

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Huntington Beach Children's Library the Victim of Forged Tickets at Taste of Huntington Beach

HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA. — May 08, 2009 — The Taste of Huntington Beach Committee announced that 182 fraudulent paper tickets were redeemed for entrance to this years Taste of Huntington Beach on April 26th.

Ticket forgeries were illegally sold for \$20 per ticket, instead of the \$52 presale or \$60 door price for authentic tickets. Profits from the benefit go to the Huntington Beach Children's Library, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Huntington Valley, Project Self-Sufficiency and the Huntington Beach Restaurant Association.

A potential \$10,920 loss in funds for the donor organizations severely impacted the benefit of the event. The decrease in funds will mean fewer supplies and services to the donor programs, which are especially in need during these challenging economic times.

"It is incredibly disappointing," said Stephanie Beverage, Director of Library Services. "We were very surprised and shocked to hear that someone had taken advantage of the event in this way."

The Taste of Huntington Beach Committee has filed a police report and is seeking the maximum penalty for anyone indicated in this crime. "It is horrible to think that someone would be so opportunistic and immoral to steal money from children in need", said Erika Reardon, Event Chairwoman. "These criminals will be found and prosecuted in hopes of not only making an example of them, but also recouping some funds for the children."

The committee is already researching more secure ticket options for next year's event, but must balance that against the cost to ensure that the event generates funds for the donor programs.

Additional donations are welcome and will benefit the Huntington Beach Children's Library.

To make a donation please send a check or money order, made out to "Friends of the Children's Library/TOHB", to 7111 Talbert Avenue Huntington Beach, CA 92648.

About The Taste Huntington Beach

The Taste of Huntington Beach is an annual event providing Southern California's only all inclusive food sampling of its kind. Proceeds benefit the Children's Library of the Huntington Beach Library. Over 40 restaurants, 30 wineries and breweries are on hand to provide tasting samples. Additionally, live entertainment is provided as well as a silent auction and the award for Best Taste. For additional information, visit <http://www.tastehb.com>