

# CHAIRMAN LETTER

Please join me in participating in the 10th Annual "Houston Highlights, Celebration of the Chefs." We have over 25 chefs participating in the event. Becoming a sponsor or table host gives you the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of Texas children and their families who struggle with neurofibromatosis every day.

As a sponsor or table host you will enjoy a gourmet four-course dinner for 10 at one of the area's finest restaurants. Your meal includes an appetizer, salad, entrée and dessert, with both red and white wine.

It is my privilege to be this year's chairperson for Houston Highlights. As a mother of a child with Neurofibromatosis, I know firsthand how this disorder can affect the family. My son Tyrese struggles with facial tumors, this common manifestation, coupled with the fact that there is no treatment or cure, has been hard to bear. However, the Texas Neurofibromatosis Foundation has been a godsend in our hour of need. I cannot express my gratitude to you for making a difference in the lives of the more than 8,000 patients throughout Texas who are afflicted with this disease.

By joining us as a sponsor or table host, you will be invited to attend the pre-party on Tuesday, April 22, 2008, at Hotel Derek. The night will feature silent and live auctions, samplings from a few participating chefs, entertainment and spirits. Please take this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of Texas children and their families.

For further details regarding this event, please contact Carolyn Reber, Program Coordinator at 972-868-7943 or email at [Carolyn@texasnf.org](mailto:Carolyn@texasnf.org).

Best regards,



Ishma Blackwell  
2008 Houston Highlights Chairman



*Ishma* Blackwell  
Realtor<sup>®</sup>  
*Making dreams come true*

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TEXAS  
NEUROFIBROMATOSIS  
FOUNDATION

**SUSAN JOHNSON**  
PRESIDENT

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**CAROLYN REBER**  
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DALLAS, TX 75201

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# EVENT FACT SHEET

**PRE-PARTY:** Hotel Derek  
**DATE:** Tuesday, April 22, 2008  
**TIME:** 6:30–7:30 p.m. cocktails; 7:30–10:30 p.m. party  
**DINNER:** At participating restaurants anytime between April 22 and June 30

This pre-party will be accompanied by live music, hors d'œuvres from some of Houston's finest chefs and live and silent auctions. This event will then be followed by an opportunity to attend one of over 25 restaurants between April 22, 2008, and June 30, 2008, at your convenience.

**PRE-PARTY INDIVIDUAL TICKET PRICE:** \$75

You also have the opportunity to become a table host. Each of the participating chefs will create a four-course gourmet dinner for 10 at their restaurant. The dinner includes an appetizer, salad, main entrée of chef's choice, dessert and wine (wine provided by Texas NF or restaurant if they choose). Gratuity included. If you become a table host by purchasing a dinner for 10 at one of the 25 participating restaurants, your dinner will be able to be used between April 22, 2008, and June 30, 2008, on a mutually agreed upon date between the Executive Chef and you.

**DINNER FOR 10 OF YOUR PRIVATE GUESTS:** \$1,500 (includes 10 pre-party tickets)

## HISTORY

In 1994, Patrick Minarovich and Laura Kennedy brought to the Texas NF Foundation a unique idea to celebrate local chefs while helping to find a cure for Neurofibromatosis. David Holben was the Co-Founder of Dining Out In Dallas. Two years later the Texas NF Foundation approached Jari and Tarry Watkins with a similar concept for the Houston market. With the help of their brother Charles Watkins, executive chef of the former Sierra Grill, Jari and Tarry were able to successfully incorporate another event into the busy Houston charity scene.

## 2006–07 HOUSTON HIGHLIGHTS PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS

17 • Arcodoro Ristorante Italiano • Bistro Moderne • Crapitto's Cucina Italiana • Crostini • Carrabba's Indika • Joyce's Seafood & Steaks • Kiran's • Mockingbird Bistro • Noe Restaruant • Olivette Ouisie's Table • Picho • Ra Sushi • Rainbow Lodge • The Raven Grill • Sabor • Shade Spencer's for Steaks and Chops • Sullivan's Steakhouse • Taste of Texas • The Capital Grille The Courses at the Art Institute • Zula

### CHAIRMAN

Ishma Blackwell  
Keller Williams

### HOST CHEF

Steve Haug  
Del Frisco's Double  
Eagle Steakhouse

### HOST CHAIR

Reggie Bibbs

### AUCTION CHAIR

Elizabeth Bertrand

### JUNIOR CHEF

Tyrese Blackwell

# SPONSORSHIP CARD

## KICKOFF PARTY INDIVIDUAL TICKET: \$75

### CORPORATE SPONSOR: \$3,000

1 table for 10 at restaurant of choice\*  
10 tickets to kickoff party  
Name recognized in print and electronic advertisements  
Name displayed at event  
Name recognized in program

### INDIVIDUAL SPONSOR: \$1,500

1 table for 10 at restaurant of choice\*  
10 tickets to kickoff party  
Name displayed at event  
Name recognized in program

\*Restaurant assignments are based on sponsorship level, the date your payment is received and restaurant availability. Some restaurants may have other restrictions or specifications. Please contact our office for more information.

Name: (Please Print)

(Name of firm or individual to be used for sponsor listing in the program)

Contact Name:

Address:

City:

State:

ZIP Code:

Phone: ( )

Fax: ( )

E-mail:

Signature:

I / we prefer **NOT** to be listed in any publications

Check enclosed in the amount of: \$

Or charge my credit card in the amount of: \$

Credit card (MC, Visa, AMEX) number:

Exp. Date:

<sup>†</sup>Security Code:

<sup>†</sup>Security code is located on the back of MC & Visa card. AMEX code is on the front.

I/we cannot attend but would like to make a donation in support of NF families in the amount of: \$

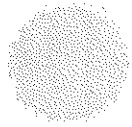
Please make checks payable to: Texas NF Foundation

Mail to: Texas NF Foundation, c/o Houston Highlights, 1717 Main Street, Suite 1800, Dallas, TX 75201

Main: 972-868-7943 Fax: 972-868-7949

Secure online payments can be made at: [texasnf.org/how\\_to\\_help.php](http://texasnf.org/how_to_help.php)

CELEBRATION OF THE CHEFS  
**HOUSTON**  
2008 highlights



Chairman  
Ishma Blackwell  
Keller Williams

January 30, 2008

Host Chef  
Steve Haug  
Del Frisco's Double Eagle  
Steakhouse

Dear Sir/Madam:

Host Chair  
Reggie Bibbs

I am writing on behalf of Neurofibromatosis (NF) and our annual "**Houston Highlights, A Celebration of the Chefs**" charity event. For those of you who are not familiar with Neurofibromatosis (NF), it is a genetic disorder that causes the uncontrolled growth of tumors along the nervous system. These tumors can result in terrible disfigurement, deformity, deafness, blindness, brain tumors, cancer and death. **One of every 4,000 babies is born with NF** - more than those affected by Cystic Fibrosis or most forms of Muscular Dystrophy combined. **NF is equally common in men and women, and in every racial and ethnic group. NF currently has no prevention and no cure.**

Auction Chair  
Elizabeth Bertrand

Junior Chef  
Tyrese Blackwell

Thirty of Houston's finest restaurants will help to raise money for the Texas Neurofibromatosis Foundation for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual "Houston Highlights." This culinary event is unique and gives each executive chef the opportunity to display his/her talents without ever leaving the kitchen. Each chef will design a special menu for a table of ten at his/her restaurant consisting of an appetizer, soup or salad, entrée and dessert. These dinners will then be auctioned off in our live and silent auction and pre-sold to our sponsors. This pre-party and auction will be held at Hotel Derek on Tuesday, April 22, 2008.

Committee  
Elizabeth Bertrand  
Reggie Bibbs  
Ishma Blackwell  
Lou Congelio  
Cindy Hahn  
Aida Jerome  
Susan Johnson  
Katherine Jones  
Carran Lane  
Randi Stott

I realize that you receive hundreds of requests for donations throughout the year. However, we are requesting your help in obtaining items for our silent and live auction. We would greatly appreciate your generosity through the donation of goods or services.

Benefiting  
The Texas  
Neurofibromatosis  
Foundation  
1717 Main Street Suite 1800  
Dallas, Texas 75201

If you would like to participate, please fill out the enclosed donor agreement form and return it and the item to the address listed on the bottom of the form. For additional information regarding NF or the event, please call Carolyn Reber at 972-868-7943. Thank you very much for all of your help in making this event a success.

Direct: 972.868.7943  
Fax: 972.868.7949

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth Bertrand*  
Auction Chairman  
2008 Houston Highlights

[www.texasnf.org](http://www.texasnf.org)

Enclosure

CELEBRATION OF THE CHEFS  
**HOUSTON**  
2008 highlights

Auction Donor Form

*Please Print or Type*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Donation:     Item  Service  
                                  Gift Certificate  
                                  Other

Name of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_  
(As it should be listed in acknowledgement)

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone:            (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax:                (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIPTION OF DONATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VALUE** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Required field-Market Rate)

Please return by: March 31, 2008  
Please make a copy for tax purposes  
**Form and donation item can be mailed to:**

**Texas Neurofibromatosis Foundation**  
C/o Little Patooties  
Attn: Katherine Jones  
2608 Westheimer  
Houston, Texas 77098  
972-868-7943/ FAX 972-868-7949  
carolyn@texasnf.org  
A 501(C)(3) Charity – Tax ID# 74-2138345