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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

SUNSET SAVOR THE CENTRAL COAST ANNOUNCES 2015 CULINARY HEADLINERS AND CELEBRITY PERSONALITIES

All Roads Lead to SAVOR as Award-Winning Chefs Hit the Road for the Ultimate Culinary Adventure in San Luis Obispo County, September 24-27, 2015

San Luis Obispo County, CA (July 22, 2015) – Volvo Presents Sunset SAVOR the Central Coast announces its all-star lineup of culinary talent and personalities to headline the four-day food, wine, travel and lifestyle event held September 24-27, 2015. The sixth annual event welcomes Food Network and Bravo television personalities, James Beard Award winners, popular cookbook authors, Sunset editors and more in an all-new star-studded lineup!

All roads lead to SAVOR as food and wine lovers indulge in delicious flavors from top chefs who have packed their bags *and their knives* to travel to San Luis Obispo County – an abundant region known for its locally-sourced flavors and ingredients. Positioned just halfway between Los Angeles and San Francisco, San Luis Obispo County has a distinct flavor that is uniquely its own. SAVOR's headlining chefs and talent put their best farm-to-table foot forward to showcase culinary creations made from the finest ingredients grown in the California Central Coast region.

"SAVOR's culinary lineup is truly star-studded this year, and we are pleased to craft an unparalleled experience for travelers and locals alike," said Chuck Davison, President and CEO of Visit San Luis Obispo County. "We invite you to spend the long weekend in any of our cities and meet the trailblazing chefs that we have assembled from throughout the state and county."

This year's roster of culinary headliners provide cooking demonstrations, mouth-watering meals and locally-sourced bites during several Sunset SAVOR the Central Coast events, including the all new opening night <u>Strings at Sunset</u>, numerous <u>Adventure Tours</u> and the <u>Main Event</u> held at the Historic Santa Margarita Ranch. **Participating chefs to date include:**

• Mary Sue Milliken – Cookbook author, one half of Food Network's "Too Hot Tamales" and former contestant of Bravo's "Top Chef Masters," Mary Sue Milliken of Border Grill Restaurants in Santa Monica, Downtown Los Angeles and Las Vegas is recognized as a preeminent ambassador of modern Mexican cuisine. Milliken's popular Border Grill Truck will dish out delicious bites during Strings at Sunset, and Milliken herself will take the stage and provide a culinary demonstration at the Main Event at the <u>Dignity Health</u> Chef Central.

- Frank Pellegrino Jr. With locations in Las Vegas, Hollywood and New York, Rao's Restaurant Group led by co-owner Frank Pellegrino Jr. is renowned for its stellar Southern Italian cuisine. Pellegrino has showcased his expertise through live cooking on shows such as "TODAY," and "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon" as well as appearing as a guest judge on "Top Chef Masters All-Star." Sunset SAVOR the Central Coast attendees will learn recipes from the legendary restaurateur first-hand at the Main Event.
- <u>Yousef Ghalaini</u> Executive Chef for FIG Restaurant in Santa Monica, CA, Chef Yousef displays his passion and commitment for working with local farmers and using the freshest ingredients on September 25 at the Adventure Tour, <u>Innovative Traditions at</u> Halter Ranch. You can also see Chef Yousef at the Main Event.
- Joanne Weir The James Beard Award-winning author of 17 cookbooks, including *Kitchen Gypsy* (Oxmoor House, September 2015), international cooking teacher and chef, and host of award-winning PBS series, "Joanne Weir's Cooking Class" and "Joanne Weir's Cooking Confidence" joins Strings at Sunset, Friday's Adventure Tour, <u>Take to the Sea in Avila Beach</u> and the Main Event, giving attendees numerous chances to get to know Joanne and her delicious California-Mediterranean cuisine.
- <u>Louis Maldonado</u> Winner of the San Francisco Chronicle's "Rising Star Chef" distinction, and a winner of season 11 of Bravo's "Top Chef: Last Chance Kitchen," Maldonado, Executive Chef of Spoonbar in Healdsburg in Sonoma Country, showcases his artfully-crafted, seasonally-inspired menu style in a demonstration at the Main Event.
- <u>James Siao</u> As Executive Chef of Finch & Fork restaurant at Kimpton's Canary Hotel in Santa Barbara, CA, Siao brings his modern American "soul satisfying" cuisine to the opening night extravaganza, Strings at Sunset.
- <u>Brigit Binns</u> Popular food blogger, culinary instructor and author of nearly 30 cookbooks, including *Eating Up the West Coast* (Oxmoor House, 2015), Binns lives and works in California's Central Coast wine country. Binns joins Sunset SAVOR the Central Coast at Strings at Sunset, and takes the stage in a culinary demonstration at the Main Event.
- <u>Will Torres</u> Known for creativity and innovation in new menu creations, Executive Chef Will Torres of The Restaurant at JUSTIN, in Paso Robles, CA, handcrafts a seasonal three-course dinner with wine pairings at Dinner at an exclusive <u>Justin Vineyards & Winery</u> on September 25.
- Alex Martin Chef Alex Martin of Crush Catering, based in Paso Robles, focuses on innovative Wine Country cuisine utilizing sustainably grown food. Martin creates a multicourse dinner paired with Adelaida's estate reserve and library wines on September 25 at the Hilltop Dinner at Adelaida Cellars.
- <u>Sara Schneider</u> –As Sunset wine editor, Schneider is one of the most influential experts on Western wine, and is responsible for Sunset's International Wine Competition as well as all of Sunset's wine-related content. Schneider leads educational panels and participates in several Adventure Tours, including <u>Roam with Clydesdales at Covell Ranch in Cambria</u> on September 24, <u>Sip on Ciders in Atascadero</u> on September 25, and at <u>Winemaker</u> Central at the Main Event.
- Margo True Sunset magazine food editor Margo True has won several honors for her writing, including four James Beard journalism awards. True joins Sunset SAVOR the Central Coast during the Adventure Tour, <u>Horse Around with Harris Stage Lines in Paso</u>

- Robles on September 25 and at Chef Central at the Main Event.
- <u>Peter Fish</u> As Sunset magazine travel editor, Fish has reported and written travel and environmental stories about almost every corner of the American West. He joins the Adventure Tour, <u>Hearst's Enchanted History in San Simeon</u> on September 24 and September 25.

To purchase tickets and for more information about Sunset SAVOR the Central Coast's 2015 participating talent, visit http://www.savorcentralcoast.com.

View Boiler Plates here

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