

Local Wineries Step Up to Help Restaurants and Community

LINDA MURPHY



Donum Estate, a marvelous melding of sweeping vistas, bold pinot noirs and owner Allan Warburg's jaw-dropping collection of outdoor artwork, is donating \$10 for each wine order to the World Health Organization's COVID-19 Response Fund.

Sonoma County's wineries and restaurants are inextricably entwined, and never more so than now. The food, wine and lodging businesses and the tax revenue and jobs that come with them are the foundation of the local economy.

Local vintners and restaurateurs have a history of giving their time and their products in good times and bad, and these are particularly bad times. Charity auctions have been postponed or canceled. Tastings, dinners and events that raise funds for nonprofits are scratched from calendars. Employees have been laid off or furloughed, as winery tasting rooms are closed. Eateries have been reduced to takeout and delivery meals only, with no end in sight to the global measures to slow the spread of coronavirus and save lives.

So it's no surprise Sonoma winemakers are doing what they can to support their restaurant colleagues, while suffering hardships themselves. Laws regulating the sale, transport and even

donations of wine are archaic and complicated, so it takes ingenuity to create fundraising schemes that are legal and beneficial. These five wineries have done that, with their dining contemporaries in mind. It's putting their money where their mouths are.

Donum Estate

This Sonoma Carneros estate is a marvelous melding of sweeping vistas, bold pinot noirs made by Dan Fishman and owner Allan Warburg's jaw-dropping collection of outdoor artwork.

While estate visits aren't possible right now, the wines can be ordered online. Donum will donate \$10 for each wine order to the World Health Organization's COVID-19 Response Fund. Also, wine club members will be offered, for a fee, boxes of produce for curbside pickup or delivery.

Donum's Kicking Bull Farm will continue to supply Northern California restaurants with vegetables, fruits and herbs, but with demand from restaurants down now, they'll make the excess produce available to wine club members.

707-939-2290, Sonoma, thedonumestate.com