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SAM SEBASTIANI'S LA CHERTOSA WINES NAMED BEST IN CLASS PLUS AWARDED TWO ADDITIONAL GOLD MEDALS

Sonoma, CA. – May 31, 2016 – Carrying on a run of acclaim, **Gold Medals** and **Best of Class** awards, Sonoma winemaking legend and family patriarch **Sam Sebastiani**, is pleased to announce the results from the **2016 Dan Berger's International Wine Competition**. The **2014 Sonoma Valley Reserve Chardonnay** received a **Gold Medal**, the **2014 Sonoma Valley Reserve Sangiovese** received a **Gold Medal** and was also awarded **Best in Class** for its varietal.

Formerly known as the **Riverside International Wine Competition**, the **Dan Berger International Wine Competition** was founded in 1982 as part of the California State Fair system. Wines are organized by class, varietal and region; and judged double-blind by a distinguished panel of 34 industry leaders. This competition is known for its **ultra-high quality wines** and for the extraordinary caliber of its judging panel.

In the nose of the **2014 Sonoma Valley Reserve Sangiovese (\$35)** there is bright red fruit up front, notes of sour cherry, raspberries, dried floral and cherry tomatoes. On the palate there is more of the sour cherry, thyme cola nut and cedar. Bright acidity with light tannins round out this wine. Earlier this year, this wine was also named "**Best Sangiovese**" at the **2016 Monterey International Wine Competition**. Only 95 cases produced.

The **2014 Sonoma Valley Reserve Chardonnay (\$25)** is characterized by the extremely fruity high notes and great complexity in the aromas. The flavors are well mixed and remind one of fresh grapes with soft fruity tones of citrus, melon, and slight pineapple. One of the most fruit-forward vintages in the last several. The **2014 Sonoma Valley Reserve Chardonnay** has previously won **Gold Medals** at the **2016 Monterey International Wine Competition**, the **2016 Critics Challenge International Wine & Spirits Competition** and the **2015 Sonoma County Grand Harvest Awards**. Only 730 cases produced.

La Chertosa wines are produced primarily from grapes grown in red Tuscan series soils and aged moderately in new and young oak barrels. Their style is described as “Old World” because the wines are balanced, harmonic and wonderfully pleasing with foods.

La Chertosa wines can be purchased at fine wine locations in California, Nebraska and Colorado or by visiting www.lachertosawines.com. **La Chertosa** features 2014 Sonoma Valley Reserve Chardonnay, a 2014 Sonoma Valley Reserve Sangiovese, plus a 2013 Amador County Zinfandel. Each wine is small-lot production.

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