

Be Beautiful Be Yourself Jet Set Fashion Show Kickoff

By GLORY WEISBERG

The Best of Saks 2010 “Fall Collection Trunk Show” attracted some of Denver’s best fashionistas, eager to know what trends to focus on while helping kickoff the Be Beautiful Be Yourself Jet Set Fashion Show benefiting the Global Down Syndrome Foundation’s Oct. 2 benefit.

Last year’s “Show” attracted a 1,200-person sellout throng to the massive Hyatt Convention Center Hotel ballroom, and this year will no doubt follow suit. And speaking of suits, the fall fashion lineup drew approving smiles with styles for real women, some of whom clapped wildly when the male models strutted down the fashion ramp. We’ve come to expect that kind of reaction and start smiling as the guys begin their romp on the ramp.

“We’re just the fluff and dressing. The kids steal the show,” said Saks Manager **Kay Cline**.

Among those scene stealers was **Sophia Whitten**, 7, whose grandparents, **Anna** and **John Sie** started the DS Foundation with a whopping \$34 million grant, opening the biggest single effort we know of to find ways to tackle the genetic condition, the least funded genetic condition by the National Institutes of Health, according to the foundation. The Linda Crnic Institute is already hard at work on its mission and part of that mission is education because supporters believe these people are denied their fundamental civil rights. Before the fashion show got under way we learned that DS patients now live to age 60 and can be quite bright and outgoing. Anyone who’s ever met Sophia knows that first-hand.

Fellow Down syndrome patient **Katherine Vollbracht Winfield** is 15 months old and is this year’s event ambassador. Her maternal grandparents, **Bill** and **Leslie Vollbracht**, are Land Title Guarantee founders.

Back to the romp on the ramp, we saw soft shades of taupe and gray with touches of light and dark plum; high calf high heel buttery boots; a swing coat of leather and a black diamond pattern velvet jacket; and a gold, three-quarter length trench-style jacket that’s sure to sell well to those on front rows and others in the know. Off-ramp models also sported necklines and hems edged with sheer silk and ruffles aplenty. Diagonal necklines and designs were prominent.

The Oct. 2 Jet Set Fashion Show stars **Quincy Jones**, who attended last year’s show, rubbing elbows with developer **Peter Kudla** and political powerhouses. A slew of sports icons are among this fall’s supporters, including **Carmelo Anthony**, **Chauncey Billups**, **John Elway**, **Brian Griese** and other familiar faces. Among supporters at the kickoff were Dr. **Dean Prina**, **Arlene Hirschfield**, **Cookie Gold** and daughter **Ricki Rest**, **Pat Cortez**, **Manuel Martine** and **Lyn Schaffer**.

For information visit www.coloradojetset.com or call **Danielle Descalos** at 303-427-0921.

gloryweisberg@comcast.net



Models Elizabeth and Mary showed off Ippolita fall 2010 jewelry at Saks.



Alison Winfield with daughter Kate Vollbracht Winfield and Michele Whitten. Kate is this year’s event ambassador.



Rickie and David Rest with Cookie Gold



Sophie Whitten (left), and her friends strut their stuff on the runway at the Fall Collection Trunk Show.



Suzanne and Roy Wilson flank Leslie Vollbracht, grandmother of this year’s event ambassador.

Photos by Gloria Weisberg