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FASHION WEEK FINALE PARTY

HOSTED BY FASHION ICON NOLÉ MARIN, SOCIAL LIFE MAGAZINE'S DEVORAH ROSE, PROJECT RUNWAY WINNER IRINA SHABAYEVA, B NUTRITIOUS FOUNDER BROOKE ALPERT, AND MACDELLA COOPER. SPONSORED BY GREYLOCK CAPITAL

FEBRUARY 19, 2010 | 6pm-10pm

New York, February 2010—On Friday February 19, 2010, MacDella Cooper, founder of the **MacDella Cooper Foundation**, is teaming up with fashion icon **Nolé Marin**, *Social Life Magazine* Editor-in-Chief **Devorah Rose**, *Project Runway* winner **Irina Shabayeva** and *B Nutritious* founder **Brooke Alpert** to co-host a night of music and glamour to benefit orphan education in Africa. An exclusive runway show by breakthrough designer **Melani Von Alexandria** will kick off a live text auction. Sponsored by **Greylock Capital**, the event will be held at Nikki Beach Midtown in Manhattan and will feature a silent auction and tunes by the hottest and most fashionable DJ in NYC, DJ Tyger Lilly.

"Fashion Week is an exciting time in New York," said MacDella Cooper. "Everyone comes together to admire the work of the world's most talented designers, attend amazing parties, and indulge in the city's best restaurants. It's during this time I think about the amazing children in Liberia that our Foundation supports. These orphan and abandoned children are so incredible, yet they have so little. With the great people we have assembled for this event, we hope to raise enough funds to not only put these children in a position where they don't have to worry about not having clothes to wear, but to provide them with a first-class education at the upcoming MCF Academy."

MCF supporters include a range of celebrities, business owners, and philanthropists such as New York State Governor David A. Paterson, actor Matt Dillon, Four Seasons co-owners Julian Nicollini and Alex Von Bidder, actress Michelle Trachtenberg, co-founder of Microsoft Paul Allen, deputy editor of *Glamour* magazine, Lauren Brody, Brook Alpert, founder of B Nutritious, Steve Lewis from *Black Book* magazine and Barry Segal of the Segal Family Foundation, among many others.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets start at \$50 and are available for purchase on the MCF website at www.macdellacooper.org.

THE MACDELLA COOPER FOUNDATION

In 2004, MacDella Cooper founded the MacDella Cooper Foundation, a 501(c)3 international charitable organization devoted to educating Liberian youth. With a special emphasis on orphans and abandoned children, MCF provides these children with educational opportunities, along with providing basic necessities and resources for improved living. The goal of MCF is to educate as many Liberian children as possible and shape these children into future leaders of Liberia.

THE MCF ACADEMY

The MacDella Cooper Foundation Academy is the first school dedicated to orphan and abandoned children in post-war Liberia to be founded by a female refugee of the civil war. The Academy is scheduled to open in the fall of 2010 and will ultimately house and educate 200 children. Acclaimed architect Winka Dubbeldam, principal of the world-renowned firm Archi-Tectonics in New York, designed the sustainable MCF Academy, which will be built by GBS-Liberia, LLC. Liberia's president, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, the first female president in Africa, praised plans for the Academy, upon meeting MacDella in November 2009.

FOUNDER MACDELLA COOPER

Born in 1977 in Monrovia, Liberia, MacDella Cooper is one of thousands of refugees of the Liberian Civil War. At the age of 12, Cooper's home was raided by rebels and her stepfather was captured, never to return. Her mother was away in the United States at the time, so MacDella was left to fend for herself with her two teenage brothers. The children escaped their town, dodging bullets and passing dead bodies on the roadside. It took them six months to get to a refugee camp on the Ivory Coast, and another three years for their immigration papers to come through, but finally in 1993, Cooper and her brothers were reunited with their mother in Newark, NJ. Cooper embraced her new life in the United States and went on to get a degree from The College of New Jersey. She moved to New York City to work in fashion and modeling, with her pictures appearing in *Glamour* magazine. In 2004 she started the MacDella Cooper Foundation as a way to give back to the orphaned children of post-war Liberia. Today, Cooper has become known as Liberia's Angel, attracting international investors to Liberian markets and creating awareness of the plight of Liberian children through her humanitarian initiatives.

For press inquires or to interview MacDella Cooper, please contact Nicola Parish of Parish Public Relations at (718) 369-7760 or Nicola@parishpr.com. To learn more about the MacDella Cooper Foundation, please visit www.macdellacooper.org.

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