



preventing homelessness
& hunger since 1983

Connections

Aid for AIDS Community E-Newsletter

April 2008

www.aidforaids.net

Dine Out Los Angeles - Our Most Delicious Event!



Simply eat out at a participating restaurant! On Thursday, April 17th, Aid For AIDS will be hosting it's most delicious fundraiser of the year – Dine Out Los Angeles. It's our 14th year of dining out to support AFA, and over 60 restaurants from the greater Los Angeles area have signed up to help prevent homelessness and hunger to those disabled by HIV/AIDS. Restaurants from Downtown, to Echo Park and Silverlake, to Hollywood, West Hollywood, Venice, and Malibu will donate 20% or more of their day's receipts to Aid For AIDS – so no matter what part of town you're in, you'll be able to treat yourself to one meal (or more!) at a nearby restaurant participating in Dine Out Los Angeles.

Thanks to our prize sponsor, Loews Hotels, participating restaurant patrons will also be eligible to win a Grand Prize Getaway: two relaxing nights at [Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel](#) with a daily breakfast buffet and spa treatment for two at Ocean Spa and Fitness Center, or two nights at [Loews Coronado Bay Resort](#) in San Diego with a delicious breakfast for two and \$100 spa gift certificate. In order to enter, guests fill out an entry envelope available at the restaurants on April 17th.

Sandra Lee, host of *Semi-Homemade Cooking* on The Food Network, and internationally acclaimed Life & Style expert, is supporting Aid for AIDS as our Celebrity Chef. Joining her is our highly regarded Los Angeles Honorary Chef Wayne Elias of Mark's Restaurant/Crumble Catering.

This year's honorary committee is made up of prominent figures in the Los Angeles restaurant/dining scene, including David Cooley, Founder of Abbey Food & Bar; Michael Doneff, Vice President of Marketing at SBE Entertainment; Thomas Schoos and Michael Berman of Thomas Schoos Design and O-Bar Restaurant; Sandy Sachs and Robin Gans, owners of Murano Restaurant; Nina del Campo, owner of Casita del Campo, Tom Kaplan and Bill Kohne of Hugo's and DIVE Restaurants; Andrew Andrianos of Astro Burger West Hollywood; Chris Diamond of Marks Restaurant and Crumble Catering; Meredith May of Tasting Panel Magazine; and Larry Maiman, founder of Mani's Bakery Café.

Aid for AIDS also thanks our event sponsors for their wonderful event support — Smirnoff, our Official Spirit Sponsor, and our Official Media Sponsors: Angeleno Magazine, Boulevard Magazine, CBS2, City Skoop, Clout Magazine, Frontiers, Gorgeous Magazine, Graphics Quarter, 97.1 FREE-FM, KCAL9, K-EARTH 101, 980 KFWB, KNX 1070, 94.7 KTWV, LA City Beat, Mann Theatres, the Men's Book, Open Table, and The Tasting Panel.

To see a list of participating restaurants and sponsors, make sure to visit www.dineoutla.org.

Mark Your Calendars For Best In Drag Show 2008!



It's that time of year again...Aid For AIDS' biggest fundraiser, Best in Drag Show, is on it's way! Last month, auditions were held at Plummer Park, which means the 2008 contestants have already been chosen. 2007's Best in Drag Show was our biggest year



Aid For AIDS' Night Of Thanks



Best & Brightest Winner "Best Volunteer" Harry Cohen with Steve Rukhman, Euphoria Spa

Even though the sky was gray and the ground was wet, a little bit of rain didn't stop Aid For AIDS' annual Best and Brightest party, held on February 21st in West Hollywood, at the home of Dr. Dale Prokupek, a long-time supporter and friend of AFA. Volunteers, sponsors, and major donors filled the beautiful home, sipping on cocktails generously provided by Smirnoff, and snacking on delicious hors d'oeuvres provided by Crumble Catering, funded by Mike Waskom of Auxilium Pharmaceuticals, makers of Testim 1%.



Patrick Rush and "Best Supporter" Mark Honzel

The assistance Aid For AIDS receives ranges from simple office tasks and special event support to large amounts of sponsorship dollars, with everything in between. Every bit of help makes a difference. With the much-valued assistance from our loyal sup-



month, auditions were held at Plummer Park, which means the 2008 contestants have already been chosen. 2007's Best in Drag Show was our biggest year yet - over 1,800 audience members attended last year's show at the Orpheum Theatre. Over \$340,000 was raised in 2007! So mark your calendars for Sunday, October 19th and watch for ticket information, because Best in Drag Show 2008 will be here before you know it!



Bindi Dundat,
Miss Best In Drag Show 2008

Mr. LA Leather Gives Back To AFA Ross Wood, AFA Supporter, Wins!

Ten contestants vied for the coveted title of Mr. LA Leather 2008 at the Miyako Hotel in Little Tokyo on March 29th. Sponsored by the Los Angeles Leather Coalition to facilitate communication and mutual understanding among the different segments of the leather affiliated community, as well as promote community service, the contest encouraged each contender to choose a charity of his choice to align with. Luckily, the contestant who chose Aid For AIDS as one of his charities, Ross Wood, Mr. Regiment 2008, won! We want to thank Ross for thinking of Aid For AIDS, and congratulate him on his victory! We look forward to the support and fundraising he will provide to AFA during his reign as Mr. Los Angeles Leather.

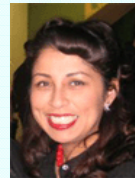


Ross Wood, Mr. LA Leather
2008 with Danny Levy,
AFA Development Manager

Aid For AIDS' Volunteer Voice

Greetings, volunteers!

Special thanks to our wonderful volunteer, Harry Cohen, who helped with our initial mailing for Dine Out Los Angeles. In addition I would also like to thank two new volunteers, Elsa Martinez and Joyce Wong, who graciously gave their time to assist us with our annual Best and Brightest Thank You Party in which we honored those who went above and beyond for AFA in 2007.



Yesenia Navarro,
AFA Special Events
Coordinator

Dine Out Los Angeles is quickly approaching and we would love to have more volunteers jump on board. Be a representative for Aid for AIDS for our one day fundraising event, Dine Out Los Angeles, where, on Thursday April 17th, participating restaurants agree to give 20% or more of their day's proceeds to Aid For AIDS. Restaurant volunteers will be responsible for visiting one of our participating restaurants on the day of the event and answer any questions that diners or restaurant staff may have about AFA or Dine Out Los Angeles. The event is meant to be a fun way to raise funds, so you are encouraged to invite everyone you know to dine at your restaurant that day. If you are friendly and outgoing, and love dining out, this is a terrific opportunity for you. Please check out our DOLA website www.dineoutla.for more information on this event.

LA PRIDE will be from June 6 through June 8th. Since this year marks the 25th year anniversary for Aid For AIDS, it would be great to have a big group of people march with us down the parade route on Sunday, June 8th. It would surely make it a memorable year! Assistance will be needed with various tasks throughout the day of the parade. However if you would just like to walk down the parade route with us, that also would be great. The more, the merrier!

If you would like to become a volunteer or have any questions on a particular event, please contact me at 323-656-1107, ext. 2119 or at ynavarro@aidforaids.net

Ralph's Requires Renewal



A simple two minutes will send a stream of dollars to AFA!

tween. Every bit of help makes a difference. With the much-valued assistance from our loyal supporters throughout the year, Aid For AIDS is able to provide our clients with the necessities needed to prevent homelessness and hunger in Los Angeles.



Danny Levy, AFA Board President
Brenda Goodman, and "Best Supporter"
John Frey

As done in past years, specific individuals who went above and beyond in their generosity and volunteering to the organization were recognized by Aid For AIDS. Awards were given out, and short speeches were made by AFA staff members Terry Goddard II, Executive Director, Danny Levy, Development Manager, and Yesenia Navarro, Special Events Coordinator, honoring these individuals.



Dale Prokupek, Brenda Goodman, and Mike
Waskom

This year, recipients included John Frey, "Best Supporter," long time donor and event host who also was recognized for his previous support as long time director of Battle of the Tiara; Jimmy Cuomo, "Best Supporter," set designer for Best In Drag Show for the last 5 years along with his company Art Boy Inc.; Mark Honzel, "Best Supporter," a major underwriter for Best in Drag Show who has helped pull in some of our biggest celebrity judges; Chris Gianella, "Best Supporter," publisher of Riviera Magazine, former publisher of Front Desk, former associate publisher of Angeleno Magazine; and Harv Cohen. "Best Volun-



A simple two minutes will send a stream of dollars to AFA!

Many AFA supporters may think their grocery purchases direct Ralph's to donate to AFA, but a renewal requirement last year eliminated everyone from the AFA list! Please take a couple of minutes to send in your Ralph's card number and registered contact information. By doing so, you'll help AFA by simply by shopping at Ralph's.

Ralph's gives a portion of their revenue from individual shoppers to the non-profit organization selected by the customer. AFA is grateful for your participation – this has been a simple and steady way to generate support for AFA client assistance, but has dropped significantly this quarter because of the renewal requirement. In fact, the revenue was so low that they are holding back the check until next quarter!

Register at Ralph's website [here](#), Aid for AIDS' NPO# is 80767 - or email amccarthy@aidforaids.net with the following information:

- Ralph's Club Card Number
- First and Last Name
- Address (Street, City, State, Zip)
- Telephone Number

Connections, AFA's E-Newsletter, is written, edited, and produced by the AFA Communications Office. Although AFA makes every effort to confirm details, it is not responsible for omissions and event dates that change after publication. We value your support and regret any omissions or errors. For more information, contact Editor Alison McCarthy, amccarthy@aidforaids.net. Aid For AIDS, 8235 Santa Monica Blvd. #200, West Hollywood, CA 90046. www.aidforaids.net

magazine, former publisher of Front Desk, former associate publisher of Angeleno Magazine; and Harry Cohen, "Best Volunteer," a major donor and great office volunteer. View pictures [here](#).

Los Angeles Pride, June 2008



Los Angeles Pride Weekend is set for June 6th - 8th. As in past years, Aid For AIDS will be marching in the LA Pride Parade with staff, volunteers, and our Best In Drag Show winner of 2007, Miss Bindi Dundat. Keep your eyes peeled as we celebrate the supportive community of Greater Los Angeles. If you're interested in volunteering in the parade, contact Yesenia, AFA's Special Events Coordinator at ynavarro@aidforaids.net.