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Fresno State launches new wine club at annual Vino Italiano! event

Fresno State's viticulture and enology program presents its traditional Vino Italiano! 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 18, giving the public an opportunity to sample student-made Italian varietals as a prelude to Vintage Days.



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The event, at the Fresno State Winery (2360 E. Barstow Ave. – between Cedar and Maple avenues), will serve as the launching pad for the new Fresno State wine club, Unleashed.

Guests will taste the 2012 Muscat Canelli, 2011 Pinot Gris, 2010 Barbera, and 2009 Zinfandel. Italian hors d'oeuvres from Sam's Italian Deli in Fresno will be served along with Fresno State farm products: almonds, raisins and olive oil. Wines will be available for purchase at a special discount following the event.

Winemaker John Giannini and enology students will be on-hand to discuss the enology program and Fresno State wines.

General admission, which includes a Fresno State Winery glass and a plate, is \$15, \$10 for Fresno State students, staff, faculty and alumni with ID card, and \$5 for Fresno State Wine Club members, payable at the door by cash or check.

Guests joining the new Fresno State wine club at the event will receive 20 percent off all wines purchased as well as discounted entry to the tasting.

Kevin Smith, the winery's marketing director, said the new club is being launched the same day as Vino Italiano and is built around a Members' Choice style of club with more options to make every membership different.

The Vino Italiano! tasting is open to people 21 and older with valid photo ID. Free parking is available in yellow or green lots on campus.

For more information, contact Kevin Smith at Kesmith@csufresno.edu or visit www.FresnoStateWinery.com

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