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A Christmas Affair 2009 **It's a Wild Holiday!**

Austin, TX -- June 15, 2009 -- The Junior League of Austin is proud to announce details for the annual event, *A Christmas Affair*. The 2009 *A Christmas Affair*, "**It's a Wild Holiday**", will be held at the Palmer Events Center November 18-22, 2009 where guests will step back in time to a classic African Safari. As dusk settles around the base camp, the roaring campfire throws a warm glow onto the safari tents. The distant roar of the lion builds the anticipation of the holiday week ahead. Over 200 merchants from across the country have been hand selected to participate in this five day holiday market which is the most successful of its kind produced by any Junior League in the country. Our event was first held in 1976 at the Driskill Hotel, and this is the 33rd year *A Christmas Affair* has been a vital part of fundraising in the Austin Community. More than 30,000 people are expected to attend *A Christmas Affair* 2009 and money raised will enable The Junior League of Austin to invest over \$1,000,000 to the community this year. From decorations, to invitations, to parking attendants, nearly 1,000 volunteers help make *A Christmas Affair* possible. Our 2009 volunteer committee is well under way in its efforts to execute another successful event and we look forward to seeing you there.

Schedule of Events

- * Market days – four consecutive days, open to the public, where guests may shop. The shopping hours are Thursday, November 19th 12 noon-9:00pm, Friday, November 20th 10:00am-8:00pm, Saturday, November 21st 10:00am-8:00pm, and Sunday, November 22nd 11:00am-5:00pm. Tickets are \$12 at the door. Children ages 5 and under are free and strollers, pull carts, and rolling bags are not allowed in an effort to keep guests safe.
- * *A Christmas Affair* opens Wednesday, November 18th, with the black tie gala, "**Sunset on the Serengeti**". This is a formal preview party where attendees enjoy private shopping, amazing food, a live and silent auction, as well as wonderful entertainment by local artist Kelly Willis, all located by our safari base camp. The soiree begins at 7:30pm and tickets are \$150 per person.
- * Thursday, November 19th, a historical favorite, the private brunch and shopping experience awaits you. "**Jungle Brunch**" is from 9:00am-12 noon and tickets are \$50 per person.

- * Girls Night Out! is Thursday, November 19th from 6:00pm-10:00pm. **“Wild Thing!”** will be an experience no one will want to miss. Enjoy shopping, heavy hors d’ouvres, and dancing to the music of Radiostar with all your favorite divas. Tickets are \$60 per person.
- * A tearoom will be located on the upper level and serving wonderful fare. This area will be decorated by over 30 local designers each giving their spin of **“It’s a Wild Holiday”** on their individually designed table. These lovely tea room toppers will be a must see. Tearoom hours will be on Thursday, November 19th 12 noon-3:00pm, Friday, November 20th 11:00am-3:00pm, Saturday, November 21st 1:00pm-3:00pm and Sunday, November 22nd 12 noon-3:00pm. Tickets are \$15 per person.
- * Saturday night, November 21st, is family night fun for the entire crew! *A Christmas Affair* joins forces with **Coats for Kids** to bring you **“It’s a Zoo!”** which will be the best family carnival you have ever attended. It goes from 5:00pm - 7:00pm. There will be fun games, great entertainment, and yummy food, all for \$25 per person.
- * Breakfast with Santa is always a favorite! **“Santa on Safari”** will be on Friday, November 20th 9:00am-10:30am with entertainment by The Biscuit Brothers! Saturday, November 21st 9:00am-10:30am, and 11:00am-12:30pm with entertainment by Joe McDermott and Sunday, November 22nd 9:00am-10:30am with entertainment by The Biscuit Brothers. Children can have their picture taken with Santa, make fun holiday crafts, and enjoy a yummy breakfast and the sounds of a local musician all for \$20 per person. Children younger than 1 year of age are free.

Founded in 1934, The Junior League of Austin is an organization of over 2,000 women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. On an annual basis, The Junior League of Austin contributes over one million dollars to the Austin community and its members volunteer approximately 100,000 hours. For more information about The Junior League of Austin, call (512) 467-8982 or visit www.jlaustin.org.

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