

Contact: Diana Baylor
Baylor PR/323-919-9319



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

TASTE OF LADERA, RIPTIDE, TOUCHPOINTE AND LOCAL CELEBS TEAM UP FOR CHARITY WITH A MENU OF FOOD, FUN AND MUSIC

"The 4th Annual Taste of Ladera on May 3, Founder's Park with Special Guest Berlin"

Ladera Ranch, Calif. (April 18, 2008)— Are you hungry for loads of fun? The Taste of Ladera is the perfect place to park your appetite, get your dance moves going and the beverage flowing! On Saturday, May 3 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Founder's Park will transform into the most exhilarating outdoor festival to hit South County featuring a plate full of entertainment with headliner Berlin, plus booths hosted by your favorite celebrities. Platinum Sponsor Riptide Rockin' Sushi & Teppan Grills and Presenting Sponsor TouchPointe, a senior level recruiting and consulting firm based in Ladera Ranch, will deliver an amazing event with proceeds to benefit numerous charities. General admission tickets are \$5.00 and a limited number of VIP pre-sale tickets for \$40, \$50 at the door.

This year's Taste of Ladera has relocated to the spacious Founder's Park and is designed to generate funds for a total of sixteen charitable organizations that dedicate their time to making the community a better place for Orange County. Most recently, Taste of Ladera added the CUSD Foundation (Capo Unified School District), an independent, nonprofit 501(c)(3) dedicated to fundraising for the benefit of all the students in the Capo Unified School District. "It's critical time for our families and teachers affected by the situation," said Stacey Flynn, Executive Director of the Capistrano Unified School District Foundation. "They are cutting 266 teachers from Capo Unified School District alone. Oso Grande, which has 33 teachers on staff, is losing 19 and at Ladera Ranch Elementary of the 35 teachers, 23 are being cut." A campaign has started for funding from parents with a donation of \$400 per child and corporate matches, for more info visit www.cusdfoundation.org.

On top of the many booths scheduled to participate, there will be a number of restaurants that are bridging food and fun! Infusion Restaurant is going high class with its martinis and samples of their most prized dishes. It's "Martinis in the City" with a special appearance by the Real Housewives of Orange County who will be serving up XXX martinis and the signature "Ladera-tini" poured from a towering ice luge. "We are so excited to be a part of such a great event," said Tamra Barney, Ladera Ranch OC Housewife. "We all lead such busy lives with our own careers and commitments, so it's an honor for us to help out, especially in our own back yards."

The fun continues at the Riptide Rockin' Sushi & Teppan Grills booth where award-winning executive sushi chef Ken Cruz and his staff will serve a variety of specialty cut rolls and hand rolls, plus Teppanyaki Grill legend "Budweiser Ken" entertains guests with a show of Sake Bombs and flying shrimp. BeachFire Bar and Grill will be the spot for your favorite beverage offering an assortment of refreshing beer and wine.

If food isn't what you crave, Taste of Ladera has the perfect line-up of entertainment for all ages. Throughout the day's festivities, it's a tribute to Bono with Hollywood U2, The Go Sheilas, Better Chemistry, and of course, a trip down memory lane with Berlin featuring Terri Nunn who's hits include "Take My Breath Away" and "Metro." As a special bonus, the finalist of Ladera's Got Talent will entertain audiences before Berlin and hail the title of "most talented youth" in town.

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Families can also take their kids along the many lanes of vendors and children's activities which feature face painting, gold fish toss, art and music classes, fun temporary tattoos, dunk tang and photo booths. There is a Guitar Hero station sponsored by Howies Game Shack where kids and adults can challenge their favorite tunes for cash and prizes. Also, if green is your favorite color, the first environmentally friendly "Think Green" booth presented by Chaparral Elementary fourth graders offers education and fun. And if shopping is your mood, Taste of Ladera has a number of businesses that have donated specialty and luxury items to the special silent auction presented by the Gavel Group benefiting the Ladera Ranch Education Foundation.

"The community gets so excited to showcase or debut their most prized menus," said Michelle Patterson, event founder. "Last year we had to turn away numerous requests for participation, so this year we've expanded in many areas to accommodate the growth. It's an event where businesses can target thousands and get maximum exposure while donating to a good cause." Patterson, who resides in Ladera Ranch, started the food festival as a vehicle to raise funds for several community nonprofits in need. Her enthusiasm and philanthropy has positioned Taste of Ladera as "a premium event" with support from local eateries, city officials and surrounding cities that border Ladera Ranch.

It's a great mix of food, music and fun with an 80's inspired "rock" theme that you won't wanna miss. Now in its fourth year, Taste has raised almost 100K for a number of charities in the area and this year the event will support The Unforgettables Foundation, The Moms Club of Ladera, The Tinkerbell Guild (CHOC), Laura's House, Alex's Lemonade Stand, The Ladera Education Foundation, CUSD Foundation and Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF).

Taste of Ladera will be held on Saturday, May 3rd, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Founder's Park (28243 Sellas Road North) featuring excitement for everyone, including great entertainment with headlining group Berlin rockin' center stage.

FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE with pick up locations at BeachFire Bar and Grill (25682 Crown Valley Parkway, Ladera Ranch) and Newport Rib Company (27742 Antonio Parkway, Ladera Ranch).

General admission tickets are available in advance for \$5.00 and a limited number of VIP pre-sale tickets for \$40; \$50 at the door (includes front of stage access and private bars for convenience). Advance tickets may be purchased online at www.tasteofladera.com.

Proud sponsors of the Taste of Ladera include: Riptide Rockin' Sushi & Teppan Grills , TouchPointe, Infusion, Ladera Times, Beachfire Bar and Grill, Coto Insurance, Mouse Graphics, One-on-One Personal Training and Avendale Insurance.

Directions to Event: Take 5 Freeway to Crown Valley Parkway. Go East. Make right on Sienna Parkway. Left on Daisy, Left on Avendale.

For complete line up of entertainment, to purchase tickets or booth inquires, please visit www.tasteofladera.com or visit www.myspace.com/tasteofladera.

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Taste of Ladera is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization set up to benefit various local charities and the schools of Ladera Ranch. Since its inception, Taste of Ladera has been able to raise over 100K for a number of charitable organizations and attracted nearly 10,000 attendees. Taste of Ladera is proud of its continuing effort to support education and other nonprofits with the help of generous donors, volunteers and business relationships that unite to produce one grand celebration.