

The Press Democrat

5 lots to keep an eye on at the Sonoma County Wine Auction



Guests headed up to an upper terrace for more food, wine and a look at auction items at the 2021 Sonoma County Wine Auction weekend kick off party at Montage Healdsburg on Thursday, Sept. 16, 2021. (John Burgess/The Press Democrat)

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The Sonoma County Wine Auction takes place today at the La Crema Estate at Saralee's Vineyard. Out of 27 total lots, here are five intriguing lots expected to ignite some competitive bidding at the auction.

With the annual auction, the Sonoma County Vintners trade organization raises money, with help from the Community Foundation of Sonoma County, for dozens of nonprofits throughout the county. Last year, despite being held online, the auction raised \$4 million for 90 local organizations.

Lunch with Sonoma County leading ladies (Lot 11): This lot features a lunch for 12 guests at Keller Estate with a host of Sonoma County women winemakers and industry leaders, plus a 156-bottle collection of Sonoma County wines. The women include Ana Keller, estate director at Keller Estate; Akiko Freeman, founder and winemaker at Freeman Vineyard & Winery; Bettina Sichel, partner at Laurel Glen Vineyard; Chantal Forthun, director of winemaking at Flowers Vineyards & Winery; Courtney Foley, a second-generation vintner at Foley Family Wines; Erin Brooks, owner of Ernest Vineyards and Grand Cru Custom Crush; Jasmine Hirsch, general manager and winemaker at Hirsch Vineyards; Jennifer Brown, director of BACA Wines; Joy Sterling, CEO of Iron Horse Vineyards; Kathryn Walt Hall, proprietor of WALT Wines; Kim Stare Wallace, president of Dry Creek Vineyard; Prema Behan, president of Three Sticks Wines; and Shelly Rafanelli, winemaker at A. Rafanelli Winery.



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