

citylife

Parties, Culture & Society



Classical Nouveaux's Stuart Martin, Christine Lin, Tiffany Desrosier and Cody Karey performed.



Canadian painter Bobbie Burgers, furniture designer Billy Wishloss and jewellery designer Joanna Tremblay.



LaStella Winery's team: Mo Awad, Rasoul Salehi and Jay Drysdale.



LaStella vintners Severine Pinte and James Cambridge poured their Italian-style wines.



RLC Strategic Capital president Richard Coglon and his wife, Heidi.

It was a symphony for the senses

LaStella Winery's summer party in Osoyoos



FRED LEE

High society met wine society for a taste of *la dolce vita*, recently, as LaStella Winery principals **Sean** and **Saeedeh Salem** hosted the ultimate summer celebration. With a budget and production that rivalled the biggest bash thrown this year (**Jacqui Cohen's** Face the World Foundation waterfront shindig), 250 attendees were wined, dined and entertained at the exclusive Symphony for the Senses soiree. For this sparkling South Okanagan wine extravaganza, well-heeled and well-dressed guests jetted in from as far away as Toronto, Los Angeles and Germany.

Under sunny skies, the winery threw open its cellar doors, welcoming guests to its vineyards in Osoyoos, B.C., a burgeoning wine region that boasts distinct soil and a desert-like climate. Complementing the hot summer day, the beau monde were greeted with a glass of LaStella's winning merlot rosé LaStellina. Getting gala-goers in the party mood, DJ **Leanne** spun her usual magic. After much kibitzing and exchange of air kisses on the estate terrace, the gaggle of movers and shakers, influencers and social conveners made their way lakeside to event producer **Simon Cooksley's** beautifully appointed tent, an open Tuscan-inspired ballroom adorned with 2,000 sunflowers and three gigantic candle chandeliers that towered over the tables.

Vintners **James Cambridge** and **Severine Pinte**

poured a harmonious selection of LaStella's Italian-style wines — **Leggiero**, **Fortissimo** and **Maestoso** — perfect counterpoints to Joy Road Catering's **Cameron Smith** and **Dana Ewart's** exquisite Okanagan Valley menu of organic leaves with grilled prawns and Amelia olive oil; truffle Tiger Blue gnocchi; and braised short ribs with Bordelaise sauce. The Okanagan Symphony Strings and Vancouver's Classical Nouveaux entertained.

The guest list read like a *Who's Who* of B.C. high rollers. Those making the scene included DDB Canada CEO **Frank Palmer** and his wife, **Marika**; SAP Group VP **Andy Cobbold** and his wife, **Tweak Inc.** CEO **Andrea Cirone**; Pearls Auto Spa principals **David** and **Sherani Volberg**; Affinity Law Group founder and CEO **Darcy Wray** and his wife, associate lawyer **Mandy Javahery**; Army & Navy department store CEO and Face the World Foundation president **Jacqui Cohen** and her daughter, Face of Today Foundation president **Kasandra Cohen**.

Among the other notables in attendance were Canadian painter **Bobbie Burgers**; United Way Women in Philanthropy director **Christie King** and chair **Catherine Van Alstine**; Dunn PR principal **Patricia Dunn**; restaurateurs **Harry Kambolis** and **Celestino Drago**; TGK Irrigation president **Geraint Khan** and his wife, Mars Canada account manager **Loree Khan**; Bellstar Hotels and Resorts executive VP **Jon Zwickel**; RLC Strategic Capital president **Richard Coglon** and his wife, **Heidi**; Haywood Securities VP **David Lyall** and his wife, **Jill**; and JERM Ventures general partner **Eric Masella** and **Sarah Arison**, founder, Arison Arts Foundation.

The LaStella event was a benefit for United Way's Women in Philanthropy, Success by Six Program, Phoenix Academy Learning Society and South Okanagan General Hospital.

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South Okanagan General Hospital's Dr. Alan Ruddiman and his wife, Christine.



Face of Today president Kasandra Cohen and her mother, Face the World president Jacqui Cohen.



JERM Ventures' Eric Masella with Arison Arts Foundation founder Sarah Arison.



Affinity Law Group's Darcy Wray and Mandy Javahery were among the guests at LaStella's Symphony for the Senses.



Oenophile Constantine Anastasopoulos with Dunn PR principal Patricia Dunn.



Event producer Simon Cooksley and LaStella Winery controller Della Shafagh.