

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lauren Ballard

713-520-0443

Lauren@recipe4success.org



DRESS FOR DINNER WRAPS UP A FOURTH FASHIONABLY FABULOUS SEASON

Dateline Houston, June 21, 2012. At Dress for Dinner's triumphant season finale on June 20th, it was difficult to distinguish the models from the spectators in the sea of bright colors and sky-high heels. The soiree, hosted by Bob Devlin at Neiman Marcus, topped off a year's efforts of mother-daughter chairs, Yvonne Cormier and Claire Cormier Thielke that raised over \$30,000 for Recipe for Success Foundation's award-winning programs to combat childhood obesity. The exuberant pair excitedly thanked their host committee and supporters and announced next season's chairs: Houston's celebrity hairdresser, Ceron, and his partner, Todd Fiscus.

"Tonight is a fabulous capstone to our season. Dress for Dinner has built up an enthusiastic following and we can't wait to see that momentum continue with Ceron," said Thielke, who also serves on the Recipe for Success Foundation board.

Ceron and Fiscus will launch their season on September 24th with a kick-off party at Ceron Salon in Uptown Park from 7:00 until 9:00.

On the warm summer night, over 100 style conscious fans nibbled delectable treats from Barbara McKnight's Catering by Culinaire, sipped champagne and vied for front row seats at the show in Neiman's couture salon. It was a standing room only audience for raconteur extraordinaire, reality star and Neiman Marcus' Senior Fashion Director, Ken Downing, who narrated the show with wit and expertise. Downing enchanted his 100+ audience with delightfully opinionated advice structured around his fall style decrees. The moment they left the runway, enthusiastic fans quickly snapped up models' head-to-toe ensembles. Thirty generous devotees gladly paid an extra \$300 each to join Mr. Downing afterwards for an exclusive dinner. The 3-courses of food art were also created and served by McKnight, with ingredients donated by Whole Foods.

The annual Dress for Dinner series of three seasonal fashion events held in-store at Saks, Neiman's and Tootsies was devised by founding chair Jeff Shell as an affordable, stylishly fun way to support Recipe for Success Foundation's award-winning programs to combat childhood obesity. It has attracted the support of many popular designers, including Naem Khan, Nicole Miller, and Georges Chakra, with runway shows often followed by exclusive Dinners with the Designer. This season saw the launch of "The Fashion Gene Award" at Tootsies. The wildly successful salute to Houston's most stylish mothers and daughters promises to become a coveted annual award.

Board of Directors

Gracie Cavnar, *Founder & President*

Glen Boudreaux, *Secretary*

Frank Steininger, *Treasurer*

Monica Pope, *Chiefs Advisory Board Chair*

Amy Anton

Honi Ann Boudreaux

Cathy Brock

Chris Canetti

Kathryne Castellanos

Bob Cavnar

Linda Clarke

Deborah Duncan

Arvia Few

Karen Garcia

Lucia Hamilton

Laura Jaramillo

Erika Liles

Lisa Mellencamp

Nancy Murray, Dr. P.H., M.A.

Carolyn Roch

Laura Spanjian, Ex Officio

Michael Swail

Claire Cormier Thielke

Stephanie Walker

Kathryn Mosbacher Wheeler

Community Advisory Board

Phyllis Childress Abyad

Patricia Allen, Ed.D.

Elena Buley

Yvonne Cormier, M.D.

Isabel David

Anna Eastman

Mary Gracely

Mimi del Grande

Molly & Ford Hubbard

Melanie Gray & Mark Wawro

Jeanie Haley

Jay Jones

Terry Wayne Jones

Andrea Lazar

Melanie Wilson-Lawson, Dr.P.H.

Beth Madison

Sultana Mangalji

Elena Marks

Ginni Mithoff

Sara Morgan

Roz Pactor

Cynthia Petrello

Karen Pinson

Guyla Pircher

Patty Porter

Stuart Rosenberg

Jeff Shell

Mark Sullivan

Ellen Susman

Mimi Swartz

Rick Terry

Kim Tutcher

Andrea White

Chiefs Advisory Board

Joe Apa

James Ashley

Clive Berkman

Jeff Boudreaux

Garth Blackburn

Scott Castelli

Bryan Caswell

Domenica Catelli

Jason Chaney

Charles Clark

Mariquita Combes

Mark Cox

Neal Cox

Aggie D'Agostino

Staci Davis

Robert del Grande

Michael DeMaggi

Randy Evans

Jeff Everts

Lance Fegan

Giancarlo Ferrara

Garret Fujieda

Chara Gafford

Chris Garcia

Peter Garcia

Greg Gordon

Jason Gould

Jason Graham

Matthew Gray

David Grossman

Mark Holley

Steve Haug

Jared Hunter

Junnajet Hurapan

Anita Jaisinghani

Marcus Jimenez

Elouise Jones

Jonathan Jones

Elliot Kelly

Al King

Michael Kramer

Nicole Livezey

David Luna

Degan Lynn

Melissa Manske

Rebecca Masson

Barbara McKnight

Bruce Molzan

Gary Mularski

Steven Musolf

Armando Palacios

Soren Pedersen

Ryan Pera

Monica Pope

Randy Rucker

Michael Savino

Philippe Schmit

Ellen Schwartz

Jerry Shaw

John Sheely

Chris Shepherd

Pedro Silva

Claire Smith

Ruffy Sulaiman

Dustin Teague

Geoff Tracy

Brendon Treanor

Scott Tyer

Kiran Verma

LJ Wiley

2012/13 season chairs Ceron Gonzalo and Todd Fiscus are already working on taking Dress for Dinner up a notch. They have managed to lure Mark Badgley and James Mishka for their opening show at Saks 5th Avenue on October 23rd. Both designers will be staying after their show for an intimate dinner with premium ticket holders. Ceron, dubbed “Houston’s uberstylist,” is no stranger to the high fashion world, counting Houston celebrities like Phoebe Tudor along with tabloid names such as Renee Fleming and even Gaga as patrons. Co chair Todd Fiscus, an event designer reigning from Dallas, has orchestrated many of Texas’s most elaborate weddings, including Eli Manning’s.

Dress for Dinner fashion shows are \$50 per person and dinners are an additional \$300 per ticket. Tickets are available at www.recipe4success.org or by calling 713-520-0443. Special 10% discounts are available for those who purchase all three events before October 23rd. Mark your calendars: September 24, 2012- Dress for Dinner Kick-off Party at Ceron Salon; October 23, 2012- Saks, Badgley Mischka Show and Dinner with the Designers; February TBA- Neiman Marcus Show and Dinner with the Designers; May 8, 2013- Tootsies, The Fashion Gene Awards and Spring Into Summer Fashion Show with Clifford Pugh.

About Recipe for Success Foundation

Recipe for Success Foundation's *Seed-to-Plate Nutrition Education*™ has taught over 16,000 Houston elementary children how to grow, harvest, and cook their own healthy food. A growing list of 80 high-profile Houston chefs volunteer their time to help. The only initiative in the country of it's scope, the RFS *Seed-to-Plate Nutrition Education*™ program introduces children to the entire cycle of food along with taste and flavor combinations, techniques, and skills that will serve them for a lifetime, and empowers them to prepare healthy meals and snacks for themselves.

After six years, the Foundation's efforts are reaping big rewards. Parents report that their kids are now cooking at home, turning away from foods they have learned are unhealthy, and they display a solid awareness of what healthy eating is all about. Children are surprising themselves by trying, and even liking, vegetables that they would never touch before. And teachers are reporting improved behavior and attention spans in class. More information at www.recipe4success.org

Planned Expansion for Recipe for Success in 2012

In 2012 The Foundation is poised to answer demands from over 200 schools and districts across the country waiting to implement its signature programming. The national deployment of RFS *Seed-to-Plate Nutrition Education*™ is now in the final pilot stage. With S2P Pilot Phase II, RFS is conducting an e-learning S2P Instructor Training and Certification program for teachers at selected elementary schools in the Houston area, Austin, San Antonio, Washington DC and Missoula Montana. Applications for S2P Affiliate Licenses and Instructor Training will be available nationwide in October 2012.



Changing the way our children eat

Eat It! Food Adventures™, a kid's cookbook/adventure story is scheduled for September 1, 2012 release, and a television show of the same name is in pre-production with Houston PBS in preparation for national syndication.

The Recipe for Success is also working on Hope Farms™, an urban agriculture project to support on-site markets and a rolling green market to deliver affordable produce for neighborhoods marooned in "food deserts," job opportunities for urban youth and market growing business incubation opportunities.##

##END##

HIGH RESOLUTION PHOTOS AND FILM FOOTAGE OF EVENTS AND PROGRAMS AVAILABLE