unique style that comprise the wines of Spain.

Grand Tasting & Wine Market Auction

7:00 p.m.

The Broadmoor | Broadmoor Hall | 1 Lake Avenue
\$65 per FAC member | \$75 per non-member

Colorado Springs’ best date night! Come join this sell-out event, featuring over 300 wines, plus culinary delights from many of our region’s finest restaurants and caterers. Place your bids at the silent Wine Market auction and dance the night away.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

Spanish Wine, But What Cheese?

10:30 a.m.

Garden of the Gods Club
Sunrise Room | 3320 Mesa Road
\$35 per guest

Wine and cheese – what can go wrong? Plenty! Learn what best accompanies the Spanish wines on display from our guests themselves and our “fromagère” (or cheese expert). Tickets go quickly for this new Festival favorite, where pairing expertise will be presented (and tasted!).

Transforming Food & Wine

12:30 p.m.

Amuzé at the FAC | 30 West Dale
\$65 per guest

Finding the combinations that make both wine and food taste better together than they ever would by themselves is the concept behind this Festival favorite.

Join our Spanish wine experts and Chef Bill Sherman, at his Amuzé at the FAC, as they create a luncheon you will long remember. Delving into the science of molecular gastronomy, Chef will introduce you to a revolutionary epicurean practice that is now prominent in today’s culinary world.

Gourmet Winemaker Dinner & Live Auction

Dinner at 6:30 p.m. | Live auction at 8:30 p.m.

Garden of the Gods Club
Main Dining Room | 3320 Mesa Road
\$150 per FAC member | \$175 per non-member
Dress: Cocktail Attire

The culmination of the Festival is the Gourmet Wine Dinner and Live Auction. The evening begins with a five-course gourmet dinner, each course paired with the elegant wines of our distinguished guests, and concludes with the region’s premier live auction of rare collectible wine and wine-related lifestyle packages.