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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Emeril Lagasse Foundation

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Emeril Lagasse Foundation Raises Over \$800,000 at 2nd Annual Line, Vine & Dine Fishing Tournament

Napa Valley meets Florida at Emeril Lagasse charity sailfish tournament and seafood cook-off

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. – Emeril Lagasse Foundation raised **over \$800,000** for non-profit organizations during its second annual Line, Vine & Dine fishing tournament held February 8-10 at Pier Sixty-Six Hotel & Marina in Fort Lauderdale. Proceeds benefited Emeril Lagasse Foundation in support of local charities ARC Broward Culinary Institute and Dan Marino Foundation, which are both dedicated to improving the lives of people with developmental disabilities and other life challenges.

“My wife Alden and I are thrilled with the success of our second charity fishing tournament,” said Chef Emeril Lagasse. “The generosity and support from our amazing donors, sponsors, chefs and the Ft. Lauderdale community not only enables the Foundation to award grants locally, but also provides support nationwide to programs that represent our mission.”

The world-class sporting and culinary event kicked off on Thursday with Champagne & Ceviche, a captain’s reception sponsored by HMY Yachts and Viking Yachts. On Friday morning, the two-day sailfish charity fishing tournament commenced, where a total of **44** sailfish were caught by **16** teams competing for the title of Tournament Champion. Guests who were not fishing enjoyed a fashion show and luncheon presented by Neiman Marcus Fort Lauderdale. Friday night festivities paid homage to New Orleans with a lively Mardi Gras-themed dockside weigh-in celebration that featured signature dishes from Chef Emeril Lagasse and entertainment by Big Sam’s Funky Nation.

On Saturday evening, wine country met the Florida coastline with the Vine & Dine Seafood Cook-Off, sponsored by Moss Foundation. Emeril Lagasse and guest chefs Sean Brasel, Clay Conley, Angelo Elia, Cindy Hutson, Greg McGowan, Habteab Hamde, Chad Johnson and Jose Mendin prepared a variety of seafood dishes paired with wine from some of Napa Valley and Sonoma’s best winemakers. Tournament awards, a silent and live auction, as well as a special performance by Donavon Frankenreiter highlighted the evening.

“For the second year, Line, Vine & Dine brought together the very best of the sporting and culinary worlds all for an amazing cause” said Brian Kish, president of Emeril Lagasse Foundation. “We are so proud to be able to give back to such deserving organizations and we look forward to many more years serving the Fort Lauderdale community and beyond.”

For more information about the event, visit www.linevineanddine.com. To learn more about the Emeril Lagasse Foundation, visit www.Emeril.org.

About Emeril Lagasse Foundation:

Founded in 2002 by Chef Emeril Lagasse and his wife Alden, Emeril Lagasse Foundation is a 501c(3) public charity headquartered in New Orleans. The Foundation's mission is to create opportunities to inspire, mentor and enable youth to reach their full potential through culinary, nutrition and arts education with a focus on life skills development. Since its inception, Emeril Lagasse Foundation has granted more than \$9.5 million to several children's charities to support culinary, nutrition and arts programs. The Foundation was recognized as the 2016 Nonprofit of the Year by Louisiana Association of Non-Profit Organizations. To learn more about the Foundation and its beneficiaries, visit Emeril.org, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#).

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