

For Immediate Release

## **Cayuga Lake Wine Trail's 8th Annual Mardi Gras**

**Finger Lakes Region of New York, NY (January 20, 2010)-** On February 13 and 14 from 10-5 pm it's all about jazzy fun times on the Cayuga Lake Wine Trail at our annual Mardi Gras with a special Valentine twist. Here is where you can bring your sweetheart for a real sweet deal. At this fun-filled event you'll receive Valentine beads, a wine glass, plus instant gratification if you're one of the lucky ones to pick the specially marked coin and win exciting prizes at each of the 16 wineries. At all of our events we offer wine and food pairings and at this event we highlight a New Orleans cuisine. Visit the wineries and you'll be eligible to win one of our Grand Prizes from Barrister's Bed and Breakfast in Seneca Falls, Finger Lakes Winery Tours in Geneva, Taverni Banfi at the Statler Hotel in Ithaca or a wine refrigerator stocked with a 16 bottle sampling of the wine trail's finest.

We're selling special Valentine--Mardi Gras packages where each package includes accommodations, worry free travel, 2 tickets to the event, a beautiful Mickey Roof original Finger Lakes necklace and a European Hand Tied Bouquet. Check out our website [cayugawinetrail.com](http://cayugawinetrail.com) under Wine Trail Packages for more details.

The great culinary flair of old New Orleans is the common denominator with our recipes for our Mardi Gras wine and food pairings. Bellwether Hard Cider again offers their Hard Cider Beignets a perfectly delectable light puffed pastry that if you were to travel to New Orleans you would find at many restaurants. Buttonwood Grove Winery is offering the ever so popular Spicy Chicken Jambalaya, the hotter the better. At Knapp Winery and Vineyard Restaurant they'll be serving their Creole Shrimp Bisque, a creamy concoction made with Knapp Seyval Blanc and what Mardi Gras event would not be complete without Louisiana Red Beans and Rice served at Montezuma Winery.

For the past 7 years we have had great pleasure in crowning our Kings and Queens of Mardi Gras. These people love the Cayuga Lake Wine Trail and often visit our other events in costume. Past winners have been from as far away as Ohio and as local as Ovid. Last year's King and Queen, Randy and Marlene Perkins not only dressed up in costume for our dog event but they also brought their puppy in a cute little carriage. This year costumed guests who visit the wineries on Saturday during Mardi Gras will be judged that evening starting at 5:30pm at Americana Vineyard. Here a panel of judges will pick the "2010 Royal Mardi Gras Couple". This fortunate couple will receive free tickets to our other Cayuga Wine Trail events, the Finger Lakes Wine Festival in Watkins Glen, NY, plus an overnight stay in a King Suite at the Latourelle Resort & Spa in Ithaca.

Advance tickets are \$25.00 per person plus handling fee and sales tax. Designated Driver tickets are available. For tickets call 800-684-5217, order online at [cayugawinetrail.com](http://cayugawinetrail.com) or purchase at any area Wegmans.

See us, Taste us, Live us, Love us – Cayuga Lake Wine Trail. For more information on wineries, events and to download a trail guide visit [www.cayugawinetrail.com](http://www.cayugawinetrail.com).