



**Mission Hill Family Estate Awards Wine Scholarship
*Les Dames d'Escoffier's Annual Dinner Honours Student Culinary Education***

Vancouver, BC (June 29, 2010): Mission Hill Family Estate and Les Dames d'Escoffier BC Chapter (LDEI BC) acknowledged talented local women within the culinary industry when they award two bursaries at Les Dames d'Escoffier annual Induction and Scholarship Dinner, June 28, 2010.

Les Dames d'Escoffier is an association of professional women devoted to promoting the understanding, appreciation and knowledge of food, wine and the arts of the table. (LDEI BC) offers annual scholarships open to women of all ages, whether they are interested in beginning basic training in these areas or seek to refine their expertise. This is the fifth consecutive year that Mission Hill Family Estate has sponsored the wine scholarship.

"We are proud to partner with Les Dames d'Escoffier in supporting the advancement of women in the culinary field," says Ingo Grady, Director of Wine Education, Mission Hill Family Estate. "Food and wine classes are part of our ongoing commitment to excellence in gastronomy, viticulture and vinification, and we fully support candidates who are keen to further their food and wine-related studies."

"Scholarships are a big part of our mandate and we're delighted with Mission Hill's continuing support in our efforts to encourage and mentor women in the food, wine and hospitality industry," said Les Dames Scholarship Chairman Stephanie Jaeger.

This year's deserving scholarship recipients, Sheila Whittaker and Eliana Bray, are both currently employed by Firefly Wine and Ales. Sheila has her sights set on undertaking the Master Sommelier Introductory Course, while Eliana is presently studying for a Wine and Spirits Education Trust Diploma, both courses are offered at The Art Institute of Vancouver, BC.

For more information on Les Dames d'Escoffier scholarships, please visit www.lesdames.ca/scholarship.htm

About Mission Hill Family Estate

Mission Hill Family Estate is world renowned for its award-winning wines, stunning setting and architecture, and its Cuisine du Terroir-based Terrace Restaurant. The winery's vineyards are located in five distinct growing regions of British Columbia's Okanagan Valley. Reflective of the origin and unique character of the Valley and of the careful 'pruning to bottle' program, Oculus, our signature Bordeaux-inspired wine, represents the pinnacle in premium winemaking. Proprietor Anthony von Mandl and winemaker John Simes produce elegant internationally acclaimed wines with New World flavours and Old World refinement from this incomparable lakeside mountaintop winery. Visit www.missionhillwinery.com for more information.

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