

Global Down Syndrome kickoff a GloryUs party

GLORYUS GOINGS ON



By GLORY WEISBERG

Sophie Whitten has a smile that brightens up a ballroom and on Aug. 16 she was with friends and family at the kickoff for the third annual Be Beautiful Be Yourself Fashion Show benefiting the Global Down Syndrome Foundation.

Sophie was born in 2003 with Down syndrome which had not gotten its share of research dollars until Sophie's grandparents, **John and Anna Sie**, got wind of it, resulting in what is now a major attack on the genetic condition. Their initiative created the Linda Crnic Institute for Down Syndrome, a medical and research in-

stitute hoping to reduce the impact now felt by 400,000 Americans. Years ago others born with the condition typically lived to only their 20s, but now live to their 60s. So to foster more research, the Sie's daughter and Sophie's mom, **Michelle Whitten**, took on the reins of the foundation, creating the mega-important fall benefit that has drawn 1,200 supporters to the Convention Center Hyatt, flying in media stars and adding locals in the community, many of whom are known as leading local philanthropists.

The fashion show features high-end designers and the Oct. 15 edition kicked off at Andrisen Morton.

The mega-men's store in Cherry Creek North was awash with those already familiar with Italian designer, **Brunello Cucinelli**. Mrs. Sie, Italian by birth, was well able to pronounce the name perfectly, leading others to softly laugh at their own tongue-tangling tries.

And so went the fun affair that offered freshly made pizzas right outside the store's door by Epicurean in its portable pizza oven.



Christy Andrisen and Barry Hirschfeld

Who can resist **Peter Kudla**, the jovial ham and developer who was thrusting couture men's socks at some well known audience members, from **Ernie Blake** to **Barry Hirschfeld**.

Quincy Jones is again flying in for the fall fashion extravaganza, as is **Jamie Foxx**. Mrs. Sie is hoping the designer Cucinelli will make the event.

Those at the kickoff included **Paula Newberry Arnold, Paige Elway, Kalleen Malone, Celeste Fleming, Vicki and Trygve Myhren, Abbie Perlmutter, Linda Goto, Edie and Mort Marks, Gail and George Johnson, Lyn Schaffer and Kathy Messinger** whose Three Blind Mice clothes were on the fashion ramp, modeled by Down Syndrome clients. **Cynthia Petrus** is on staff for the mega-benefit show.

To get your rampside seat, email acall@globaldownsyndrome.org or call 720-320-3832.

Preschool closing

Due to "current economic realities" the Kempe Center Therapeutic Preschool is closing Sept. 1 after 40 years of providing services to "severely emotionally disturbed preschool victims of maltreatment." Supporters are gathering Aug. 29 for cookies and punch, recognizing and thanking its past and present teachers, volunteers, colleagues and partners.

For information email tamika.coleman@childrenscolorado.org.

VOA to honor Sies

Our 2008 Villagers of the Year, John and Anna Sie, are accepting the VOA's Humanitarian Award at the Western Fantasy benefit, Oct. 22. The Fantasy kicks off Sept. 15 with its annual patron party at Neiman Marcus. The Gala is being chaired by **Dianne and Tom Honig**. Sure to be on hand is VOA Colo. Branch Chairman **Kalleen Malone**, President and CEO **Diana Kunz** and Development Director **Michael James**. For info, call 720-264-3322 or email mjames@voacolorado.org.



David and Eileen Morton and son-in-law Nate Nowicki



Anca Call, Peter Kudla and Maggie McGlade

Allied Jewish honors 5

Allied Jewish Federation of Colorado and the Jewish Community Foundation have their annual meeting Aug. 29 at the Comedy Works South at the Landmark, honoring five people and one non-profit. **Judy Robins** is accepting the Lifetime Achievement Award; **Elaine Asarch** is Volunteer of the Year; **Bruce Plotkin** is accepting the Special Leadership Recognition Award, the Ruth and Warren Toltz Young Leadership Award is going to **Daniel Feiner** and **Lisa Perlmutter** is being honored with the Charlotte Tucker Young Leadership Award. The late Mrs. Tucker was indeed an icon of local leadership and dignity.

The American Jewish Committee is Federation partner of the Year.

For details or reservations to attend the Aug. 29 ceremony, call 303-316-6443.

Eating Disorder Foundation raises roof Sept. 25

The six-year-old Eating Disorder Foundation is literally raising the roof, Sept. 25, one of the inaugural events focused on the new center under construction at East 20th Avenue and High Street. **Toni Saiber**, executive director, notes that the new facility will enable them to expand their support services for adults with eating disorders. The center is opening this coming February. For more info, visit EatingDisorderFoundation.org.

gloryweisberg@comcast.net



Pieternel Walter primps Lauren Cisneros for her fashion show appearance.

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Society
calendar

Calendar items may be e-mailed
to gloryweisberg@comcast.net

AUGUST

- 26 Saddle Up Foundation Suitcase Party, 303-898-6797
- 26 Food Bank Joe & Debbie Sakic Bringing Hope to the Table, 303-375-5852
- 26 Rocky Mountain Active 20-30 Children's Foundation Back to School Bash, 303-384-8132
- 26 Advocates for Children JHL Kids Classic Golf Tournament, 303-695-0803
- 26 Denver Botanic Gardens Fête des Fleurs, 720-865-3644
- 27 Love Hope Strength Foundation Shoes & Brews, 720-936-2999
- 27 Lulu's Barkin' BBQ, 303-751-5772
- 27 Town Hall Arts Center Gala, 303-794-2787
- 27 Lone Tree Arts Center Gala, 720-509-1009
- 27 Invest in Kids Tennis Party, 303-468-5443
- 29 Seeds of Hope Golf for Hope, 303-715-3186
- 31 Allied Jewish Federation Luncheon, The Golda, 303-316-6466

SEPTEMBER

- 7 Keshet of the Rockies Annual Dinner, 303-399-4130
- 8 Loving Hugs, Inc. Summer's End Party at Denver Botanic Gardens, 303-948-0552
- 8 HomeSteaders Bucket Brigade Luncheon, 720-320-9210
- 9 Wildflower Women's Foundation Fundraising Event, 303-667-5485
- 9 Emily Griffith Gala, Emily Then and Now, 720-423-4755
- 9 Littleton Firefighters' Foundation Charity Ball, 303-324-0197
- 10 Children's Hospital Colorado Gala, 720-777-1731
- 10 First American State Bank Fitness Festival, 303-840-0045
- 10 Zarleno Foundation Jay Leno Live in Concert, 303-357-5633
- 11 Denver Ballet Guild Le Bal de Ballet Announcement Reception, by invitation
- 13 Friends for Families First Membership Luncheon, 303-745-0327