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## **Natasha Bedingfield to Perform at Paul Mitchell Schools' 2012 FUNraising Gala in Beverly Hills**

With their annual FUNraising campaign drawing to a close, Paul Mitchell Schools are gearing up for a spectacular celebration featuring Grammy Award nominee **Natasha Bedingfield** and a galaxy of celebrity superstars including **Betty White**, **Marie Osmond**, **Fran Drescher**, **Kristin Bauer**, and **Kathy Buckley**.

Supporters of the 2012 campaign also include **Snoop Dogg**. The legendary rapper, singer, record producer, and actor teamed up with Paul Mitchell CEO and Chairman **John Paul DeJoria** to record a special video message of thanks and encouragement for the students and staff about the FUNraising campaign (<http://youtu.be/IEjAmXGho4k>).

Hosted by Paul Mitchell Schools Dean and Cofounder **Winn Claybaugh** and entertainer **Marie Osmond**, the FUNraising Gala takes place May 7 at the renowned Beverly Hilton, home of the Golden Globes and other spectacular red-carpet affairs. Funded entirely by sponsor donations, the Gala will reveal this year's fundraising totals and top fundraisers while celebrating all 100 schools in the nationwide network for their efforts in the annual three-month campaign.

In the past eight years, students and staff from the rapidly growing network of Paul Mitchell cosmetology schools have raised over \$6 million for worthwhile organizations. Their grassroots, dollar-by-dollar "FUNraisers" include everything from car washes and cut-a-thons to glamorous runway hair and fashion shows that give the budding stylists a chance to show their skills. This year, the network plans to top last year's record (\$1.7 million) with an ambitious goal of \$2 million.

"In the nine-year existence of the Andrew Gomez Dream Foundation and our eight years of FUNraising, every dollar raised has gone directly to the charities," Claybaugh says. "We have no overhead: no salaries, no rent, and no utilities. Our accountants, attorneys, and board of directors all donate their time. Even the money raised through our FUNraising Gala ticket sales goes directly to the charities, thanks to our generous sponsors who cover the costs. Most important, our FUNraising expenses are little to none: the cost incurred in raising the \$6 million has been just \$107,255—an amazingly low 1.78%, compared to the

national average of 25%. In other words, we don't spend \$100 trying to raise \$200!"

This year's recipients include Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, Morris Animal Foundation, the Magic Johnson Foundation, the Gary Sinise Foundation, Fran Drescher's Cancer Schmancer Foundation, Food 4 Africa, Best Friends Animal Society, No Limits, and the schools' own nonprofit Andrew Gomez Dream Foundation.

To learn more about Paul Mitchell Schools' FUNraising activities, celebrity partners, and charities please visit [www.paulmitchellschoolsfundraising.org](http://www.paulmitchellschoolsfundraising.org).

### **About Paul Mitchell Schools**

At Paul Mitchell Schools, we believe that education is an adventure and the learning experience needs to be fun. Our instructors—we call them “learning leaders”—are trained to draw out the artist in every student and prepare them to compete in the real world. Through our annual “FUNraising” campaign, we've raised and donated millions of dollars in support of many charitable causes. We've built homes with Habitat for Humanity, fed thousands of African orphans, and supported the victims of AIDS, breast cancer, homelessness, abuse, and hundreds of other causes.

Established 30 years ago, the Paul Mitchell network is nearly 100,000 salons strong and in 81 countries worldwide; every professional hairdresser knows the Paul Mitchell name. Now, with the arrival of Paul Mitchell Schools, we've taken the world of cosmetology education by storm! Visit [www.paulmitchell.edu](http://www.paulmitchell.edu) to learn more.

### **About the Supported Charities**

**CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK HOSPITALS** create miracles by funding medical care, research, and education that saves and improves the lives of 17 million children each year. Countless individuals, organizations, and media partners unite with the 170 Children's Miracle Network Hospitals to help sick and injured kids in local communities.

**MORRIS ANIMAL FOUNDATION** helps animals enjoy longer, healthier lives. We advance health and welfare research that protects, treats, and cures companion animals, horses, and wildlife worldwide.

**THE MAGIC JOHNSON FOUNDATION** supports educational empowerment through HIV/AIDS awareness, college access, and digital literacy.

**THE GARY SINISE FOUNDATION** helps build custom-designed “smart homes” for our nation’s most severely wounded warriors while supporting active duty service members, veterans, first responders, and the children and families of our fallen.

**CANCER SCHMANCER MOVEMENT**, founded by Fran Drescher, is an education and advocacy organization dedicated to saving lives through prevention and early detection of cancer. By empowering ourselves and the people we love to become medical consumers, listen to our bodies, ask the right questions of our doctors, and seek second opinions, we can prevent cancer and, if we still end up with it, detect cancer in its earliest stages.

**NO LIMITS** offers a one-of-a-kind national theatre group and an after-school educational program that enhance the confidence and communication skills for low-income deaf children, as well as provides underserved deaf children with the leadership and academic skills to be college ready.

**BEST FRIENDS ANIMAL SOCIETY** helps with animal rescue, disaster response, and public education, working with humane groups, individuals, and communities to set up spay/neuter, shelter, foster, and adoption programs.

**FOOD 4 AFRICA** is committed to supplying at least one vitamin- and mineral-enriched meal each day to the children of South Africa, where the HIV/AIDS epidemic has left countless numbers of orphaned children and more than a million preschool children do not receive sufficient food.

**THE ANDREW GOMEZ DREAM FOUNDATION** was founded to honor a successful Paul Mitchell School graduate whose struggle against mental illness ended tragically in suicide. The foundation helps disadvantaged or hard-hit cosmetologists and cosmetology-related enterprises. Funds have provided educational opportunities, hurricane relief, and support in the fights against breast cancer, domestic violence, and other destroyers of self-esteem.