



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Additional Chefs and Other Participants to Join the Fun at 2008 Cookin' for Kids Benefit

FORT WORTH, TX – February 20, 2008 – Kids Who Care, a non-profit international musical theatre company based in Fort Worth, announced additional chefs and other participants who will join the fun at the upcoming Eleventh Annual Cookin' for Kids, Fort Worth's original celebrity chef cook-off benefit. Cookin' for Kids, held on Sunday, March 2 at 5 p.m., is the single largest fundraising event for Kids Who Care each year. During the evening, Celebrity Chefs and Notable Texans team up to support Kids Who Care in a race against the clock. Each team is provided the same cooler full of ingredients, two bunson burners and 45 minutes to create two plates. One plate is delivered to the judges, and the other is auctioned off to the evening's highest bidder.

John David Barrett of Café Art, the new café opening in the Fort Worth Community Arts Center next month, will join the competition. Franson Nwaeze of Chef Point Café in Watauga and Mario Jasso of Tres Joses in Fort Worth will also compete.

Celebrity Chefs competing in the 2008 Cookin' for Kids cook-off are:

- Frederic Angevin, Four Seasons in Las Colinas
- John David Barrett, Café Art in Fort Worth
- Jon Bonnell, Bonnell's Fine Texas Cuisine in Fort Worth
- Deb Cantrell, Brownie Points Personal Chef Service in Fort Worth
- Terry Chandler, Fred's Texas in Fort Worth
- Mario Jasso, El Paseo & Tres Joses in Fort Worth
- Franson Nwaeze, Chef Point Café in Watauga
- Dena Peterson, Café Modern in Fort Worth
- Denise Shavandy, Chef Denise Cooks in Fort Worth
- Michael Thomson, Michael's Restaurant & Ancho Chile Bar in Fort Worth
- Charles Youts, The Classic Café in Southlake

Notable Texans participating in the 2008 Cookin' for Kids cook-off include:

- Pam Minick, former Miss Rodeo America, host of "The American Rancher," and member of the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame and the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame
- Wendy Davis, former Fort Worth City Councilwoman
- Sonny Burgess, country singer and Texas Country Music Hall of Fame member

- Rebecca Miller, NBC5 meteorologist
- Whitney Kane, Texas Brahmas
- Joy Donovan, Fort Worth Star-Telegram columnist
- Dave Lieber, Fort Worth Star-Telegram columnist
- Jody Ulich, President of the Fort Worth and Tarrant County Arts Council
- Joseph Vincelli, jazz saxophonist
- Jamie Adams, Prudential Texas Properties
- Beth Zimmerman, Harris Methodist Foundation
- Sue Parrish, “You Be the Chef” Auction Winner

“Cookin’ for Kids supports an invaluable resource for the youth in our community,” said Karen Vermaire Fox, chairperson for the Eleventh Annual Cookin’ for Kids benefit. “Kids Who Care reaches children of every background and believes in ensemble production, where each and every performer is a vital part of the whole.”

The evening will feature live entertainment by the Kids Who Care Resident Company and silent, big board and live auctions. Auction items include the celebrity chef cook-off plates, a ten-hour recording studio session and professional music video package, an autographed guitar from Billy Bob’s, a private concert with country singer Sonny Burgess, two roundtrip airline tickets on Southwest Airlines, a single batch distiller’s barrel signed by the master distiller at Jack Daniels, a Kids Who Care Resident Company event performance and a Round & Round grow-with-you furniture set by Spirit International.

Sponsors for the event include The Happy Davis Foundation (presenting sponsor), Freese & Nichols, The Ranch Radio Group (VIP party sponsor), The Vineyard at Florence, Ben E. Keith, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Jack Daniels, Reliant Signs, All About Recognitions, Aramark and Altre Media.

Cookin’ for Kids benefits Fort Worth’s Kids Who Care, a non-profit musical theatre organization dedicated to producing confident, caring and creative kids through musical theatre education, performance and leadership training. Karen Vermaire Fox is chairperson for this year’s event, and Kris Davis Leitzman is the honorary chair.

All proceeds from Cookin’ for Kids benefit Kids Who Care and help provide scholarships, youth leadership training and other support that makes Kids Who Care arts education and performances available to children in the community.

The Eleventh Annual Cookin’ for Kids benefit event will take place on Sunday, March 2, 2008 at the Fort Worth Community Arts Center, located in the heart of the Fort Worth Cultural District on the corner of Montgomery and Lancaster, at 1300 Gendy Street. The VIP party begins at 4:00 p.m., and doors open for the main event at 5:00 p.m. VIP party guests are \$100, and main event-only guests are \$50. All proceeds benefit Kids Who Care. A limited number of reserved sponsor tables are still available. For more information, please contact 817.737.5437 or cookin@kidswhocare.org.

About Kids Who Care

Kids Who Care is a non-profit international theatre company based in Fort Worth, Texas that seeks to produce confident, caring and creative kids through leadership training, musical theatre education and performance. The organization began with a pilot in the summer of 1987 under the direction of Deborah Jung, moved to The Scott Theatre in Fort Worth’s Cultural District in 1989 and has evolved into the

non-profit Kids Who Care corporation it is today. Kids Who Care offers professional musical theatre classes, summer musical theatre camps, international cultural exchanges, a touring Resident Company, public performances and more. The core values of the organization include: excellence in artistic development, artistic integrity of kids, leadership roles for kids, financial and cultural diversity and ensemble production. For more information, please visit www.kidswhocare.org.

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High-res photos are available.