



# SPIRIT OF GENEROSITY



A crowning achievement. Me to becomes Miss Nevada 2004.

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ECF combines three things I am so passionate about: scholarship, education, and mentorship. The mentorship aspect really makes us unique. Students meet one-on-one with industry leaders at least once a month, creating a support system to ensure their academic and professional success. The students think it's cool that they can call a vice

president of food and beverage on their cell phone. We've had students who struggled with their accounting homework and were connected with the CFO of Mirage to benefit from that real-world knowledge.

About 90 percent of our students are first-generation college students, so they are not always able to rely on family members to help them with homework and projects. That's where we come in. One student said it best: 'There's a thin line between family and ECF.' We have a 100 percent success rate at placing our graduates at the mid-management level. We have former students doing incredible things in the community, and then they come back to mentor our current students. It really is similar to being a family in that you're in it for life. We've selected our ECF scholarship recipients for next year and will announce them at our May board meeting at the Flamingo.

The media may label today's youth as 'the video game generation,' but I have hope. Young people are ambitious, focused, philanthropic, and civic-minded. They give back because they were given so much. They know they have that obligation. That's what I get from them—the idea that the future is going to be OK because we're leaving it in capable hands. They inspire me and teach me every day." 702-932-5098; ecflv.com V

# Charity Register

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE

# CELEBRITY POKER TOURNAMENT

Event: Enjoy a friendly game of no-limit Texas Hold 'Em and spectacular raffle prizes alongside celebrities and poker pros to benefit Opportunity Village. \$300 buy-in.

Details: April 7, 1 pm, Caesars Palace Poker Room, 702-880-4096; opportunityvillage.org

### GOVERNOR'S BLACK TIE INVITATIONAL

Event: In honor of the Fletcher Jones family of fine dealerships,

Governor Brian Sandoval, along with Garry Goett of Southern Highlands, hosts a weekend affair to benefit a variety of charities throughout Southern Nevada. Last year's Invitational raised nearly \$800,000.

**Details:** April 12-14, Southern Highlands Golf Club, 702-263-1000

### TAKING OFF THE MASK

Event: The Hands of Comfort Foundation hosts its second annual gala and masquerade ball, hosted by Patrina Wisdom, to raise funds for suicide awareness and prevention for those affected by sudden trauma and emotional distress.

**Details:** April 28, Meet Las Vegas, 233 S. Fourth St.; handsofcomfortfoundation.org

### GIRLS NIGHT OUT

Event: Join Dana Sporn and Friends of the Shade Tree at its 10th annual Girls Night

Out benefit to support the shelter for physically abused and homeless women and children.

**Details:** May 3, 6:30 pm, Hyde at Bellagio; friendsoftheshadetree.net

## RACE FOR THE CURE

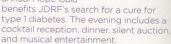
**Event:** Run or walk (or just sponsor someone who does) in this 5K race to

raise funds for breast cancer treatment and research, organized by the Susan G. Komen for the Cure organization.

**Details:** May 5, Downtown Las Vegas at the Fremont Street Experience; komensouthernnevada.org

### JDRF'S HOPE GALA

Event: Honoring Mandalay Bay executive Bill Hornbuckle, the annual Hope Gala



Details: May 11, Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino, 702-732-4794; jdrflv.org

### THE HEART BALL

Event: Enjoy an evening in old Las Vegas and celebrate survival at the American Heart Association's annual fundraising event benefiting research, public education, and community programs.

Details: May 19, The Mirage Hotel & Casino, 702-367-1366; Ivheartball.org

## HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN GALA

Event: Join more than 500 guests to celebrate and support the nation's largest civil rights organization working to achieve equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans.

Details: May 19, 6 рм, Wynn Las Vegas; hrc.org

### PARTY WITH A PURPOSE

Event: Co-chaired by UNLV's Coach Dave Rice, the American Cancer Society's

Cancer Society's
Coaches vs. Cancer fundraiser will
feature an in-house basketball court
where fans can compete against their
favorite coaches and past players in a
Hot Shot Shootout Challenge

Details: May 20, 5 pm, Bellagio; cancer.org



