Written by Janelle Keeffer
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Experience the sights, sounds, and tastes of rural Jo Daviess County

GALENA, Ill. - August 25, 2010 - Celebrating the fruits of their labor, Galena Cellars Vineyard & Winery and the Galena Cultural Arts Alliance are excited to announce their partnership in planning a new Fall Harvest & Art Festival.

The first annual two-day event will take place at Galena Cellars Vineyard, 4746 N. Ford Road, Galena, on Saturday and Sunday, September 25th and 26th, with activities spanning from noon until 6 p.m. both days.

Nestled in the vineyard clearing will be tents of area artists, each demonstrating their talents. Artist wares will range from watercolors to pottery, textile arts to exotic wooden pens. “We think this partnership will create a great weekend for everyone. Our artists participate in our shop ‘Hello Galena!’, as well as in galleries, museums and art fairs throughout the year, but to be able to exhibit and sell in such a beautiful setting is a real treat,” said Toni Klingler, Galena Cultural Arts Alliance president.

“In addition to showcasing the amazing work of our local artists, we have a full weekend of fun for the entire family: food booths, hayrides, pumpkin painting and grape stomping,” said Rob Steger, events and tours coordinator for Galena Cellars.

The Jo Daviess County Beef Association will be grilling up succulent steak and chicken sandwiches along with beef brats and hot dogs. Locally produced cheeses and fruit will also be featured. And of course, there is always the opportunity to sample wine, explore “tasting” through all of your senses and tour the vineyard.

Visitors are also invited to “kick up their heels and have a little fun” as the vineyard barrel room comes to life with music - rags, waltzes and hoe downs - with more local talent, the Fever River String Band.

Admission to the event is free. Vineyard tours are $5 each and include a sensory tour and wine tasting. An art auction will be held a 5 p.m. on Saturday, with proceeds benefiting the Galena Cultural Arts Alliance, a 501©(3) not-for-profit organization.

For more information, visit www.galenacellars.com/harvest.htm . Additional area offerings and visitor information may be found at the Galena/Jo Daviess County Convention and Visitors Bureau by calling 877-Go Galena or at
www.galena.org
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Galena Cellars, a Lawlor family winery, offers more than forty varietals of wine produced in Galena, Illinois. Many Galena Cellars wine utilize Illinois-grown grapes from the recently appointed Upper Mississippi River Valley Area Viticulture Area, the largest designated AVA in the world. Galena Cellars Vineyard & Winery is proud to offer three tasting room locations: 515 S. Main and at the Vineyard at 4746 N. Ford Road in Galena, and in 477 S. Third Street, Dodson Place in Geneva, Illinois.

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