

Silicon Valley

MODERN LUXURY

The Warriors'
JOE LACOB
& *NICOLE*
CURRAN

On Championships,
Charity & Childhood
Dreams Come True



BEST OF
**SILICON
VALLEY**

From Bespoke Bikes to
the Hottest Benefit Event

PLUS

Olympic Hopefuls & Exotic
Cars Roar Into Town

W. Kamau Bell Goes
Back to School

From under-the-radar services (orchid boarding) to over-the-top splurges (a \$4,000 shot of scotch)—and things in between (bespoke bikes and bling)—our annual roundup showcases the area's standout offerings.

*By Jeanne Cooper, Nerissa Pacio Itchon,
Carolyn Jung and Anh-Minh Le*

BEST OF SILICON VALLEY





GO-TO CURATOR OF VIP EXPERIENCES

For the past 15 years, **Gwen Books'** luxury concierge/travel firm has catered to an entirely referral-based clientele that enlists her to "create a seamless bespoke journey," she says. "We provide unique experiences that most travelers don't know exist." (She recently curated three days in Delhi, India, for Netflix CEO Reed Hastings and 20 members of his executive team.) Books makes every effort to visit and vet hotels, establishing relationships with the "inside teams" at properties such as Chablé Resort & Spa in Chocóla, Mexico (shown here). She doesn't rely on handbooks, but rather has connections with boutique firms all over the world, resulting in "unparalleled local knowledge and unprecedented access," says Books. One family celebration in Morocco involved private artisan and textile sessions, a helicopter to the desert, four-wheel-drive adventures through sandy trails, camel rides and an evening under the stars with an astronomer. "Creating lasting memories is intrinsic in what we offer our clients," she adds. gwenbooks.com



PLUMED HORSE PHOTO BY KRISTIAN MELOM

MOST IMPRESSIVE WINE LIST

Jeffrey Perisho, wine director of Saratoga's **Plumed Horse**, admits he is often the envy of other sommeliers. After all, the restaurant is one of only 87 in the world to garner *Wine Spectator's* Grand Award for its outstanding wine list, which boasts 3,400 options. It can store 23,000 bottles on-site, thanks to a spacious building with a dramatic three-story glass-front wine cellar in the middle of it all. It holds such rarities as 26 vintages of Joseph Phelps Insignia, dating back to 1982; a 1929 Cheval Blanc for \$13,500; and a magnum of 1987 Henri Jaye Vosne-Romanée Cros Parantoux for \$62,850. It also offers an unprecedented 182 Champagne selections. "We're pretty unique in that we hold Champagne in such high regard," he says. "Champagne is incredibly diverse, very food-friendly, sets the tone and is a favorite of mine." That's apparent from the get-go, when diners sit down to see a chic cart roll up with seven bubbly available by the glass. plumedhorse.com

