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**Orange County
Chapter**

**Building Industry Association, Orange County to Hold
Food & Wine Benefit at the Brand New
Children’s Museum Pretend City**

IRVINE, CA – This year BIA/OC’s Annual Food & Wine benefit has a new location and a new theme. Wine Safari in the City, will be held on Thursday, September 10 at the brand new Children’s Museum Pretend City in Irvine. Guests will enjoy fabulous wine selections, scrumptious culinary delights and micro-brew tasting of specialty beers. A silent and live auction will feature unbelievable prizes to bid on, with proceeds benefiting the Building Industry Technology Academy (BITA) programs at Katella, Western, Anaheim, Valencia, and Brea-Olinda High Schools.

BITA is a four-year high school program that exposes young people to diverse career paths within the building industry. The California state budget crisis has resulted in decreased education funds for woodshop, construction technology, and many other vocational classes on high school campuses. The unique opportunities offered through BITA also benefit Special Education and at-risk/under-achieving students through the program’s high level of applied hands-on learning.

BIA/OC Chief Executive Officer, Kristine Thalman comments, “BITA has been a major factor in changing student’s perception of the importance of school in their lives. Students begin to understand the correlation between education and their future success. Having the ability to immediately apply their academic knowledge to their BITA classes has been incredibly motivating for our BITA students.”

From 6:00pm until 8:30pm guests will enjoy the pairings of fabulous wines from around the world from OC Custom Winery. Tantalizing tapas and delectable desserts will be prepared by renowned chefs of Suzanne’s Catering, Bad to the Bone BBQ, and Viktor Benes Continental Bakeries. The BITA Safari in the City event underwriter is TWR Framing and Sommelier sponsors include: Capital Drywall LP and Capstone Studios. Tickets are \$75 per person. To RSVP please contact Philly Pemberton at 949.224.0321 or ppemberton@biaoc.com.

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The Orange County Chapter of the Building Industry Association of Southern California (BIA/OC) is a non-profit trade association representing nearly 1,000 companies employing over 100,000 people affiliated with the home building industry.

The BIA/OC mission is to promote proactive participation in the development of economic and community issues in Orange County. The BIA/OC is affiliated with the California BIA and the National Association of Home Builders.

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