

## CELEBRITIES CASH IN CHIPS FOR CHARITY AT GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE'S PLAYING FOR GOOD

## Proceeds from the Second Annual Poker Tournament Benefit the Geffen Playhouse and Determined to Succeed

LOS ANGELES, May 20, 2010 — This weekend's star-studded poker tournament *Playing for Good* at the home of Hank Azaria grossed over \$150,000 for the **Geffen Playhouse**'s education and outreach programs along with the host Azaria's non-profit **Determined to Succeed**. The deep stack no-limit hold 'em tournament sponsored by *Los Angeles* magazine and **Agua Caliente Casino**, **Resort**, **Spa** whittled down 144 players at 16 tables to a final table of nine by the end of the day. The Grand prize winner, acclaimed director **Nick Cassavetes**, won a seat at the **World Series of Poker** and a three night stay at the **Tropicana Las Vegas** complete with meals, limousine ride from the airport and tickets to Tropicana shows.

Other final table members – who played for nearly 11 hours – were **Grant Heslov**, **Mike Sexton**, **Joe Klemash**, **Robert Finkelstein**, **Chris Williams**, **John Murphy**, **Doug Robinson** and **Richard Galletti**. Each of the final table members won a couples massage at the luxurious Beverly Hills Montage Spa and a weekend luxury getaway package at **Agua Caliente Casino**, **Resort**, **Spa** that includes dinner at The Steakhouse at Agua Caliente, two tickets to any event or spa treatments at Sunstone Spa.

Other players included Hollywood notables **Jason Alexander**, **Corey Feldman**, **Brad Garrett**, **Ian Gomez**, **Kevin Pollack** and **J.K. Simmons**. Top brands from all over Los Angeles donated coveted prizes for top players which included:

- A variety of getaways at some of most the luxurious hotels in the world in some of the nation's top destinations including:
  - Five nights at Hilton Moorea Lagoon Resort & Spa complete with a romantic dinner under the stars, daily island breakfast and two south seas spa treatments
  - o Five nights at the Four Season: Maui at Wailea
  - o Three nights with an ocean view at the St.Regis, Princeville in Kauai
  - A Montage Hotel package with two nights at each of the following properties: Montage Beverly Hills, Montage Laguna Beach and Montage Deer Valley
  - o One night in a villa complete with dinner and spa treatments at Pelican Hill Resort
  - Two nights in the namesake suite the La Costa Resort and Spa complete with breakfast, dinner and spa treatments
  - o Two nights at the Lodge at Torrey Pines
  - o One night in the Rock n' Roll Suite at the Hotel Shangri-la
  - A weekend at the Westin Kierland in Scottsdale, Arizona including a round of golf followed by dinner and dessert

- Two nights in the Hollywood Hip Room at Planet Hollywood
- o Two nights at Se San Diego Hotel complete with breakfast and dinner
- An Ebel's Classic Hexagon watch in stainless steel from Westime
- A green quartz and diamond ring and \$1500 in gift cards from Readers Fine Jewelry
- A Silver and diamond pendant from 23<sup>rd</sup> Street Jewelers
- A private spa party for 15-20 friends and a spa basket furnished by fresh
- Two pairs of the hottest new sunglasses from Jil Sanders
- Two Vado HD 3rd Generation cameras and two Sound Blaster Wireless routers from Creative Brand
- One year complimentary membership at Sportsclub LA
- Day of racing Audi's R8 supercar at Infineon Raceway in Sonoma including lunch and one night stay at Carneros Inn provided by Audi of America
- Fit4 LA, A fitness assessment and consultation plus 15 private personal training sessions by Lanre Idewu
- Jewelry by Mixology

But guests didn't need to be dealt a good hand in order to experience a lucky day at Playing for Good. Azaria's backyard was transformed into a tranquil outdoor spa with facials using **fresh** skincare products performed by their skilled aestheticians as well as mini-manicures done by **SpaRitual**. In addition, six massage therapists from the **Montage Hotel** in Beverly Hills roamed the property, providing much needed neck and shoulder rubs to players and guests alike.

Amidst all the pampering, guests were kept well-fed by gourmet food donated by acclaimed local restaurants. sugarFISH had Chef Tom Nozawa serving crab hand rolls and tuna sashimi, the Border Grill food truck pulled up in front of the house will their full menu, Napa Valley Grille and Chef Jaydene's Delectable Creations provided tasty onsite appetizers and Famous Cupcakes satisfied everyone's sweet tooth with tray passed mini-cupcakes.

## ABOUT THE DETERMINED TO SUCCEED

Determined to Succeed is a unique program dedicated to providing an exceptional group of low socio-economic students with comprehensive year-round support. The students are guided from the critical middle school years through high school and the college acceptance process. Our program tutors and mentors these students by empowering them with more confidence, stronger self-esteem, and a better education. For more information, please visit **dtsla.org.** 

## **ABOUT THE GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE**

The Geffen Playhouse has been a hub of the Los Angeles theater scene since opening its doors in 1995. Noted for its intimacy and celebrated for its world-renowned mix of classic and contemporary plays, provocative new works and musicals, the Geffen Playhouse continues to present a body of work that has garnered national recognition. Named in honor of entertainment mogul and philanthropist David Geffen, who made the initial donation to the theater, the company is helmed by Producing Director and President of the Board Gilbert Cates, Artistic Director Randall Arney, Managing Director Ken Novice and Chairman of the Board Frank Mancuso. Proudly associated with UCLA, the Geffen Playhouse welcomes an audience of more than 130,000 each year, and maintains an extensive education and outreach program, designed to engage young people and the community at large in the arts. For more information, please visit **geffenplayhouse.com**.

