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## POPULAR WINE EVENT SUCCESSFULLY RAISES FUNDS FOR YOUTH PROGRAMS

SANTA ANA, California (October 2, 2009) – Saint Joseph Ballet's annual wine tasting of twelve exquisite and rare wines, returned for a third year on October 1, 2009, to raise funds for Saint Joseph Ballet's unique youth and family programs. The event, titled *Keep The Promise*, was an inspiring evening with 170 people in attendance celebrating the forward movement of at-risk youth. The event grossed nearly \$85,000 for the organization, an increase of over 40% from last year's event.

Among the collection of 93 point and higher wines featured was the "headliner," the 2002 Chateau D'Yquem Sauternes from Bordeaux France, for which Wine Spectator says, "Everyone should have the chance once in their lifetime to taste this, best in the world Sauternes." All the wines were passionately hand-curated over the course of a year or more by wine connoisseurs, dedicated Saint Joseph Ballet supporters, and Premiere Sponsors, John Markley and his wife Janice. The blind tasting encouraged guests to get to know one another and exchange wine-tasting tips. Guests in attendance included Patrick and Bonnie Jeanette, Steve and Carol Mendell, John and Bettina Deininger, Benit and David Alderfer and Sandy Segerstrom Daniels.

In addition to being introduced to spectacular wines, event attendees gained a deep knowledge of Saint Joseph Ballet's 26-year old mission and the newly established "Keep the Promise Fund," which, despite challenging economic times, aims to keep Saint Joseph Ballet's promise to its students: To help them live up to their potential, break the cycle of poverty, and develop the confidence to fulfill their dreams by attending college.

The event is sponsored by Janice and John Markley, Joan and Don Beall, The Frome Family Foundation, Nancy and Geoffrey Stack, Mary E. Xavier, The Fieldstone Foundation, Newmark Realty Capital, Inc., Glenda Adair, Sharon and Terry Hartshorn, Jay Thomas, Mary Ann and Fran Xavier, The Honda Center and Anaheim Ducks, Crevier BMW Mini, Corinthian Colleges, Inc., and South Coast Plaza, with all proceeds from the evening benefitting Saint Joseph Ballet.

Since 1983, Saint Joseph Ballet's innovative programs have transformed thousands of young lives. Nearly 400 at-risk youth enter each year to a new world of possibilities through progressive dance making, supportive tutoring, college prep programs, and nurturing family services – all free of charge. This cutting edge model has helped Saint Joseph Ballet students far exceed the national average for their peers in high school graduation and college enrollment. The organization relies on community support for funding.

Wines featured at the event included the lauded 2002 Chateau d'Yquem, Sauternes, rated 96 pts. by The Wine Spectator; the 95 pt. 2005 Achaval Ferrer Malbec Finca Altimira, from Mendoza, Argentina; the 2005 Smith-Haut-Lafitte Blanc from Bordeaux, France, rated 95+ pts. by The Wine Advocate; and the 95 pt. 2003 Valdicava Brunello di Montalcino from Tuscany, Italy.

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High Resolution photos from the event are available by contacting Payal Kumar at 714-541-8314 Ext. 19 or [Payal@saintjosephballet.org](mailto:Payal@saintjosephballet.org).