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NEWS RELEASE
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Sonoma Valley Fund Names New Officers

January 5, 2012 — Barbara Young has been elected President of Sonoma Valley Fund. Joining her, as newly elected executive officers are Joshua Rymer as Vice President and Tom Haeuser as Secretary and Treasurer.

Young succeeds Harriet Derwingson, a founding member of Sonoma Valley Fund, who led this all-volunteer organization for the past two years and who will remain on the Board of Directors as Past President. “I can’t say enough about the broad vision and superb leadership Harriet brought to Sonoma Valley Fund during her tenure as President,” said Young. “There are so many accomplishments she engineered, including partnerships in support of 21 local nonprofits, creation and initial planning for our upcoming “Endow Sonoma Valley Month,” and the awarding of over \$200,00 in grants and scholarships within our community.”

In another organizational move, Sonoma Valley Fund directors unanimously elected board member Whitney Evans of Sonoma as President Emeritus. As the new title was bestowed on Evans, Past President Derwingson described him as “the brainpower and central figure behind the creation of Sonoma Valley Fund six years ago and someone who continues to inspire and challenge all of us to build a strong culture of legacy giving in the Valley.” Evans’ long record of community service was also recently recognized by the City of Sonoma, which named him Sonoma Alcalde for 2012.

In addition to Young, Derwingson, Rymer, Haeuser, and Evans, other Sonoma Valley Fund Board Members are Joe Aaron, Peggy Bair, Karen Collins, Tony Garcia, Susan Hoeffel, Manuel Merjil, Steve Pease, Martha Rosenblatt and Scott Smith.

An affiliate of Community Foundation Sonoma County, Sonoma Valley Fund was created and is managed by respected community leaders to help sustain and improve the Valley's unique socioeconomic, environmental, and cultural qualities for generations to come. Sonoma Valley Fund promotes and facilitates local philanthropy and legacy giving by serving as a bridge to the future, helping nonprofits build successful legacy and endowment programs, encouraging estate-planning professionals to discuss Sonoma Valley bequests with their clients, offering a set of prudent investment options for donors and non-profits, and providing trustworthy, responsible, and thoughtful stewardship of donor gifts. No other local organization unites all constituencies around the purpose of endowing the Sonoma Valley community as a whole. For more information visit www.sonomavalleyfund.org.

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