



A New Orleans Party... Edmonton Style!

Chrysalis hosts its 13th annual Western Mardi Gras charity fundraiser

EDMONTON, Alta. (January 22, 2009) — Approximately 500 friends and community supporters of Chrysalis will gather at the Northlands Agricom on Saturday, January 31st 2009 for an evening of dinner and dancing, live entertainment, live and silent auctions, door prizes, and special performances.

Dust off your cowboy boots and dig out your denims and flannel shirts! You are invited to the biggest, liveliest, most exciting Western Mardi Gras ever!

“This event will demonstrate how wonderful it is when all different members of the community can come together and support a single cause,” says President and CEO of Chrysalis Lynn Groves Hautmann, “there are many new surprises in store, as well as a greater emphasis on the value that this event brings to individuals in Chrysalis services.”

Danielle Husak, guest speaker and former client of Chrysalis, will share her own words on how Chrysalis has changed her life. Those experiences at Chrysalis have helped shape Danielle’s life to where she is today, a student at the Norquest College Graphic Design Program.

Other special guests will include the country-western rock band, All the Rage in Dallas, crowd performers, the Grant MacEwan dance team wearing costumes provided by the Cariwest Association, and event emcee, Fred Keating, who has appeared in various movies and TV shows.

Proceeds raised from this year’s Western Mardi Gras will meet the growing needs of Chrysalis’ new art program, a program that has received unprecedented success since its inception in April 2008. Proceeds will also be targeted towards building renovations and new equipment to enhance onsite programs for individuals with disabilities.

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About Chrysalis:

In 1968, Chrysalis began as a Centennial project under the direction of the University of Alberta and was created by parents and community members who realized that adults with disabilities deserved equal opportunities to contribute to their communities. Chrysalis began as an agency especially planned for training adults with developmental disabilities to produce manufactured goods using automated machinery. Through Chrysalis, individuals were offered, for the first time ever, alternatives to staying in school or remaining inactive all day long in their residential settings. Today, Chrysalis offers personalized services to help thousands of people with disabilities receive training, develop life and vocational skills, find employment, discover volunteer opportunities, and realize an improved quality of life.

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