



## Winesday: the Musical is First Public Event at Hernder Estate Wines After Devastating Fire

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Catharines, Ontario, May 17, 2022 - Today, just two months after a [devastating fire swept through the historic Hernder Estate Wine facilities](#), hope is in the air with the announcement that ***Winesday: the Musical + Wine Tasting*** will open at the winery this summer. On March 2, 2022, Five Cork Productions announced an exciting and unique new partnership with [Hernder Estate Wines](#), a historic VQA winery with more than six decades of experience of grape growing in the heart of Niagara's wine country.

Just a few weeks later, the future seemed grim after the Hernder property suffered a tragic fire, destroying much of the site. With the main event and public spaces destroyed, it appeared that more than two years of planning for the production had come to an unexpected end. But upon learning that the Luna Lounge, a new adjacent space at the winery, was spared by the fire, Five Cork Productions began to regroup. The Producers are thrilled to announce that they will be launching the show at Hernder Estate Wines this year after all and that ***Winesday: the Musical + Wine Tasting*** will be the first public event held at Hernder since the fire.

"When we woke up to the news about the tragedy at Hernder, we were absolutely devastated for everyone at Hernder Estates," says Larissa Vogler, co-founder of Five Cork Productions. "We knew how much history and tradition existed in those buildings. We wanted to support the Hernder family the best we could, so we delayed our production until we knew what the future held. We wanted to be able to continue our partnership if possible, as a way to support Hernder during this difficult time. This is why we could not be more honoured to be the first public event as they begin to rebuild."

This theatre run is not only a celebration of Hernder's rebuilding, but also a rare opportunity to attend performances produced by one of Canada's only female-founded and operated theatre companies. ***Winesday: The Musical + Wine Tasting***, offers wine drinkers, theatre aficionados and musical lovers a one-of-a-kind production: celebrating female friendship through song, dance and wine.

"The last two months have been overwhelming, but we aren't giving up," says Angel Fusarelli,

Manager of Hernder Estate Wines. “We want to rebuild and welcome our customers back to the Winery as soon as possible. What better way to do that than with an uplifting, heartfelt and fun musical that celebrates wine?”

With book and lyrics by [Jenne Wason](#) and music by [Joseph Benoit](#), ***Winesday: The Musical + Wine Tasting*** is the journey of five wine-drinking women who get together every Wednesday night. Theoretically they’re meeting for book club or yoga, but really they just want to drink wine and talk about their lives. Imagine “cabaret” meeting “cabernet” with a healthy dose of great music and dance in between. If you love wine, music and laughter, this show provides all of the above, while helping support the rebuilding of one of Niagara region’s most historic venues.

Tickets go on sale on Tuesday, May 24th at 10am. For ticket information and an exclusive presale offer, visit [www.winesdaymusical.com](http://www.winesdaymusical.com).

### **About Five Cork Productions**

Founded in 2017 in Chatham, Ontario, Five Cork Productions’ ***Winesday: The Musical + Wine Tasting*** premiered at the Chatham Capitol Theatre in the Fall of 2017 with several sold out series across southwestern Ontario, including the Olde Walkerville Theatre in Windsor. The company was preparing to launch additional theatre runs across southern Ontario, including the London Fringe Festival, when the pandemic brought theatre production around the world to a halt. Five Cork Productions seeks to be a premier company showcasing entertaining and engaging work that place women at the centre of the story, both on stage and behind the scenes in production. Follow Winesday on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).

### **About Hernder Estate Wines**

With over six decades of winemaking tradition, Hernder Estate Wines is known for its legacy of wine producing more than 25 varieties of VQA wines from its 500 acres of prime grape-growing territory between St. Catharines and Beamsville. Since their first international recognition in 1995, Hernder has gone to achieve countless domestic and global winemaking awards. Hernder also has a strong women-led organization with their [newest winemaker, Angela Kasimos](#) and managed by [Angel Fusarelli](#). Follow Hernder on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).