

## The 8th annual Korks for Kids benefit was an overwhelming success

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Driving up to Thomas Fogarty Winery is an experience in itself.

Woodside Road off of Interstate 280 first winds through a bit of woods that might remind one of getting off of the BW Parkway outside of Washington, DC, and finding this whole wonderful culture hidden in those woods.

As you round the corner, at the stop sign, there's Robert's (amazing) Market, and up the road – equestrian trail crossings, estates that are at least on a par with some of those found in Langley, VA, and Stamford, CN ... all alongside schools, parks, residential neighborhoods, and a narrowing windy road populated by classic sports cars, expert (for the most part) bicycle riders, motorcyclists, tourists, and locals.

You're on CA Highway 84, the wonderfully magical road that leads over a Summit of the Santa Cruz Mountains, and to a fork in the road that leads to a crown jewel of the mountains, Thomas Fogarty Winery on CA Hwy 35. Of course, if you head on over Hwy 84, you end up with stunning views of the Pacific Ocean, and the entrance to the Monterey Bay, and end up at CA Hwy 1.

### Arriving at [Thomas Fogarty Winery](#)

Turn left at CA Hwy 35, and off to Thomas Fogarty Winery we go for the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine Tasting Benefit for Healthy Kids. This is, the Healthy Kids Program, "Korks for Kids" event. The weather is perfect, and the view of the bay (both bays on the way up) is spectacular. From the top of the hill, Palo Alto is perfectly framed by the Santa Cruz Mountains and the San Francisco Bay.

## **A powerful event to achieve powerful results**

All of this sets the stage for an amazingly powerful event. It provides an opportunity for local people of influence, like Thomas Fogarty himself, and the assembled sponsors and benefactors, CA State Assembly Members, who make this event what it has come to be.

## **Local wineries were showcased**

“Her-Vine-Ness” Laura Ness, organized local wineries. Featured at this stunning event included local wineries such as Thomas Fogarty (surprise), Big Basin, Burrell School, King’s Mountain, Loma Prieta, and Poetic Cellars. Other wineries included Duckhorn Vineyards, Far Niente, Frog’s Leap, and Rombauer Vineyards. The featured wines were some of their best offerings, and many were available at auction.

## **Gourmet food pairings**

Passed hors d’oeuvres and a buffet of culinary delights was exquisitely provided by Le Papillon, and everyone seemed very happy, and in an appropriately festive mood.

## **Local dignitaries led the way**

Chris Wilder, a member of the Board, and CEO of the Valley Medical Foundation took the lead in many of the festivities, including auctioneer of some absolutely over-the-top wine offerings. Bert George of Joseph George Wines in San Jose, donated some of these featured wine offerings, and a very fully stocked wine refrigerator. Ashlee Oh of Kaiser Permanente was the very happy successful bidder.

This was definitely an event to remember. Sandra Wheatley of Cisco Systems, was looking radiant, representing the Lead Sponsor of the day.

Thanks to all of the sponsors, the benefactors, wineries, Le Papillon, and all of the volunteers and participants. This was an event to remember, and to put on the “must do” social calendars for next year, and for years to come.

**For more info:** [Go to Korks for Kids](#). Slideshow to follow!

By Jerry Starr