



MARCH 19, 2011

PRESS RELEASE

ream Makers Youth Foundation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 17, 2011 MEDIA CONTACT: 5 Star Relations, 404-530-9394 or Media@5starrelations.com

Local Celebrities and Paralympians to participate in 7th Annual Celebrity Wheelchair Basketball Jam Able-bodied celebrities and wheelchair athletes team up to improve community awareness about the need for adapted sports programs.

Smyrna, Ga – Able-bodied celebrities and wheelchair athletes team up on the evening of March 19th, from 7 – 9pm as Dream Makers Youth Foundation collaborates with Energy Fitness of America to host its 7th Annual Celebrity Wheelchair Basketball Jam at Campbell Middle School in Smyrna. This exhilarating game of wheelchair basketball is a fundraising event open to the public, to raise awareness about the importance of healthy lifestyles and sport—for both typically developing and disabled individuals.

Paralympians Gavin Cloy, Karin Korb, and Jessica Galli will be among the myriad celebrities to participate in this year's event. Other celebrity participants include: Mark Selbee (World Champion Kickboxer), Alasia Ballard (American's Next Top Model), Fred Williams (Assistant Coach, Atlanta Dream), Jasha Balcom (MLB—Chicago Cubs), Renaldo Nehemiah (Celebrity Stylist), Princess (Rapper—Crime Mob), Jerry Clark (Jerry Clark Foundation), Krystin McCauley (North Carolina TV Personality), and El Jefe & Shafee (Radio Personalities--Project 9-6-1). Athletes from Clark Atlanta University will also be participating.

Event sponsors include: Atlanta Thrashers Foundation, Speedway Children's Charities, Cobb EMC, Coca-Cola, Powerade, Hot 107.9, Dreamworks Children's Therapy Network, King Treat, Victory H2O, 5-Star Relations, Hot Dog Factory, Handicapped Driver Services, Shepherd Center, Henry County Parks & Recreation, and Print-N-Signs

The event will include a fast-paced and competitive game of wheelchair basketball with local celebrities playing in loaner chairs with and against disabled athletes. Along with the game there will be food, fun, music and other activities, including special guest performances. Funds raised from this event will help Dream Makers Youth Foundation continue to provide opportunities for disabled youth to stay active and live healthy lifestyles. Tickets are \$7 at the door; group discounts are available.

Dream Makers Youth Foundation is excited about hosting this year's event. "This event changes the lives of everyone who participates and spectates" says Dream Makers Youth Foundation's President and Founder, Nikki Wilson. "Through this event, we will be able to improve community levels of respect for the disabled, and increase community awareness about the importance of sports for everyone---whether running or rolling."

"Hosting this event with Dream Makers aligns perfectly with our mission, as we both strive to encourage health, wellness, and a better quality of life," said John W. Lewis, Chief Executive Officer of Energy Fitness. "We expect this year's event to be the best one yet, and encourage the community and local businesses to come out and take part in this unique event."

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About Dream Makers Youth Foundation

Dream Makers Youth Foundation is a non-profit organization that provides educational and recreational opportunities for children with cognitive disabilities throughout Metropolitan Atlanta. Dream Makers currently offers tutorial services within Atlanta Public Schools, tennis lessons, and a competitive basketball league for children with mild to moderate intellectual delays, such as Down Syndrome, Autism, and Mental Retardation; these services are currently offered free of charge. For more information, visit our website at: www.dmyf.info

About Energy Fitness

Energy Fitness' primary goal is to provide their clients with total health and wellness programs that put emphasis on nutrition, building selfconfidence, and self-esteem of the individual or organization. These programs involve the participant in athletic, educational, spiritual and cultural activities to improve quality of life. Energy Fitness strives on continuing to educate and research in developing the quality of life.For more information, visit our website at <u>www.energyfitnessofamerica.com</u>