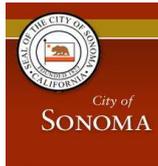


## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### SONOMA-ASWAN COMMITTEE OF SONOMA SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION



#### **SECOND ANNUAL BENEFIT RECEPTION "KING TUT RETURNS...A TASTE OF EGYPT"**

Monday, June 15, 2009, 7:00pm until 10:00pm

Sonoma Meritage Restaurant

165 West Napa Street (patio tent-side entrance), Sonoma, CA, 95476

Sonoma-Aswan Committee of Sonoma Sister Cities Association will bring together Bay Area's international community leaders for its second annual benefit reception celebrating Egyptian culture and the special relationship between Aswan, Egypt and Sonoma, California. The Egyptian themed event will be held on Monday, June 15, 2009 from 7:00pm until 10:00pm at the Sonoma Meritage Restaurant near the historic Sonoma plaza. Egyptian attire is encouraged. Prizes for "Best Costume" will be provided by Highway 12 Vineyards & Winery.

This year's event will coincide with the arrival of the Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs Exhibition, better known as the "King Tut Exhibition," in San Francisco. Representatives from the Egyptian Consulate General in San Francisco will be in attendance. Featured Master of Ceremonies will be Catherine Heenan, Anchor/Reporter, KRON-TV. The event will feature insights into Egyptian cooking by Bram Pottery owners, Ashrf and Shelly Almasri, Master Chef Carlo-Alessandro Cavallo, and cookbook author Paula Wolfert, expert on Mediterranean food and cooking. The reception will also highlight Egyptian music and belly dancing by "The Three Sisters", live camels, courtesy of Lyon Therapy Ranch and an exciting silent auction featuring exclusive dining, premium wines, tasting events and unique "getaways" including a Nile Cruise by King Tut Tours. Proceeds will benefit arts, cultural, medical, educational and environmental projects in Aswan, Egypt.

The event is open to the public and by advance ticket sales only. Tickets are limited. Individual tickets are \$60 and include North African food, entertainment, and wine provided by Viansa Winery & Marketplace. Sponsorships are also available with preferred seating. Full details and a ticket order form are available at [www.protocolprofessionals.com/whatsnew\\_specialevents\\_taste\\_egypt.htm](http://www.protocolprofessionals.com/whatsnew_specialevents_taste_egypt.htm).

For further inquiries please contact SASCC by email at sonomaaswan@aol.com or by telephone at 415.336.4523.

The Sonoma-Aswan Sister City Committee ("SASC Committee") was founded in 2008 by His Excellency Ambassador Abderahman Salaheldin in friendship with Sherri Ferris and Carol Blackman of Protocol Professionals, Inc. to foster international cooperation and understanding through the sharing of information, knowledge, and technology between the cities of Sonoma and Aswan. To fulfill this mission, the SASC Committee develops and promotes cross-city exchanges of individuals, groups, and organizations in areas such as business, technology, healthcare, housing and urban development, water conservation, environment, arts, culture, tourism and education. The SASC Committee operates under the auspices of the Sonoma Sister Cities Association (SSCA).