



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Portland Event Forecasted to Raise More than \$150,000 to Educate & Inspire  
Local Girls to Reach their Limitless Potential**

Power of the Purse to auction handbags created by local celebrities and designers, including Jerome Kersey, Storm Large, Ziba Design, Minou-Minou, and many more

PORTLAND, Ore.—March 1, 2008—The Third Annual Power of the Purse Dinner and Auction will take place Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 to 9:00 p.m., at Portland Art Museum, Grand Ballroom. The annual fundraising event brings together Girls Inc. of Northwest Oregon supporters, volunteers, celebrities, and designers for an evening of food, fun, and fashion to raise more than \$150,00 to expand gender-specific programming that helps Portland-area girls grow into strong, smart, bold, and economically-independent women

“Power of the Purse is an inspirational evening that allows Girls Inc. supporters to meet the girls they inspire to be strong, smart and bold” says Annette Klinefelter, Executive Director, Girls Inc., “Many girls and guests alike look forward to the event all year long.” Girls Inc.’s school-based empowerment programs, work-site mentorship program, and GO Onward services, a program that helps transition girls from residential programs and foster care into economically independent adults, helps all girls recognize their value and reach their limitless potential.

Challenged to create the handbag of their dreams, local celebrities and designers create one-of-a-kind purses—from business to evening bags—that will be offered for auction and modeled by 2008-2009 Girls’ Council.

**2008 Purse-o-nalities**

- Chelsea Cain, author
- Tom Cramer, artist
- Ann Edlen, philanthropist
- Kathryn Harrison, chairwoman  
Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde
- Sonja Henning, Attorney, former WNBA player
- Gail Jubitz, philanthropist
- Jerome Kersey, former Trail Blazer
- Storm Large, entertainer
- Gary Maffei, philanthropist,
- Harry Merlo Foundation
- Kimberly Maus, television anchor
- Mary Nolan, State Representative
- Caprial Pence, chef and restaurateur
- Jeri Rice, Jeri Rice boutique
- Suze Riley, realtor

**2008 Purse Designers**

- Sha Montana
- Minou-Minou
- Faith Walmer
- Ellington Leather
- Marc Litner
- Don Bailey
- Mi Mo Handbags
- Maya Moon
- Karen Malloy
- Ziba Design
- Kortex Handbags
- Ginger Abernathy
- Queen Bee Creations
- K.D. Waltner

New to this year’s event is the Purse Boutique, which will showcase the myriad of local designer handbags available for purchase and benefit Girls Inc. Power of the Purse 2008 is presented by White Horse and PCC Structural, and hosted by Rebecca Webb. Individual tickets are \$125 each and Patron Table sponsorship is \$2,500. For more information on Power of the Purse, or to purchase tickets, visit [www.girlsincnworegon.org](http://www.girlsincnworegon.org) or call 503-230-0054.

**About Girls Inc. of Northwest Oregon**

Girls Incorporated of Northwest Oregon®, the premier provider of school-based empowerment programs, assertiveness education, and community advocacy for girl-affirming policies and practices, helps all girls to realize their potential and exercise their rights, and inspires them to be strong, smart, and bold. Girls Incorporated of Northwest Oregon serves all girls particularly those who face intergenerational poverty, juvenile crime, substance abuse, and school failure. 85% of Girls Inc. girls live in poverty, 50% of are ethnic minorities, and 75% have been impacted by family violence.

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