



## **Celebrating the Bounty of Sonoma County for 20 Years**

*Kendall-Jackson and Williams-Sonoma Join Forces to Fight Hunger at  
20th Anniversary Heirloom Tomato Festival*

**Santa Rosa, Calif. (Aug. 23, 2016)** – This September, Sonoma-based Kendall-Jackson will hit a milestone, opening its doors for the 20th Annual Kendall-Jackson Heirloom Tomato Festival. One of Sonoma County Wine Country’s most anticipated events, the festival showcases the area’s seasonal bounty. To commemorate this special anniversary, Kendall-Jackson has joined forces with another Sonoma-grown company, Williams-Sonoma, to curate a weekend of tomato-inspired festivities, including a Farm-to-Table Charity Dinner and Silent Auction. Proceeds will benefit charities that fight hunger in the Bay Area – the **Redwood Empire Food Bank** and **No Kid Hungry®**.

The celebration begins on Friday, Sept. 23 with a Farm-to-Table Charity Dinner & Silent Auction set in the winery’s Estate Gardens. Each course of the innovative meal will be prepared by a different celebrity chef team, including Top Chef Masters Douglas Keane & Sang Yoon, Top Chef Contestants Brooke Williamson & Casey Thompson, and Williams-Sonoma Chef Partners Joshua McFadden & Ryan Pollnow, who will work with K-J Executive Chef Justin Wangler and Culinary Gardener Tucker Taylor to develop the menu. Guests will dine “al fresco” at a long shared table, under the Sonoma County stars.

Visitors to the Kendall-Jackson Heirloom Tomato Festival on Saturday, Sept. 24 will receive all-day access to an unforgettable lineup of attractions, including samplings of more than 150 heritage varieties of tomatoes grown in Kendall-Jackson’s Estate Culinary Gardens, tomato-inspired bites from more than 40 local restaurants, exceptional wines, dynamic seminars led by Master Sommeliers and wine educators, art displays, garden tours, and live entertainment.

The ever-popular Chef Challenge will be back, presented by Williams-Sonoma. Each of the four celebrity chef teams, who also created the signature Farm-to-Table dinner, will compete to create the most delicious tomato-based dishes, featuring heirloom tomato varieties and a basket of mystery ingredients.

In addition to exceptional wine and food offerings, festival guests can discover Kendall-Jackson’s Estate Culinary Gardens. Accompanied by members of the UC Master Gardener Program of Sonoma County, Kendall Jackson’s own Culinary Gardener, Tucker Taylor, will lead educational tours throughout the day, highlighting the garden’s wide variety of specialty produce, beautiful design, and thoughtful stewardship of the land.

This year’s festival benefits the Redwood Empire Food Bank, which has provided food assistance in Sonoma County since 1987, focusing on the unmet needs of low-income children, seniors and working families. The Farm-to-Table Charity Dinner and Silent Auction will benefit No Kid Hungry, which is helping children across the country get the food they need and assisting parents in stretching their grocery budgets.

General admission tickets for the Heirloom Tomato Festival are \$95 per person, or \$175 per person for Premier Access, which allows access to the private Premier Tent and Lounge valet parking, barrel samples, limited release wines, and exclusive culinary creations. Exclusive pricing is available for



Kendall-Jackson wine club members on either package. Tickets to the Farm-to-Table Charity Dinner & Silent Auction are \$225 per person.

Both events will be held at the Kendall-Jackson Wine Estate and Gardens, located at 5007 Fulton Road, in Fulton, just a few miles north of Santa Rosa. For more information on the events, or to purchase tickets, visit [KJ.com](http://KJ.com).

### **About Kendall-Jackson Winery**

Kendall-Jackson is one of America's most beloved family-owned and operated wineries. Founded by entrepreneur and visionary Jess Jackson, the winery is now led by his wife Barbara Banke and their children. Learn more online at [www.kj.com](http://www.kj.com), and follow **KJ** via **@KJWines**. Engage in this year's Tomato Festival conversation by using **#KJTomFest**.

### **About The Redwood Empire Food Bank**

The Redwood Empire Food Bank (REFB) is the largest hunger-relief organization serving north coastal California, from Sonoma County to the Oregon border. Since 1987, the REFB has been helping our community through innovative programs under three strategic initiatives – Every Child, Every Day; Senior Security; and the Neighborhood Hunger Network.

### **About No Kid Hungry**

No child should go hungry in America, but 1 in 5 kids will face hunger this year. Using proven, practical solutions, No Kid Hungry is ending childhood hunger today by ensuring that kids start the day with a nutritious breakfast and families learn the skills they need to shop and cook on a budget. When we all work together, we can make sure kids get the healthy food they need. No Kid Hungry is a campaign of national anti-hunger organization Share Our Strength. Join us at [NoKidHungry.org](http://NoKidHungry.org).

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For more information about Kendall-Jackson Winery, press only:

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