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2014 MEMPHIS WINE + FOOD SERIES MARKS 22nd YEAR AS PREMIERE EVENT FOR MEMPHIS BROOKS MUSEUM OF ART

Memphis, TN (Feb 18, 2014) – The Memphis Brooks Museum of Art is thrilled to announce the 22nd year of its landmark Memphis Wine + Food Series, presented by First Tennessee Foundation / ArtsFirst and celebrating exclusive, cult boutique wines by Kobalt, Lamborn Family Vineyards, Relic and Revana as well as Cornerstone Cellars, a Napa-based winery with a Memphis connection. The Brooks is particularly proud to partner with four boutique vintners who celebrate the true spirit of winemaking, operating businesses that, by definition, crush 250 tons or less under an independently owned brand.

The **Memphis Wine + Food Series** runs annually and encompasses a wide range of events, from a private winemaker dinner to the series' signature event, the Grand Auction. Additionally, this year's series will bring back Vin-A-Que, which features snout-to-tail pork barbecue cooked by the city's finest chefs and includes wine, beer and liquor accompaniments. The third annual Vin-A-Que will be held on September 26. The series also includes intimate wine classes throughout fall and winter.

Memphis Wine + Food Series is the Brooks' foremost fundraiser. Dollars raised from this season of events makes the arts accessible to children and adults across the Mid-South. Over the past two decades, the series has contributed nearly \$5 million in net revenue to the Brooks, which directly supports the museum's award winning educational and community outreach programs.

2014 Memphis Wine + Food Series co-chairs are Jill and Ken Steinberg. "Jill and I are very excited to be working with so many other dedicated professionals and volunteers in helping the Brooks Museum fulfill its fundraising goals," says Ken Steinberg. "The Brooks is the magnificent home of some of the best artwork in the country and offers impactful outreach programs for all ages. We are very honored to be chairing these events and to have secured the support of several of Napa's finest winemakers to help support the Brooks and the arts in the Memphis community."

Revenue from the 2014 Memphis Wine + Food Series will benefit multiple outreach programs at the Brooks including free school tours, which welcomes 15,000 Mid-South children each year; Collaborative Communities Early Childhood Program, a project that seeks to impact the educational experience of young children (4-5 year-olds) and their families at two schools—KIPP: Memphis Collegiate Elementary and Porter-Leath Preschool, in Memphis, TN; and Art in the Basic Curriculum, a highly-successful museum-school collaboration.

2014 Memphis Wine + Food Series sponsors: Presented by First Tennessee Foundation / ArtsFirst, Dixon Hughes Goodman, Mark Parker | UBS Investments, Fleming's Prime Steakhouse and Wine Bar, Buster's Liquors and Wines, TechsPerts, Memphis Magazine, Paulsen Printing, Oak Hall, Cornerstone, Kobalt, Lamborn Family Vineyards, Relic and Revana.

2014 Memphis Wine + Food Series dates and events:

- **Saturday, March 8 | 6:30 pm**
Brooks Charity Wine Dinner at Café Society
Featuring Château Malartic Lagravière and château owners Severine and Jean-Jacques Bonnie, with five courses by Chef Cullen Kent. Limited to 70 people.

Tickets for the Brooks Charity Wine Dinner at Café Society are \$150 per person.

- **Friday, March 28 | 7 pm**
Brooks Uncorked
Memphis' greatest food and wine party! We partner world-renowned winemakers with the Mid-South's most incredible chefs, live entertainment on the museum terrace, and a silent auction in the Rotunda. This is a sure-to-be unforgettable evening of eating, drinking, dancing and bidding at the Brooks.

Tickets for Brooks Uncorked are \$90 Brooks members / \$110 non-members / \$125 at the door. VIP tickets, which include early arrival, complimentary valet parking, and access to a private lounge featuring premium wines, champagne, food and more, are \$150 Brooks members / \$175 non-members (limited availability).

- **Sunday, April 6 | 6 pm**
Fleming's Wine Dinner at Fleming's Prime Steakhouse and Wine Bar
Featuring Cornerstone Cellars and winemaker, Jeff Keene, and business manager, Craig Camp, along with four courses by Chef Ronnie West and an exciting live auction.

Tickets for the Fleming's Wine Dinner are \$200 per person.

- **Friday May 9 | 6 pm**
Private Winemaker Dinner at Spring Creek Ranch
This exclusive and intimate dinner, tailored toward the city's most dedicated oenophiles, will feature wines by Kobalt, Lamborn, Relic and Revana.

Tickets for the Private Winemaker Dinners are \$1,000 per person. Includes admission into the Grand Auction. Seats are non-transferable.

- **Saturday, May 10 | 5:30 pm**
Grand Auction

The grand finale of the Memphis Wine + Food Series, the Grand Auction – the biggest night of fundraising for the Brooks – features Kobalt, Lamborn, Relic and Revana. Bidders will hold their paddles high during the live auction of 50+ lots as they vie for exotic trips, rare wines, artworks, and one-of-a-kind services, experiences, and events, and participate in a special paddle raise that provides support for the Brooks' educational outreach programs.

Tickets for the Grand Auction are \$150 per person and \$1,500 for reserved tables of 12.

- **Friday, September 26 | 7 pm**
Vin-A-Que

Held at the Brooks, Vin-A-Que features snout-to-tail pork barbecue cooked by the city's finest chefs, including whole hogs smoked on the museum terrace. With vegetarian options available, no one will be left out. The event includes live music, paired wines, and locally crafted beer, along with specialty cocktails.

Tickets for Vin-A-Que are \$80 Brooks members / \$100 non-members.

- Warm up to Wine classes begin in October and run through January.

Tickets for Warm up to Wine classes are \$30 Brooks members / \$35 non-members. Receive a discount when purchasing all four classes.

For more information and to purchase tickets for any of these events, go to **memphiswineandfoodseries.org**.

For questions, please contact Laura Beth Davis at 901.544.6209 or LauraBeth.Davis@brooksmuseum.org.

About the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art: The Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, located at 1934 Poplar Avenue in historic Overton Park, is one of the leading art museums in the American South. Over 9,000 works make up the Brooks' permanent collection including ancient works from Greece, Rome, and the Ancient Americas; Renaissance masterpieces from Italy; English portraiture; American painting and decorative arts; contemporary art; and a survey of African art. For more information on the Brooks, and all other exhibitions and programs, call (901) 544-6200 or visit www.brooksmuseum.org.

Community Partners: ArtsMemphis, Hyde Family Foundations, Tennessee Arts Commission, The Jeniam Foundation, and AutoZone.