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Sample, Select, Savor at the 29th Annual Beaujolais & Beyond Wine Festival Texas-sized festival features French and American vintages

IRVING, **Texas** (Oct. 25, 2012) – Local wine lovers are invited to uncork bottles of new and select vintage wines in the ambiance of a Parisian paradise at the 2012 <u>Beaujolais & Beyond Wine Festival</u>.

Sponsored by the French American Chamber of Commerce of Dallas/Fort Worth (FACC), the Festival not only includes Beaujolais Nouveau, but additional French and American wines. The Festival's signature Sommelier Sponsor, <u>Goody Goody Wine & Spirits</u>, will provide Alsace, Bordeaux, Burgundy, Loire Valley, Rhône Valley, California, Washington and Texas vintages guaranteed to please the palate of even the most demanding wine aficionado.

This year's Festival takes place on Friday, Nov. 30, at the <u>Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas</u> (ICCLC), being the first FACC event to be held in Irving and at the new ICCLC. Conveniently located in the heart of the Las Colinas Urban Center, the ICCLC will host more than 2,000 attendees expected at what has now become the largest Beaujolais & Beyond Wine Festival in the U.S.

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Since opening in January 2011, the ICCLC has hosted other food and wine events including <u>Savor Dallas</u>, <u>ZestFest</u> and the <u>North Texas Beer Festival</u>.

Upon Festival arrival, guests will travel the streets of Paris in an environment designed to reflect the look and feel of the renowned City of Lights. While strolling through the Place du Tertre and past the marvelous Montmartre, guests may sample signature delicacies offered by some of the area's top gourmet chefs and specialties including Boulevardier, Cadot Restaurant, Conti Gourmet Coffee, Cook Hall at W Hotel, Decanter Restaurant and Wine Lounge, Delice Chocolatier Selection, Empire Baking Company, Evian North America, Frogg Coffee Bar and Creperie, Henry's Homemade Ice Cream, Hotel St. Germain, la Madeleine, Lavendou Bistro Provençal, Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts, Les Trois Petits Cochons, Main Street Bakery and Bistro, Marcus Café, Mozzarella Company, Parigi, Sambuca Uptown, Scardello Artisan Cheese, and more.

Guests will have the chance to bid in a silent auction, be dazzled by a fashion presentation by Anne Fontaine, and entertained by cancan dancers, caricaturists, lively French music, and mimes. In attendance at the 29th annual Festival will be Consul General of France; one of the esteemed guests of honor, Frédéric Bontems; the <u>City of Irving</u> Mayor Beth Van Duyne; and Miss Texas 2012.

"Guests will have a unique opportunity to savor a selection of French wines from the Alsace, Beaujolais, Bordeaux, Burgundy, Loire Valley and Rhône Valley regions, as well as premium American and Texas wines," said Eric Corticchiato, FACC executive vice president and chairman of the 2012 Dallas Beaujolais & Beyond Wine Festival.

"And don't be shy about wearing your berets. It's not just a chance for novice and discriminating wine lovers alike to experience something exciting and new. It's an evening to celebrate French culture – and most importantly – to have fun."

Tickets are \$65 per person in advance or \$70 at the door. Parties of four or more are \$60 each. Order by Oct. 31 and save \$5 per ticket. Call (972) 241-0111 to order or register online at <u>faccdallas.com</u>. Every ticket holder will receive a commemorative wine glass.

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All tickets may be purchased by Mastercard/Visa, Amex, Diners Club, Discover, cash or check; and mailed to the local FACC at 2665 Villa Creek Dr., Suite 214, Dallas, TX, 75234.

Connect with the Beaujolais & Beyond Wine Festival on <u>Facebook</u> at <u>facebook.com/Beaujolais.and.Beyond</u> and <u>Twitter</u> at <u>twitter.com/faccdallas</u>.

About the French-American Chamber of Commerce

The French-American Chamber of Commerce in Dallas - one of the largest bi-national, non-profit and non-political organizations in Texas with over 200 members, seeks to contribute to the development and improvement of economic, commercial and financial relations between France and the United States. France has more than 180 subsidiaries in Texas, and 50 of these are located in the Metroplex. French companies based in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex employ over 10,000 people.

About Irving, Texas

Located immediately adjacent to Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport and between Dallas and Fort Worth, Irving, Texas, boasts more than 75 hotels and nearly 12,000 rooms. Las Colinas, a 12,000-acre master-planned community within the city of Irving, is known worldwide for its quality and uniqueness. The city is home to 10,000+ companies, 50 Fortune 500 companies, and the world headquarters of six Fortune 500 companies. For more information, visit <u>irvingtexas.com</u>

About the Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas

Located where Highway 114 and Northwest Highway meet in Irving's Las Colinas area, the \$133 million, 275,000 square-foot center takes a bold new direction in a landscape of traditionally "institutional" facilities. Its distinctive design and mission for top-quality service mirrors the sense of quality that exists in Irving's 12,000-acre Las Colinas development. For more information, visit irvingconventioncenter.com.

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