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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE SAN DIEGO BAY WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL
UNCOVERS LIQUID GOLD IN ITALIAN CUISINE TASTING CLASS**

*Lucini Italia and MARTINI Sparkling Wines Present Premium Olive Oil and Sparkling Wine Tasting
During the Southern California Wine & Food Classic*

San Diego, CA (October 27, 2014) – Buon appetito! On Friday, November 21, the 11th Annual [San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival](#) features *Mio Cibo: Italian Cuisine, Premium Extra Virgin Olive Oil Tasting, and Sparkling Wine Tasting* Presented by [Lucini Italia](#) and [MARTINI Sparkling Wines](#). In the tasting experience, Executive Chef Dave Warner of Bottega Americano and representatives from Lucini Italia and MARTINI Sparkling Wines will guide attendees in a tasting of Italy's greatest culinary treasures, extra virgin olive oil and wine.

Mio Cibo explores the complexities of Italian cuisine and the culture behind it in a tasting of the region's famed extra virgin olive oils and sparkling wines. An Italian signature, extra virgin olive oil is the not-so-secret ingredient behind one of the world's most beloved fares. Just as no Italian dish is complete without extra virgin olive oil, a glass of wine is another essential staple to every Italian meal. This year's [food and wine festival](#), explores both Italian olive oils and sparkling wines, said Michelle Metter, co-producer of the San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival.

“Italian cuisine has a culture in and of itself, and Mio Cibo examines the very essence of the sights, sounds, and tastes found in a traditional Italian meal,” added Metter. “We are thrilled for our guests to taste with and learn from experts who are deeply rooted in the traditional methods and flavors of creating an Italian meal.”

During Mio Cibo, guests will enjoy pairings from MARTINI Sparkling Wines. For over 150 years, MARTINI has created authentic Italian sparkling wines for everyday celebrations. MARTINI Sparkling Wine Ambassador and respected wine connoisseur Jimmy Cefalo leads the tasting, and adds his unique wine perspective in a spirited discussion of pairings, terroir, and viticulture. Known as a former Miami Dolphins' wide receiver, and as the voice of the Miami Dolphins, Jimmy has a passion for wine, particularly Italian Wine. Guests will enjoy tastings from MARTINI'S full line of handcrafted Sparkling Wines produced in Pessione, Italy; including Prosecco, Sparkling Rose, Asti and Moscato d'Asti.

Certified master taster and Lucini Italia President, David Neuman takes attendees on a multi-sensory journey through Italy to discover the deep complexity of super-premium extra virgin olive oils and its use in traditional Italian Cuisine. Attendees will learn how to properly taste extra virgin olive oil and identify what attributes are present in a high-quality extra virgin

olive oil, as well as what negative characteristics are associated with low-quality, industrial olive oil. They will taste each olive oil in its natural state, and then once again in use in three traditional Italian dishes prepared by Executive Chef Dave Warner of Italian fine dining restaurant and marketplace, Bottega Americano. During this tasting experience, Italian food lovers will uncover the intricacies of what Italians refer to as “liquid gold.”

With Lucini® award-winning extra virgin olive oils as the star ingredient and inspiration, guests will enjoy traditional Italian dishes designed in Dave Warner’s signature style; classic, flavorful food that creatively reflects the season. Firmly rooted in the culinary traditions of Italy and elevated by the innovation of American regional cooking, Mio Cibo guests will experience creations from the culinary mastermind behind San Diego’s latest East Village hotspot, Bottega Americano.

Mio Cibo: Italian Cuisine & Premium Extra Virgin Olive Oil and Sparkling Wine Tasting will be held on Friday, November 21 at Macy’s School of Cooking from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. For a complete schedule of events or to purchase tickets for the San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival, visit <http://www.sandiegowineclassic.com>.

SAN DIEGO BAY WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL

The 11th Annual San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival is an international showcase of the world's premier wine and spirits producers, chefs and culinary personalities, and gourmet foods. Held November 16-23, 2014, the event benefits culinary arts and enology scholarships awarded by The American Institute of Wine & Food and the Chaîne des Rôtisseurs. Over 200 wineries, breweries and spirit companies, 70 of San Diego’s top fine dining restaurants and 30 gourmet food companies will participate in the 2014 Festival. For more information visit www.sandiegowineclassic.com. Produced by World of Wine Events and Fast Forward Event Productions. For more information call 619-312-1212