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For Immediate Release

ACTORS, MUSICIANS AND SCIENTISTS UNITE TO CREATE A LYME FREE WORLD
Time for Lyme hosts 8th Fundraiser

Proceeds from the Gala will fund critically important research and education

Greenwich, CT, March 2009 – Time for Lyme (TFL), a research, education and advocacy group will bring together an inspiring group of actors, musicians and scientists at its bi-annual gala fundraiser for Lyme disease research, awareness and an ultimate cure on Saturday, April 18, 2009, 7pm, at the Greenwich Hyatt.

The Dream Gala will feature the Young People's Chorus of New York City™ in a program highlighted by the chorus's signature song, "Give Us Hope," composed by Jim Papoulis, with lyrics by Leo Schaff and Regine Urbach. Click to listen. <http://timeforlyme.org/>.

The Gala will also celebrate the award-winning movie "LYMELIFE" directed by Derick Martini and starring Alec Baldwin, Emma Roberts, Rory Culkin, Kieran Culkin, Jill Hennessey, Cynthia Nixon and Timothy Hutton.

Nobel Laureate Professor Luc Montagnier will be awarded Time for Lyme's Lauren F. Brooks Hope Award for his global perspective on infectious diseases, including Lyme disease.

Actor, Director and Writer Lou Diamond Phillips who recently joined the fight against Lyme disease will be presented Time for Lyme's 2009 Humanitarian Award.

"Lyme disease is a global problem and can affect anyone," said Debbie Siciliano TFL Board Co-Chair, "but our children are the highest at risk. There is too much at stake. We must join together to attack this disease and give our children hope that we will find a cure. When children are without hope, they are robbed of a fundamental right of childhood."

While most cases of Lyme disease are reported from North America and Europe, the disease is also found for example, in China, Australia, Japan, North Africa and Israel. "For over 30 years, nothing seems to have improved for those stricken with chronic Lyme disease. Misdiagnosed and improperly treated Lyme disease can lead to a devastating effect on a person, a family, and a community.

"We must ask ourselves the questions: Can we improve the research process regarding Lyme disease and increase effective outcomes? We must understand the research processes, improve them and enhance collaboration to attain rapid results and support for those afflicted." added Barbara Edwards, Gala Co-Chair and TFL board member.

Time for Lyme hopes that the community will join with the honored guests on April 18th to help Time for Lyme realize its dream to create a Lyme-Free world.

About Lyme disease

Lyme disease is the most common vector-borne disease in the United States, with more than 20,000 new cases officially reported every year. Unofficial counts are much higher. Lyme has been found in all 50 states with a strikingly high percentage of its victims being children.

Children are particularly vulnerable because they are outside a lot, especially in the early summer, when ticks are most plentiful. If they become infected, kids may experience headaches, fatigue and flu-like symptoms. If the disease is left untreated, children may also develop muscular and joint problems, learning and behavioral problems, depression, nerve damage, memory loss and other cognitive, psychiatric and neurological problems.

Lyme disease is caused by a bacterium carried in certain ticks. Most, but not all, people infected with Lyme will see a bull's-eye rash at the site of the tick bite between three and 30 days after infection. While this rash is a

definitive symptom of Lyme, most diagnostic tests for the disease are unreliable and may produce false negatives, according to TFL and the Lyme Disease Association (LDA). TFL and LDA together have endowed the Lyme and Tick-Borne Diseases Research Center at Columbia University Medical Center in New York City, the first of its kind dedicated to the study of chronic Lyme disease.

About the Time for Lyme Gala

On April 18, 2009, Time for Lyme will present its bi-annual Gala event – The Dream – Creating a Lyme Free World, at the Hyatt Regency in Greenwich, CT. Proceeds from the Gala will be used to combat the devastating effects of Lyme and other tick borne illnesses. During the course of the evening, TFL will share information regarding its work in education, advocacy, and will talk about progress in research. Please call (203) 969-1333 for more information and tickets.

About Time for Lyme

Time for Lyme is an organization dedicated to eliminating the devastating effects of Lyme disease and other tick-borne illness. Its mission is to prevent the spread of disease, develop definitive diagnostic tools and effective treatments, and to ultimately find a cure for tick-borne illness by supporting research, education, and the acquisition and dissemination of information. In addition, TFL continues to act as an advocate for Lyme disease sufferers and their families through support of legislative reform on the federal, state and local levels.
www.timeforlyme.org.