## KALETRA® (kuh-LEE-tra) (lopinavir/ritonavir) Tablets KALETRA® (kuh-LEE-tra) (lopinavir/ritonavir) Oral Solution

CONSUMER BRIEF SUMMARY CONSULT PACKAGE INSERT FOR FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

# **MEDICATION GUIDE Patient Information**

Read the Medication Guide that comes with KALETRA before you start taking it and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor about your medical condition or treatment. You and your doctor should talk about your treatment with KALETRA before you start taking it and at regular check-ups. You should stay under your doctor's care when taking KALETRA.

# What is the most important information I should know about KALETRA?

## KALETRA may cause serious side effects, including:

- Interactions with other medicines.
   It is important to know the medicines that should not be taken with KALETRA.
   Read the section "What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?"
- Changes in your heart rhythm and the electrical activity of your heart.
   These changes may be seen on an EKG (electrocardiogram) and can lead to serious heart problems. Your risk for these problems may be higher if you:
- already have a history of abnormal heart rhythm or other types of heart disease.
- take other medicines that can affect your heart rhythm while you take KALETRA.

Tell your doctor right away if you have any of these symptoms while taking KALETRA:

- dizziness
- lightheadedness
- fainting
- sensation of abnormal heartbeats

See the section below "What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?" for more information about serious side effects.

#### What is KALETRA?

KALETRA is a prescription anti-HIV medicine that contains two medicines: lopinavir and ritonavir. KALETRA is called a protease inhibitor that is used with other anti-HIV-1 medicines to treat people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) infection. HIV-1 is the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

It is not known if KALETRA is safe and effective in children under 14 days old.

#### Who should not take KALETRA?

- Do not take KALETRA if you are taking certain medicines. For more information about medicines you should not take with KALETRA, please see "Can I take other medicines with KALETRA?" and consult with your doctor about all other medicines you take.
- Do not take KALETRA if you have an allergy to KALETRA or any of its ingredients, including ritonavir and lopinavir.

## What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?

#### KALETRA may not be right for you. Tell your doctor about all your medical conditions, including if you:

- have any heart problems, including if you have a condition called Congenital Long QT Syndrome.
- have liver problems, including Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C.
- have diabetes.
- have hemophilia. People who take KALETRA may have increased bleeding.
- have low potassium in your blood.
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if KALETRA will harm your unborn baby. Birth control pills or patches may not work as well while you take KALETRA. To prevent pregnancy while taking KALETRA, women who take birth control pills or use estrogen patch for birth control should either use a different type of birth control or an extra form of birth control. Talk to your doctor about how to prevent pregnancy while taking KALETRA.
- take KALETRA during pregnancy, talk with your doctor about how you can take part in an antiretroviral pregnancy registry. The purpose of the pregnancy registry is to follow the health of you and your baby.

 are breast-feeding. Do not breast-feed if you are taking KALETRA. You should not breast-feed if you have HIV-1. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby while taking KALETRA, talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby. If your baby does not already have HIV-1, there is a chance that HIV-1 can be passed to your baby through your breast milk.

Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take, including prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Many medicines interact with KALETRA. Do not start taking a new medicine without telling your doctor or pharmacist. Your doctor can tell you if it is safe to take KALETRA with other medicines. Your doctor may need to change the dose of other medicines while you take KALETRA.

## Medicines you should not take with KALETRA.

# Serious problems or death can happen if you take these medicines with KALETRA:

- ergot containing medicines, including:

  orgatoming tertrate (Coforgat®)
- ergotamine tartrate (Cafergot<sup>®</sup>, Migergot, Ergomar, Ergostat, Medihaler Ergotamine, Wigraine, Wigrettes)
- dihydroergotamine mesylate (D.H.E. 45<sup>®</sup>, Embolex, Migranal<sup>®</sup>)
- ergonovine, ergonovine and methylergonovine (Ergotrate, Methergine), ergotamine and methylergonovine
- Ergotrate Maleate, methylergonovine maleate (Methergine)
- triazolam (Halcion®), midazolam hydrochloride oral syrup
- pimozide (Orap®)
- the cholesterol lowering medicines lovastatin (Mevacor®) or simvastatin (Zocor®)
- sildenafil (Revatio®) only when used for the treatment of pulmonary arterial

hypertension. (See "Medicines that may need changes" and "What are the possible side effects of Kaletra?" for information about the use of sildenafil for erectile problems.)

alfuzosin (Uroxatral®)

# Medicines that you should not take with KALETRA since they may make KALETRA not work as well:

- the herbal supplement St. John's Wort (hypericum perforatum)
- rifampin (Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®)

#### Medicines that may need changes:

- birth control pills that contain estrogen ("the pill") or the birth control (contraceptive) patches
- certain cholesterol lowering medicines, such as atorvastatin (Lipitor®) or rosuvastatin (Crestor®)
- certain other antiretroviral medicines, such as efavirenz (Atripla® and Sustiva®), nevirapine (Viramune®), amprenavir (Agenerase®), fosamprenavir calcium (Lexiva®) and nelfinavir (Viracept®)
- anti-seizure medicines, such as phenytoin (Dilantin®) carbamazepine, (Tegretol®), phenobarbital
- medicines for erectile problems, such as sildenafil (Viagra®, Revatio®), tadalafil (Cialis®), or vardenafil (Levitra®)
- medicines for tuberculosis (TB), such as rifabutin (Mycobutin®)
- inhaled steroid medicines, such as fluticasone propionate (Flonase®)
- inhaled medicines such as salmeterol (Serevent®) or salmeterol in combination with fluticasone propionate (Advair®). Your doctor may need to change to a different medicine
- medicines for gout, such as colchicine (Colcrys®)
- medicines to treat pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH), such as bosentan (Tracleer®) or tadalafil (Adcirca®)

If you are not sure if you are taking a medicine above, ask your doctor.

#### **How should I take KALETRA?**

- Take KALETRA every day exactly as prescribed by your doctor.
- It is very important to set up a dosing schedule and follow it every day.
- Do not change your treatment or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.
- Swallow KALETRA tablets whole. Do not chew, break, or crush KALETRA tablets.
- KALETRA tablets can be taken with or without food.

- If you are taking both Videx® (didanosine) and KALETRA:
- didanosine can be taken at the same time as KALETRA tablets, without food.
- take didanosine either one hour before or two hours after taking KALETRA oral solution.
- Do not miss a dose of KALETRA. This could make the virus harder to treat. If you forget to take KALETRA, take the missed dose right away. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Instead, follow your regular dosing schedule by taking your next dose at its regular time. Do not take more than one dose of KALETRA at one time.
- If you take more than the prescribed dose of KALETRA, call your local poison control center or emergency room right away.
- Take KALETRA oral solution with food to help it work better.
- If KALETRA is being used for your child, tell your doctor if your child's weight changes.
- KALETRA should not be given one time each day in children. When giving KALETRA to your child, give KALETRA exactly as prescribed.
- KALETRA oral solution contains a large amount of alcohol.
  - If a young child drinks more than the recommended dose, it could make them sick from too much alcohol. Contact your local poison control center or emergency room right away
- Talk with your doctor if you take or plan to take metronidazole or disulfiram. You can have severe nausea and vomiting if you take these medicines with KALETRA.
- When your KALETRA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. It is important not to run out of KALETRA. The amount of HIV-1 virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may become resistant to KALETRA and become harder to treat.
- KALETRA can be taken with acid reducing agents used for heartburn or reflux such as omeprazole (Prilosec®) and ranitidine (Zantac®) with no dose adjustment.
- KALETRA should not be administered once daily in combination with carbamazepine (Tegretol® and Epitol®), phenobarbital (Luminol®), or phenytoin (Dilantin®).

Avoid doing things that can spread HIV infection. KALETRA does not stop you from passing HIV infection to others. Do not share needles, other injection equipment or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them, like toothbrushes and razor blades. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

## What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?

### KALETRA can cause serious side effects.

- See "What is the most important information I should know about KALETRA?"
- Liver problems. Liver problems, including death, can happen in people who take KALETRA. Blood tests in people who take KALETRA may show possible liver problems. People with liver disease such as Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C who take KALETRA may have worsening liver disease. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of these signs and symptoms of liver problems:
- o loss of appetite
- yellow skin and whites of eyes (jaundice)
- o dark-colored urine
- o pale colored stools, itchy skin
- o stomach area (abdominal) pain.
- Inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis). Some people who take KALETRA get inflammation of the pancreas which may be serious and cause death. You have a higher chance of getting pancreatitis if you have had it before. Tell your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain while taking KALETRA. These may be signs of pancreatitis.
- Increases in certain fat (triglycerides and cholesterol) levels in your blood. Large increases of triglycerides and cholesterol can be seen in blood test results of some people who take KALETRA. The longterm chance of getting complications such as heart attacks or stroke due to increases in triglycerides and cholesterol caused by protease inhibitors is not known at this time.
- Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia). Some people who take protease inhibitors including KALETRA get new or more serious diabetes, or high blood sugar. Tell your doctor if you notice an increase

- in thirst or urinate often while taking KALETRA.
- Changes in body fat. Changes in body fat in some people who take antiretroviral therapy. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.
- Increased bleeding for hemophiliacs. Some people with hemophilia have increased bleeding with protease inhibitors including KALETRA.
- Increased risk of certain problems when you take medicines used for the treatment of erectile problems such as sildenafil (Viagra®), tadalafil (Cialis®), or vardenafil (Levitra®) with KALETRA:
- low blood pressure. If you get dizzy or faint, you need to lie down. Tell your doctor if you feel dizzy, or have fainting spells.
- vision changes. Tell your doctor right away if you have vision changes.
- penis erection lasting more than 4 hours. If you are a male and have an erection that lasts longer than 4 hours, get medical help right away to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

Common side effects of KALETRA include:

- diarrhea
- nausea
- stomach area (abdominal) pain
- feeling weak
- vomiting
- headache
- upset stomach

These are not all of the possible side effects of KALETRA. For more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist. Tell your doctor about any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

#### **How should I store KALETRA?**

#### **KALETRA** tablets:

- Store KALETRA tablets at room temperature, between 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C).
- Do not keep KALETRA tablets out of the container it comes in for longer

than 2 weeks, especially in areas where there is a lot of humidity. Keep the container closed tightly.

#### **KALETRA** oral solution:

- Store KALETRA oral solution in a refrigerator, between 36°F to 46°F (2°C to 8°C). KALETRA oral solution that is kept refrigerated may be used until the expiration date printed on the label.
- KALETRA oral solution that is stored at room temperature (less than 77°F or 25°C) should be used within 2 months.
- Keep KALETRA away from high heat.
   Throw away any medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need.

### Keep KALETRA and all medicines out of the reach of children.

#### **General information about KALETRA**

KALETRA does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.
The long-term effects of KALETRA are
not known at this time. People taking
KALETRA may still get opportunistic
infections or other conditions that
happen with HIV-1 infection. Some of
these conditions are pneumonia, herpes
virus infections, and Mycobacterium
avium complex (MAC) infections.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Do not use KALETRA for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give KALETRA to other people, even if they have the same condition you have. It may harm them.

This Medication Guide summarizes the most important information about KALETRA. If you would like more information, talk with your doctor. You can ask your pharmacist or doctor for information about KALETRA that is written for health professionals. For more information about KALETRA call 1-800-633-9110 or go to www.KALETRA.com.

What are the ingredients in KALETRA? Active ingredient: lopinavir and ritonavir Inactive ingredients:

KALETRA 200 mg lopinavir and 50 mg ritonavir tablets: copovidone, sorbitan monolaurate, colloidal silicon dioxide, and sodium stearyl fumarate. The film coating contains: hypromellose, titanium dioxide, polyethylene glycol 400, hydroxypropyl cellulose, talc, colloidal silicon dioxide, polyethylene glycol 3350, yellow ferric oxide 172, and polysorbate 80.

KALETRA 100 mg lopinavir and 25 mg ritonavir tablets: copovidone, sorbitan monolaurate, colloidal silicon dioxide,

and sodium stearyl fumarate. The film coating contains: polyvinyl alcohol, titanium dioxide, talc, polytheylene glycol 3350, and yellow ferric oxide E172.

KALETRA oral solution: acesulfame potassium, alcohol, artificial cotton candy flavor, citric acid, glycerin, high fructose corn syrup, Magnasweet-110 flavor, menthol, natural and artificial vanilla flavor, peppermint oil, polyoxyl 40 hydrogenated castor oil, povidone, propylene glycol, saccharin sodium, sodium chloride, sodium citrate, and water.

# KALETRA oral solution contains 42.4% alcohol (v/v). "See How should I take KALETRA?".

KALETRA Tablets, 200 mg lopinavir/ 50 mg ritonavir Manufactured by Abbott Pharmaceuticals PR Ltd., Barceloneta, PR 00617 for Abbott Laboratories, North Chicago, IL 60064, U.S.A.

KALETRA Tablets, 100 mg lopinavir/ 25 mg ritonavir and KALETRA Oral Solution Abbott Laboratories, North Chicago, IL 60064, U.S.A.

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This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

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#### the "official" dish ...from 4

also benefit Buzzy's Boys & Girls.

The Top 5 Finalists include:

- Circuit Party/Event of the Year: Gay Easter Parade, Halloween, PFLAG's 20th Anniversary Champagne Reception, Red Party/Lafitte's, Southern Decadence
- Hair Salon of the Year: Bobby Blue Contemporary Barber & Beauty Parlor, Headquarters, Mickey Nolan's Salon, Paris Parker. Salon D'Malta
- Gay Mardi Gras Ball of the Year: Krewe of Amon-Ra, Krewe of Armeinius, Krewe of Petronius, Lords of Leather, Mystic Krewe of Satyricon
- Neighborhood Bar of the Year: 700 Club, Cafe Lafitte in Exile, Good Friends Bar, JohnPaul's, Tubby's Golden Lantern
- Buzzy Fanning AIDS Award [organization/individual doing outstanding service in the AIDS arena]: Michael Hickerson, Toby Lefort, Tony Leggio, Chris Leonard, NO/AIDS Task Force
- Bitch of the Year: Aletha Bryant, Paul Chiriaco, Ken Grandpre, Princesse Stephaney, Persana Shoulders
- Show Club of the Year: Bourbon Pub & Parade, JohnPaul's, Oz, Tubby's Golden Lantern, Starlight By The Park
- Donnie Jay Performing Arts Award [play, chorus or theatrical group/no individuals]: *GLITZ: The Art of Female Impersonation, I Am My Own Wife*, New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus, Outworks 2010/LSU Theatre Department, Running With Scissors
- Restaurant/Deli/Coffee House of the Year: Bywater Restaurant, Deli & BBQ; Clover Grill; Mona Lisa Restaurant, Quartermaster: The Nellie Deli; Verti Mart
- Dance Club of the Year: Bourbon Pub & Parade, JohnPaul's, Oz, Rubyfruit Jungle, Splash/Baton Rouge
- Bartender of the Year: Aletha Bryant/ Cafe Lafitte in Exile, Darrin Duplissey/ JohnPaul's, Lance Pippin/Tubby's Golden Lantern, Jeff Palmquist/Cafe Lafitte in Exile, Cody Warembourg/700 Club
- DJ of the Year: Chris Allen/Bourbon Pub & Parade, DJ Myke/Cafe Lafitte in Exile, Johnny Love/Cafe Lafitte in Exile, Tim Pflueger/Oz, Richie Rich/JohnPaul's
- •Leather Bar of the Year: Dallas Eagle/ Dallas, JohnPaul's, Phoenix, Ramrod/Ft. Lauderdale, Rawhide 2010
- GLBT Business of the Year [no bars/ restaurants/delis/hair salons]: Alternatives, La Mina Sterling, Moms Mini Mart, Rab Dab Clothing & Gifts, Scully'z Recordz
- Leather Person of the Year: Michael Albracht, Cathy Fox, Jose Gonzales, Toby Lefort, Gary Vandeventer
- Transgender of the Year: Regina Adams, Dee Cooley, Stephanie Lee, Rikki Redd, Jasmine SX
- Lesbian of the Year: Marty Curtin, Mae Falgout, Red Hanson, Pat McCardle, Sandy Sachs
- Gay Man of the Year: Tommy Elias, Ken Grandpre, Toby Lefort, Tony Leggio, John Vignone
- Entertainer of the Year: [female/male impersonator/drag star or entertainer]: Big Mama, Elizabeth Bouvier, Blanche Debris, Passion Armani Cassidine, Coca

The Board of Directors will announce the Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient, and the Top 5 Finalists for the Cheridon Comedy Award, and Fly Fashion Glamour Award on July 6. The Marsha Delain Award of Excellence will be presented by Marsha Naquin-Delain at the GAA Gala.

The Board of Directors includes Lisa

Beaumann, Teryl-Lynn Foxx, Rip and Marsha Naquin-Delain, and Toni Pizanie.

Sponsored by *Ambush*, the awards thanks those in the Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Community who are often not recognized for the outstanding services and efforts they perform. These individuals and businesses have made the GLBT Community into the viable, successful and powerful community it is today across the Gulf South. For more, visit <a href="mailto:AmbushMag.COM/GAA">AmbushMag.COM/GAA</a>.

#### Oz Celebrates 18th Anniversary Neon Party on June 26

z will celebrate its 18th anniversary on Saturday, June 26 with it's spectacular Neon Party. Hosted right in the middle of Pride weekend, the club will feature DJ of the Year Tim Pflueger and DJ Bull. It will also bring it's colorful host Persana Shoulders and the Club Kids up front and center. It is sure to be one of the biggest nights at Dance Club of the Year Oz, 800 Bourbon Street.

## The Summer of Pride at Cafe Lafitte in Exile

n keeping with the upcoming Pride week-end, Café Lafitte In Exile is proud to bring to stage another original production; this one entitled, *The Summer Of Pride*. The production takes us from the inception of the gay pride movement to the present day, highlighting moments in gay culture, and featuring comedic performances by some of today's "out" artists; all woven around an original script. If you were lucky enough to see *The Summer Of Love*, you will not want to miss this one. The show is on Saturday, June 26th, 9pm sharp.

Starting out the week-end on Friday, June 25th, it's Café Lafitte's 2nd Sidewalk Chalk Art Contest, with a prize going to the best interpretation of gay pride. Then upstairs in The Balcony Bar at 7pm is the Pride Jewelry Making Contest. Lafitte's supplies everything you need, you supply the creativity.

Then on Sunday, June 27th, it's Lafitte's famous, often imitated, Trash Disco, with DJ Johnny Love, from 4-9pm. "Make sure and spend your Pride weekend with us!" says DJ Myke.

#### NEA GLBT Caucus Holds Awards Dinner July 5 in New Orleans

he NEA Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Caucus will hold it's annual Robert Birle Awards Dinner July 5, 2010 at the Hilton Riverside in New Orleans.

Held in conjunction with the National Education Association's (NEA) 148th Annual Meeting and 89th Representative Assembly (RA), the Robert Birle Awards Dinner is attended by 700 educational professionals from across the nation. This year's special honoree is Ashley Judd. For information visit <a href="mailto:nea-glbtc.org">nea-glbtc.org</a>.

Over 10,000 participants are expected to attend the NEA's event at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. Participants meet to discuss, debate and set NEA policy and direction. An integral part of this annual meeting is the input from caucuses.

Founded in the 1980's by a handful of NEA Members seeking to provide a means of professional support for gay and lesbian colleagues, The National Education Association Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Caucus works to eliminate institutional discrimination and homophobia, the NEA-GLBTC monitors and participates in the development of NEA policies and activities, provides resources and fosters better communication among educators, students, and communities. During the NEA-RA, members of the caucus meet provide NEA-RA participants feedback on proposed changes in NEA policy and their potential affect on GLBT educators, educational support professionals and stu-

#### Southern Decadence Press Party July 6 @ Bourbon Pub & Parade

outhern Decadence Grand Marshals XXXVI Toby Lefort and Julien Artressia have set the Official Southern Decadence Press Party for Tuesday, July 6, 7pm. This year the exciting event will be hosted in the Parade above the Bourbon Pub, 801 Bourbon Street, and is open to the public.

The grand marshals will unveil the official poster by renowned photographer Larry Graham, and announce both the official song and sponsors. The duo will lead the 39th Southern Decadence celebration over Labor Day Weekend, Wednesday-Monday, September 1-6.

#### Win A Room for 2 for Southern Decadence Weekend Valued @ Almost \$1,000

outhernDecadence.COM has partnered with New Orleans Courtyard and French Quarter Suites Hotels to stage an exciting contest giving away a room for two for Southern Decadence weekend. The contest winner would get deluxe accommodations for two for four nights, Friday-Monday, September 3-6 valued at almost \$1,000. It includes the use of two beautiful pools, Wi-Fi Internet services, continental breakfast and off street parking.

Visit <u>SouthernDecadence.COM</u> to enter. Drawing for the winner will be on Saturday, July 31.

Hidden behind antique shutters lies an urban oasis where European charm meets New Orleans elegance and the echoes of Jazz greats join with the melodies of trickling fountains. The New Orleans Courtyard Hotel and French Quarter Suites Hotel invites you to experience New Orleans in a legendary French Quarter neighborhood where trumpeter Wynton Marsalis first picked up his horn and Jazz legends the like of Cannonball Adderly once played-all a stone's throw from Congo Square-where Jazz "was born."

Steps away, you'll find celebrated Bourbon Street, New Orleans renown restaurants, bars, clubs, irresistible shopping and the many attractions and destinations that make the Crescent City one of the most popular and loved travel destinations in the world.

French Quarter Suites is the official host hotel of Oz New Orleans. The properties are located at 1101/1119 N. Rampart

Street. For reservations call 800.457.2253, email reservations@bpmhotels.com.

For more info visit <u>NOCourtyard.COM</u> or <u>FrenchQuarterSuites.COM</u>.

## FNBMG Awards Funds to 3 Local Charities

riday Night Before Mardi Gras (FNBMG), a New Orleans 501(c)(3) charitable fundraising organization has, for the past 11 years, been dedicated to raising funds for local HIV/AIDS charities and related support organizations. All funds FNBMG raises are derived from FNBMG's annual extravaganzas. FNBMG organizers receive no compensation for their efforts on behalf of FNBMG.

This year, following the *Cirque du Sogay Extravaganza XI* held at the Audubon Tea Room on February 12, the FNBMG Board of Directors designated seven local charities as recipients of cash awards. Already FNBMG has awarded \$6,800 to the NO/AIDS Task Force Food for Friends Program, \$2,800 to Belle Reve New Orleans and \$1,200 to the Forum for Equality Foundation.

Over the next few weeks, FNBMG will announce additional donations to the following four charities: Project Lazarus, AIDSLaw of Louisiana, the William J. Fanning Foundation (Buzzy's Boys and Girls), and the New Orleans Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

FNBMG thanks all of its generous supporters and advocates who have made these annual donations possible. Since the year 2000 and including this year's Extravaganza, FNBMG will have donated more than \$130,000 to local HIV/AIDS agencies. FNBMG especially appreciates the unprecedented support and advertising *Halloween New Orleans* provided this year.

FNBMG Extravaganzas are over-thetop parties held each year on the Friday night just before Fat Tuesday – Mardi Gras Day. Extravaganzas are open to the general public and every Extravaganza features an open bar, a bountiful buffet, free professional photographs, several costume prizes, live entertainment, dancing. Several luxury round-trip transportation options from locations throughout the metro area to whisk you to and from the Audubon Tea Room for the festivities.

The FNBMG extravaganzas have been described as "the Mardi Gras Ball where everyone is the tableaux". That's no exaggeration. Extravaganza participants arrive to party the night away in costumes best described as running the spectrum for spectacular to beautiful to out-landish.

Much more information, including mailing list sign-up information as well as a wealth of information about FNBMG and the extravaganzas is available at FNBMG's official web site. Anyone interested in contacting FNBMG for organizational information or to participate in planning the next extravaganza and other FNBMG events should contact FNBMG at: <a href="mailto:fnbmg@cox.net">fnbmg@cox.net</a> or call 733.3311.

FNBMG's official web site address is: <a href="https://www.fridaynightbeforemardigras.com">www.fridaynightbeforemardigras.com</a> . Please check the site frequently for new information about Extravaganza XII, photos taken during Extravaganza XI, special events planned and an exciting on line raffle for something everyone is going to

#### [continued on 10]



#### the "official" dish ...from 9

want to win. It's a great big wonderful surprise!

FNBMG will again return to the Audubon Tea Room for Extravaganza XII on March 4, 2011. Mark your calendars now. It's never too early to start constructing the costume that will knock everyone's eyes out and make you the belle or the butch of the ball!

#### D'PROJECT celebrates SOUTHERN VOICES: dance out LOUD 3

PROJECT, an innovative local performance company, is bringing to the stage its third season of **SOUTHERN VOICES: dance out LOUD 3**. The show is composed of exciting new works by seven of New Orleans best choreographers. Over fifty performers and artists are collaborating to create yet another memorable dance experience.

SOUTHERN VOICES 3 showcases a variety of styles and personalities, with choreographies by Eddy Villalta, Alice Pascal Escher, Anne Burr, Cheryl O'Sullivan, Leigh Brockman, John Rodi, and Nicole Boyd-Buckels. The show's unique multidisciplinary approach gives a voice to the choreographers through interviews, which have become a hallmark of this event

Company Artistic Director, Eddy Villalta boasts "We are extremely excited about the lineup of talent we have this year. And our audience grows every season because the variety we present has something everyone can appreciate. They come expecting quality, and we deliver."

Performances are at the Contemporary Arts Center's Freeport-McMoRan Theatre on Friday, June 25 and Saturday, June 26 at 8pm and on Sunday, June 27 at 2pm. Tickets are \$20 and \$15 for CAC members, seniors and students, and may be purchased on the Contemporary Arts Center website CACNO.org.

D'PROJECT is a local non-profit dance performance company whose primary goal is to create performance and educational opportunities for the New Orleans audience, while building a greater appreciation of the performing arts and artists in our area. Visit D'PROJECT on the web at www.DProject.us to find out more.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Louisiana Division of the  $\,$ 

Arts, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council. The grant is administered through the Arts Council of New Orleans, and further made possible by the Contemporary Arts Center's Performance Support Program.

#### NFL Star Scott Fujita & America's Wetland Foundation Launch Text Messaging Drive to Replant Wetlands

ew Orleans - Marking the opening of hurricane season, former New Orleans Saints Super Bowl linebacker Scott Fujita and the America's WETLAND Foundation (AWF) have teamed up to heighten awareness and build support for restoring Louisiana's eroding coastline.

As part of a public service announcement campaign, AWF is launching a textmessaging drive to support volunteer planting and restoration projects in Louisiana's marshes after the oil spill.

Fujita, now with the Cleveland Browns, donated \$12,500 to AWF for plantings in April and is a strong supporter of coastal restoration. He recently taped a PSA that urges supporters to "Give Now" by texting "isupport wetlands" to 20222, then replying "yes" when asked for confirmation of their \$10 donation.

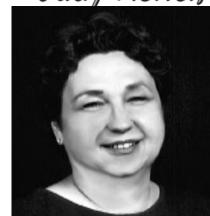
All donations will go directly to support the work of the America's WETLAND Conservation Corps (AWCC), an LSU Ag Center-based AmeriCorps program that will manage volunteers and plantings in the wake of the Gulf Coast oil spill.

"These wetlands, already endangered due to coastal erosion, need all of us to pitch in to save this internationally important habitat," Fujita said. "Please join me to save this threatened area. Now, more than ever, it is critical to protect America's WETLAND," Fujita said.

Learning that Louisiana is losing land at the rate of a football field every 50 minutes triggered Fujita's interest in the wetlands.

"We estimate it would cost between \$2,500 and \$5,000 to purchase the plants needed to restore a wetland habitat the size of a football field," said Hilary Collis, program director of the AWCC. "Once areas are declared safe, and don't require the wearing of hazardous material cloth-

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ing, we will go in and replant areas that need it," Collis said.

Each plug of Smooth Cord Grass, the primary grass used for wetlands restoration, costs about \$1. The grass grows well in salt and brackish water at low levels and has an intricate root system that supports retention of marshland. One text message donation will purchase 10 plants.

The AWF has long raised money for the conservation corps to support its replanting efforts, but has stepped up the appeal because of the potentially huge impact of the oil spill on America's WET-LAND. During 2009, AWCC members exceeded all expectations. Volunteers and energetic AWCC members recruited 4,155 volunteers that logged almost 25,000 hours while helping with 87 restoration projects. The 2010 members are eager to help out with wetland restoration as the oil is removed.

"The accomplishments of the America's WETLAND Conservation Corps have both immediate impact – through their wetlands planting projects – as well as long term, through their educational programs, The AWCC volunteers teach thousands about the importance of maintaining the wetlands for habitat, seafood production and hurricane protection for our communities and the nation's critical transportation and energy infrastructure," said R. King Milling of New Orleans, chair of the America's WETLAND Foundation.

"The long-term partnership with the Saints organization and some individual team members such as Fujita, help in our efforts to reach broader audiences to join in the fight to save the coast," Milling continued.

To view the new PSA featuring Scott Fujita visit: <a href="www.americaswetland.com">www.americaswetland.com</a>

There are two ways to donate to this effort:

**Online:** go to www.americaswetland.com and click on the "Gulf Oil Spill Restoration Fund.

**Give Now:** Text "isupport wetlands" to short phone number 20222 (note no space between "I" and "support," then answer "yes" when the return message asks for a response.

A one-time donation of \$10 will be added to your mobile phone bill or deducted from your prepaid balance. Messaging and Data Rates May Apply. All charges are billed by and payable to your mobile service provider. Service is available on most carriers. Donations are collected for the benefit of the America's WETLAND Foundation by the Mobile Giv-

ing Foundation and subject to the terms found at www.hmgf.org/t. You can unsubscribe at any time by replying STOP to short code 20222; Reply **HELP** to 20222 for **help.** 

America's WETLAND Foundation is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that has acted as a neutral arbiter for coastal interests since its inception in 2002, elevating issues facing the Gulf Coast, specifically those of coastal land loss, to regional and national attention.

The America's WETLAND Conservation Corps is a partnership of the America's WETLAND Foundation and the LSU AaCenter, which is supported by AmeriCorps through the Louisiana Serve Commission, and the Office of Lt. Governor. The Corps build community pride and environmental awareness through volunteerism and education. It supports collaborative efforts to organize and engage participants in a variety of activities, all with the message of responsible stewardship and a call for action to save coastal Louisiana. Exciting hands-on volunteer programs involve and educate audiences through the work of a diverse group of members, who not only take their experience with them when they leave Louisiana, but also leave a physical, virtual and emotional handprint on the state.

# Nicholls Offers Post-Oil Spill Financial Assistance

hibodaux – Students at Nicholls
State University whose personal finances have significantly changed as a result of the recent environmental disaster in the Gulf of Mexico may qualify for need-based financial aid.

Those who have not qualified for such aid in the past are encouraged to apply, along with those who already receive assistance. The latter may be eligible for additional aid if their current award is less than the maximum amount allowed.

To begin the application process, students must complete the appropriate form, accessible at <a href="www.nicholls.edu/finaid/oil">www.nicholls.edu/finaid/oil</a>. Applicants must then contact the Office of Financial Aid at 985.448.4048 to schedule a meeting with a counselor.

"We are closely monitoring the ongoing oil disaster in the Gulf as well as its impact on a large percentage of the students we serve," Courtney Cassard, director of enrollment services, said. "Nicholls is committed to helping our students and their families get through this catastrophe and accomplish their academic goals."