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“Bones” Actress Emily Deschanel Announced as Grand Marshal of Shane’s Inspiration’s 10th Anniversary 5K/10K Walk & Roll Sunday, October 14 at Griffith Park

Event Guests include “Bones” co-stars, Boxing Champion and UFC Spokesperson Wayne McCullough; Actor Steve Valentine; Bugs Bunny and Daffy Duck

VAN NUYS, CA, October 12, 2007 -- Shane’s Inspiration, the 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that creates and designs universally accessible playgrounds, announces actress **Emily Deschanel**, star of the Fox television series “Bones,” will be the grand marshal for their Walk & Roll, the 5K/10K event on Sunday, October 14 at the Shane’s Inspiration Universally Accessible Playground in Griffith Park, Los Angeles. Ms. Deschanel is the lead in “Bones” and plays “Dr. Temperance ‘Bones’ Brennan.” “Bones” co-stars also joining the Walk & Roll event include actress **Michaela Conlin** (“Angela Montenegro,” upcoming in “Enchanted” film), actor **Eric Millegan** (“Dr. Zack Addy”), and actress **Tamara Taylor** (“Dr Camille Saroyan”).

This annual 5K/10K fun-filled family event, now in its 10th year, will be held on the site of the Western United States’ first and largest universally accessible playground, Shane’s Inspiration. The flagship 88,000 square feet playground will be the starting and ending point for over 500 people on foot, in wheelchairs, strollers, scooters, and bikes who will turn out to raise funds and awareness for universally accessible playgrounds.

Also making a guest appearance will be actor **Steve Valentine**, (formerly of NBC television’s “Crossing Jordan,” next seen in “House,” and in the upcoming film “A Christmas Carol” with Jim Carrey). Valentine served as the emcee for Shane’s Inspiration’s 10th anniversary black-tie Gala last March, which set a record for the organization with the top amount of money raised for a single event.

Leading the warm-up exercise prior to the Walk & Roll, will be Olympic silver medalist and former WBC bantamweight boxing champion **Wayne McCullough**. Irish-born McCullough, a competitive professional boxer, is in training for his next professional match to be announced next week. McCullough was recently named as the new spokesperson for the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC), the sport of mixed martial arts, one of the fastest-growing spectator sports in the world.

(more)

Shane’s Inspiration

Eliminating bias toward children with disabilities through Universally Accessible Playgrounds and programs
15213 Burbank Boulevard, Van Nuys, CA 91411 (818) 988-5676 Fax: (818) 988-5677

Web: www.shanesinspiration.org ~ E-mail: info@shanesinspiration.org

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Shane's Inspiration Walk & Roll 2007 5K/10K October 14, 2007, p. 2

Special guests at the event will include longtime favorites **Bugs Bunny** and **Daffy Duck**.

A special guest along the 5K/10K route of the event to greet and encourage children of all abilities will be **Lily**. Lily is a local 4-year-old disabled dog who uses a wheelchair custom-made by Eddie's Wheels of Massachusetts, one of the few pet-wheels manufacturers in the country restoring accessibility to pets. Lovable and friendly, Lily was rescued by her Studio City owner, Reni Westmoreland, who recognized Lily's many abilities beyond her disability. Lily's ease of mobility and happy and affectionate nature will delight all who meet her.

Prior to the event, there will be a family Resource Fair of affiliated non-profit organizations, including the Valley View Vaulters' therapeutic equestrian program which will have a demonstration featuring a special needs child vaulting on horseback. The demonstration will display the sport's benefits of building strength, coordination, self-confidence and teamwork for people of any ability.

Shane's Inspiration's Walk & Roll has grown into one of the organization's most important fundraisers bringing families, community officials, celebrities and businesses together. Past celebrity participants have included Dakota Fanning, Emma Roberts, Jerry O'Connell, Laura San Giacomo, the cast of many TV shows "Crossing Jordan," "Without a Trace," and "Phil of the Future," among others.

In its first decade, Shane's Inspiration has grown from a single, universally accessible playground in Griffith Park to a network of 13 playgrounds in California with over 85 more in development across the United States and around the world, as far away as India and Japan. In addition, through the success of the organization's innovative education programs available to public and private schools, Shane's Inspiration builds common ground between children with disabilities and their able-bodied peers, breaking down the barriers of bias and fear, fostering friendship and acceptance for thousands of elementary and middle school children and their families.

Walk & Roll 2007 check-in begins at 7:30 am; opening ceremonies are at 8:15 am; and the Walk & Roll begins at 9:00 am. Registration is FREE for individual participants. Teams are encouraged to obtain pledges.

For Walk & Roll 2007 event information, please contact Marci Moran, Director of Community Outreach & Special Events at (818) 988-5676 office; (818) 378-5032 cell or by e-mail at marci@shanesinspiration.org.

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