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MEDIA ALERT

SPY HOP'S ANNUAL BENEFIT – AN UNCONVENTIONAL AUCTION

WHAT: SALT LAKE CITY, UT – The Spy Hop Annual Benefit will be held March 15, 2007 in the Scholarship Reception Room of the Rice-Eccles Stadium and Tower. Kurt Best, nationally renowned musician and composer, will be this year's Special Guest Host and John Goulet of the KUTV2 weather room will be heading up the auction. This event is an opportunity to support the local youth community through Spy Hop Productions' four core programs – the Pitch-Nic Young Writer and Director Program, the Youth Documentary Arts Program, the Media Apprenticeship Program, and Loud and Clear Youth Radio. The evening will open with a reception comprised of interactive media opportunities, student performances, a light dinner, and refreshments. The reception will end with a collaborative performance by Kurt Bestor and some of the Spy Hop kids, followed by a live *all-bids* auction. The auction format will be unconventional in the fact that rather than bidding on immediate material items – a piece of art or a vacation package – attendees will have the chance to bid on specific elements of the programs. A bidder will be able to raise their hand to put money towards a scholarship for a potential student, equipment for the lab, or Executive Producer rights for one of the 2007 Pitch-Nic youth-produced films. Contributions will help to further Spy Hop's mission, which is to amplify youth voices, prepare young people to be insightful and able citizens both locally and globally, and to close the digital divide by equipping youth from all backgrounds with the technical skills necessary to be successful in the 21st century. Admission is \$50 at the door or \$45 pre-registration. Private tables are available for \$600.

WHEN: THURSDAY MARCH 15, 2007 Reception Begins: 6:30pm. Auction Begins: 8:00pm

To RSVP/register contact Natalee Villa at 801.532.7500 or natalee@spyhop.org, or visit <http://www.spyhop.org/events/events.html> for online registration. Pre-registration ends March 12th, 2007 at 5:00 pm

WHERE: The Scholarship Reception Room
The Rice-Eccles Stadium and Tower
451 South 1400 East
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

WHO: Special Guest Host and nationally renowned musician and composer, **Kurt Bestor** will be joined by Event Hosts **Geralyn Dreyfous** of the *Salt Lake City Film Center* and **Steve Denkers** of the *Willard L. Eccles Foundation*. The evening's auction will be led by **John Goulet**, Weather Man for KUTV2. All proceeds from the event will go towards supporting **Spy Hop Productions'** four core programs – the **Pitch-Nic Young Writer and Director Program**, the **Youth Documentary Arts Program**, the **Media Apprenticeship Program**, and **Loud and Clear Youth Radio**.

Spy Hop Productions is a non-profit youth media arts and education center, dedicated to empowering youth (k-12) through multimedia. Spy Hop offers after-school and summer



programs in filmmaking, audio production, and design. Since its inception in 1999, Spy Hop has successfully served more than 10,000 young people from all backgrounds along the Wasatch Front. With the help of professional mentors, the work produced by Spy Hop's young artists has reached an audience of several million so far.

Thank you to the 2007 Spy Hop Annual Benefit Sponsors!

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