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DOME OF HOPE 5th Annual Charity Gala

An Evening of Masquerade

Stockton, CA - On Friday, November 10, 2017, starting at 6:00 PM, Stockton local organization, the **Dome of Hope**, will host its fifth annual Charity Gala at Stockton Memorial Civic Auditorium (Main Hall), 525 North Center Street. This year, the organization is going over the top and opening the doors to the community, in efforts to reach a financial goal to support their programs and share their proceeds with the Disaster relief efforts. The DOH Board members decided to turn away from their traditional charity gala, which in the past included Keynote Speakers, from world renowned and former advisor to former President Obama, Harvard Sociologist William Julius Wilson, Ph.D., San Joaquin County United Way Chief Executive Officer, Andy Prokop, Stanford Award Winner Engineer, Derek Ouyang and former San Joaquin County Board of Supervisor Chairman, Moses Zapien. This year's event will be a night to remember.

All attendees will enjoy an evening of Masquerade, Smooth sounds of award winning, Cesar Chavez Jazz Band, under the direction of Arthur Coleman, Participation from Stockton's Poet Laureate, Toma Brisbane, Vice Chancellor of San Francisco Community Colleges, Trudy J. Walton, will serve as event's Mistress of Ceremony. Lift your palates with the savory dishes of Chef James Williams and delicious desserts of Chef Nichol Tobias, La Vita Dolce Bakery. The evening will continue its festivities with a silent auction, special guest and surprises.

Event organizers are diligently working to secure the funds to sustain their much-needed educational programs and services to assist local residents in low literacy, educational desert communities. During the event, the Dome of Hope's President, Gwendolyn Primous will introduce their educational components, which are programs designed to decrease barriers towards higher education. Additionally, come cheer our community's unsung heroes, as they receive the **Etta Mae Ford Golden Heart and Presidential Choice Awards**. Several local community members who have transformed their communities through service, in Education, Technology, Trade and Arts, will be highlighted as this year's honorees.

This year's honorees for the **Etta M. Ford Golden Heart Award** include:

- 1) *Angela Phillips, Trustee for Stockton Unified School District*
- 2) *Jasmine Delafonso, of YouthCode,*
- 3) *Halima Lucas, Author of the award winning, Amelia's project,*
- 4) *Arthur Coleman, Jazz Band Director, Cesar Chavez High School,*
- 5) *Mike Klocke, representing University of the Pacific, Beyond Our Gates initiative,*
- 6) *Merlo Technological Institute and*
- 7) *San Joaquin County, YouthBuild Program.*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The recipients for the **Presidential Choice Award** are as follows:

1. Mr. Benjamin Reddish, *Retired Stockton Unified School District Counselor*,
2. Mr. Ralph White, *Community Agent of Change* and
3. Orlando Jose, *Community Media & Broadcasting*

Awards will be presented by members of the City of Stockton Council, San Joaquin County and State of California Officials.

Tickets for the event are **\$75.00 per person**, and can be purchased **online at:** www.thedomeofhope.org, Event Sponsorships are also available. Visit our website or call Gwendolyn at: (209) 298.3663.

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