

For Immediate Release

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LOU DIAMOND PHILLIPS TO BE HONORED AT TIME FOR LYME DREAM GALA
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, April 2009 - Time for Lyme (TFL), a research, education and advocacy group will honor Lou Diamond Phillips.

TFL has the distinct privilege to introduce Lou Diamond Phillips to the Lyme disease community at the TFL Gala, "*The Dream - Creating a Lyme Free World*" to be held on April 18th in Greenwich CT, where he will receive the 2009 Time For Lyme Humanitarian Award.

ABOUT THE AWARD: In 2007, Time For Lyme introduced a bi-annual award ceremony to honor great humanitarians who also advance the awareness of Lyme disease and help make progress towards its cure. The first recipient of the Award, in April 2007 was the designer Tommy Hilfiger.

Lou Diamond Phillips' diverse background has enriched his many performances which have garnered him a Tony Award Nomination for the critically acclaimed *The King and I*, and both a Golden Globe Nomination and Independent Spirit Award for *Stand and Deliver*. Lou has also starred in such acclaimed feature films as *La Bamba* and *Young Guns*, among many others. He has recently joined the cast of Sci Fi Channel's new original series *SGU: Stargate Universe*.

As a distinguished actor, director and writer in the world of entertainment, Lou Diamond Phillips has also turned his creative talents and personal efforts towards improving the lives of many people who needed a tireless champion.

Mr. Phillips has received numerous accolades for his humanitarian work over the years, including the Oxfam America Partners Award for his commitment to fighting global hunger. He has been recognized by Amnesty International for his human rights work. He also has served as a spokesman for ACT Today and the California Teachers Association's Read Across America Program. He is the spokesperson for Autism Care and Treatment and is also very active with Aids Project LA and with Broadway Cares. Most recently, Mr. Phillips received a presidential citation from the Philippine President, Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, in recognition of his efforts for Filipino World War II Veterans.

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.

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.

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 visit <http://www.timeforlyme.org/dreamgala> or call (203) 969-1333 for more information and tickets.

About Time for Lyme

Time for Lyme is a community organization that seeks to eradicate tick-borne diseases by promoting research, education and legislation, while serving as a resource for information sharing and support. www.timeforlyme.org