



For Immediate Release

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October 26, 2007

CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY'S HALLOWEEN BALL RAISES \$900,000 FOR CENTRAL PARK

By far the most glamorous way to celebrate the spookiest day of the calendar, the **Central Park Conservancy's 12th Annual Halloween Ball** on **Wednesday, October 24** lived up to its reputation with fantastic costumes, delicious cocktails, delectable dining, and dancing. Hosted under a beautiful white tent in **Central Park's Rumsey Playfield**, the event's "Visions" theme came alive with clairvoyant palm readers and crystal balls. Dramatic draperies, spider webs, and a blue hue transposed mystical mayhem – all the brainchild of Frank Alexander NYC design. The menu, crafted by Sonnier & Castle, featured Pumpkin soup, braised beef short rib with German potatoes, and Death by Chocolate for dessert. The signature Grey Goose Peartini was the cocktail hour favorite.

Guests including **Ian Smith, Nancy and Dan Paduano, Eleanore Kennedy, Annabel Vartanian**, and **Kristian Laliberte** mingled with co-chairs **Suzanne and Robert Cochran, Fiona and Eric Rudin** and junior co-chairs **Susan Shin, Dawne Marie Grannum** and **Coralie Charriol Paul**.

Stylist **Phillip Bloch**, event chairs **Suzanne and Bob Cochran**, and Food Network Star **Sandra Lee** judged the costume contest, which was emceed by WABC's Accu-weather anchor **Lee Goldberg**. The judges chose **Katherine Cohen Larretche**, dressed as an *Astronut* for Best Female costume, and **Brett T. Graham**, who was a *Chick Magnet*, as Best Male costume. **Margie and Michael Dame**, who were dressed as *Bugsy Siegel and Dame* won for Best Couple. The clever team of **Donald Smith, Paula Smith, Julie Smith, Laura Smith, Gloria Schaffer, Tom Winner, Ethan Brook, Barbara Augenblick, Cal Culver, and Carmen Culver** were awarded Best Group prize for arriving as a deck of *Tarot Cards*. Winning costumes were awarded fabulous prizes from Bulgari, The St. Regis, Tumi, and Krug Champagne.

The Central Park Conservancy's mission is to restore, manage, and preserve Central Park, in partnership with the public, for the enjoyment of present and future generations.

The Central Park Conservancy is a private, not-for-profit organization founded in 1980 that manages Central Park under a contract with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation. Thanks to the generosity of many individuals, corporations, foundations, and the City of New York, the Conservancy has invested more than \$450 million to date into the Park making it a model for urban parks worldwide. The Conservancy provides 85% of Central Park's \$25 million annual operating budget and is responsible for all basic care of the Park. Visit www.centralparknyc.org for more information.

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