



*Trent Bryson and Don Rodriguez*

## **Boys & Girls Clubs of Long Beach Look to Make Event History at The 75th Anniversary Gala**

LONG BEACH, CA - March 6, 2014 - On April 5<sup>th</sup> the Boys & Girls Clubs of Long Beach will hold their annual fundraising effort at the Marine Stadium in Long Beach. To celebrate 75 years of positively impacting youth, the event committee will attempt an unprecedented challenge of raising \$1,000,000 to help fund after school programs, when adolescents experience the highest risk of crime, and to contribute to the endowment fund created in 2013.

This will be the first major charity-driven event in Long Beach targeting a more youthful demographic through a reimagined event format and program. As the board's youngest elected event chair, Trent Bryson aims to create an over-the-top experience for local residents and corporate sponsors not traditionally linked with fundraising events. The evening will feature specialty sunset cocktails, silent and live auctions, decadent cuisine, and an energetic live performance by the Spazmatics. A celebrity host will be announced March 19.

To bring this year's "All That Glitters" theme to life, the Boys & Girls Clubs have enlisted Ryan Choura of Choura Events, a boutique event rental and tenting agency, to transform Marine Stadium into an exclusive tented affair for the 500 expected guests. Featuring the same tent used at the Golden Globes' Weinstein After Party, Ryan Choura gives a preview of his vision, "We're putting a ballroom on the water and building something that's never been done in Long Beach. I think people would be disappointed if they weren't a part of this historic event."

For 75 years, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Long Beach have helped over 220,000 at-risk and in-need youth reach their full potential. Barbie Barker, Board President, comments, "Events like this are invaluable to the future success of B&G Clubs in our community and will ultimately deliver a more self-sustaining method for funding alternative, safe places for our kids to go."

"There will be plenty of surprises," says Bryson. "We aim to create an unforgettable evening that will propel the Boys & Girls Clubs into the next 75 years."

To purchase individual tickets, tables, or VIP cabanas, visit [www.bgclublb.org/events](http://www.bgclublb.org/events). Sponsorship opportunities still available. Please contact Joy Lodevico: [JoyL@bgclublb.org](mailto:JoyL@bgclublb.org)

### **About Boys & Girls Clubs of Long Beach**

Helping the city's underrepresented children and youth realize their full potential since 1939, the BGCLB was founded by community activists, Maurice Bugbee and Carlton Wallace, in an effort to keep young boys out of trouble and off the streets, by providing activities and programs that encouraged them to grow into responsible, contributing members of the community. In 1991, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Long Beach expanded its reach to include underprivileged girls. As one of the oldest, most successful youth organizations in the area, the Clubs have served more than 220,000 youth in the most distressed neighborhoods of our city.

Today, more than 4,300 boys and girls, ages 6-18, are Club members. Open Monday-Friday, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Long Beach offer over 20 youth development activities in the Five Core program areas of Character & Leadership, Education & Career Preparation, The Arts & Culture, Health & Life Skills, Athletics, Fitness & Social Recreation. For more information on Club activities, membership registration, ways to support the BGCLB, volunteer opportunities and upcoming events, visit [www.bgclublb.org](http://www.bgclublb.org), or call Club headquarters at (562) 595-5945.

### **About Choura Events**

Choura Events is a full service, boutique event rental agency in Southern California. Founded in 2010 by CEO Ryan Choura, the company focuses on "making better events" by creatively utilizing its diverse inventory of rental equipment, top of the line tenting and other event related services and specialties for clients across Southern California.

As the only event rental company featured in the 2013 Los Angeles Business Journal's Top 100 Fastest Growing Private Companies List, Choura executes over 4,000 events each year, including the ESPN Summer XGames, LA County Fair, CrossFit Games, the ESPY'S, red carpet productions, weddings, corporate events and more. For additional information, please visit [www.chouraevents.com](http://www.chouraevents.com).

