

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MARIO BATALI...GIADA DE LAURENTIIS...BOBBY FLAY...TOM COLICCHIO...
TO JOIN OTHER ACCLAIMED CULINARY STARS FOR THE 27th ANNUAL
FOOD & WINE CLASSIC IN ASPEN, JUNE 19-21, 2009**

**Tickets On Sale Now For Premier Epicurean Event
Benefiting FOOD & WINE's Grow for Good Campaign**

New York, NY/Aspen, CO (December 15, 2008) – Celebrating its 27th year, the **FOOD & WINE Classic in Aspen** returns on **June 19-21, 2009** with culinary favorites Giada De Laurentiis and Mario Batali, cooking legend Jacques Pépin, grill master Bobby Flay, along with newcomers Michael Symon and Michel Richard, and many more. The perennially sold-out event will support Food & Wine's Grow for Good campaign benefiting Wholesome Wave Foundation, a national initiative dedicated to supporting local farms and encouraging sustainable agriculture.

This world-renowned three-day gastronomy event offers food and wine lovers the chance to discover the latest trends of the culinary world by interacting with the leading chefs and wine experts. Highlights of the 2009 Classic include the following:

- **Mario Batali & Nancy Silverton** pay homage to their Los Angeles restaurant with Osteria Mozza in a seminar devoted to mozzarella.
- **Giada De Laurentiis** presents Giada's Kitchen.
- *Top Chef*'s **Tom Colicchio** and **Gail Simmons** share their behind-the-scenes secrets, while the winners of Season 4 and 5 compete in the all new Classic Quickfire.
- Mixologist **Julie Reiner** presents cocktail seminars for the first time at the event.
- *Food & Wine*'s **Ray Isle** showcases Burger Bonanza wines.
- Premiere reserve tastings including: Four Decades of Veuve Clicquot Champagnes; Domaine Dujac and The Great Terroir of Burgundy; and A Retrospective of the Exceptional 1989 Red Bordeaux at 20 Years.
- **Danny Meyer** and **Dan Philips** return with a new pairing seminar, Pizza & Vino.
- **Ming Tsai** presents his take on Asian tapas.
- Grow for Good seminar with Chef **Michel Nischan**

Tickets for the *FOOD & WINE Classic in Aspen* are \$1,085 before March 15, 2008 and \$1,185 thereafter. To register, call 877-900-WINE or visit www.foodandwine.com/classic. Those charging their registration to an American Express® Card receive a \$35 savings. Two percent of all ticket sales will support 2009 Grow for Good beneficiary Wholesome Wave Foundation, founded by award-winning chef Michel Nischan, focusing on key programs that bring locally and sustainably grown food to the underserved. Additionally, a select number of special Green passes will be sold at \$3100, with \$1000 going directly to Grow for Good. The passes include priority access to event, a Grow for Good gala dinner, selected gifts and more.

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In its 27th year, the **Food & Wine Classic in Aspen** is the epicurean magazine's signature event, bringing together 50 of the world's foremost authorities on wine and food at 95 sold-out cooking demonstrations and wine seminars. In addition, over 300 wines and luxury lifestyle brands gather together in the Grand Tasting Pavilion, the epicenter of the event, to

pour over 50,000 bottles of wine and exhibit their newest products. **Food & Wine** is the modern, stylish, trend-spotting, talent-seeking epicurean magazine. Published by American Express Publishing Corporation, the leader in luxury lifestyle magazines, **Food & Wine** has a circulation of over 950,000. Details about the event and the company are at foodandwine.com/classic.