#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 20, 2011

# **Johnson Estate Winery - Abundant Offerings for 'Chautauqua in June' Learning Festival** NYS's Oldest Estate Winery Celebrates 50 Years of Operation

Westfield (NY) – Johnson Estate is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2011 in a variety of ways. First, there is the celebratory drink, a sparkling Traminette named Golden Sparkles. Then there is the completion of the tasting room renovation, which nearly doubles the size of the winery's retail space and showcases shiny stainless steel tanks. And lastly, still in the planning stages, is a series of activities both at the farm and off.

The winery plans to be a regular vendor at the Westfield Farmer's Market which begins on May 27<sup>th</sup> - a good way to support the community and "to share our products with not only with local residents and but also with visitors to the area". The Winery will feature a few of its wines each Saturday, but in view of the morning hours of the market, it will also offer seasonal baked goods from the Brick Village Gourmet and other bakers.

In early June Johnson Estate will offer five activities featured in the Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau (CCVB) "Chautauqua in June" Learning Festival. Over 50 classes will be offered during the month and these are described on the CCVB website, <u>www.tourchautauqua.com</u>. Johnson Estate's offerings include the following which appeal to those with many different interests – from art to gardening – not to mention food and wine. Class descriptions and registrations are available on the winery's website, <u>www.johnsonwinery.com</u> under News & Events/Calendar.

# June 3, A Day in the Garden, Propagating Iris and Daylilies (9am-3pm) Johnson Estate Winery & Nass Daylily Farm, A Hands-On Experience including a Picnic Luncheon, \$50/person, Reserve by June 2 Link: http://johnsonwinery.com/jos\_event.taf?\_function=details&view=event&evid=129



June 4, Art in the Vineyard, En Plein Air Painting/Drawing (11:30am – 3pm) Johnson Estate Winery, Four Artists to Lead Classes After A Luncheon by the Pond (Observers and Artists welcome), \$75 for artists, \$25 for observers, Reserve by June 1 Link: http://johnsonwinery.com/jos\_event.taf?\_function=details&view=event&evid=130



#### June 4, Winemaker's Dinner at Johnson Estate (6:00pm-9:30pm) Johnson Estate Winery, Collaboration between Winemaker, Jeff Murphy and Chef Tony Pisicoli, Sapore Restaurant, Five-course dinner to be served in the winery and in the vineyards \$55/person or \$100/couple. Reserve by June 1. Link: http://johnsonwinery.com/jos\_event.taf?\_function=details&view=event&evid=133

# June 5, Sunday Morning Vineyard Walks (9-10:30am)

# (other dates - June 26, July10, 17, 24, August 7, 14, 21)

*Take a two-mile vineyard walk with Fred Johnson, then a brief tour of the winery and a light "breakfast" pairing. Link:* http://johnsonwinery.com/jos\_event.taf?\_function=details&view=event&evid=120

# June 13, Learn How to Make Oregano Pesto (10am – 1pm)

*Featuring Chef Tony Pisicoli, Sapore and Kathleen Ramm, Ribbon Road Farm Imagine harvesting armfuls of fresh oregano – and then making your own pesto.* Link: <u>http://johnsonwinery.com/jos\_event.taf?\_function=details&view=event&evid=134</u>

Johnson Estate Winery, the oldest estate winery in New York State, is located in the heart of America's Grape Country and is a member of the Lake Erie Wine Country (formerly the Chautauqua-Lake Erie Wine Trail). For more information about these events or reservations for specific events, please visit <u>www.johnsonwinery.com</u>, on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com//johnsonwinery</u>, or by calling 716-326-2191.