

For Immediate Release

Inaugural Sausalito Winterfest Run on December 14 to benefit at-risk youth in Marin County

(Sausalito, CA) Registration is open for the inaugural Sausalito Winterfest Run, a family-friendly celebration featuring 8K and 5K races and a 1K Kidz Fun Run on a panoramic course for a primo cause on Sunday morning, December 14.

Proceeds from the event will benefit at-risk youth through the Dipsea Kidz program and Sausalito on the Waterfront Foundation.

“The Dipsea Kidz program, now in its third year, is making a difference in the lives of these youngsters in and out of the classroom. They have accepted and embraced the concept and excelled scholastically, athletically and as a team,” said Merv Regan, Dipsea Foundation Board Chairman. “Now under the leadership of head coach Ana Levaggi and her team and working closely with Foundation Director Michael Creedman, the program, as we had envisioned, is expanding from Willow Creek Academy into other Marin schools.”

Entry fee for the Winterfest Run is \$40 for adults and \$25 for children 16 & under for the 8K and 5K races. A \$5 donation is requested for children 7 & under participating in the Kidz Fun Run. Runners will receive a free commemorative T-shirt. Kidz Run finishers will all receive a medal with the numeral 1.

Checks can be made payable to and mailed to the Dipsea Race Foundation, P.O. Box 10 in Mill Valley, CA 94942. Or register online at www.thedipseakids.org.

In addition, commemorative aluminum water bottles can be purchased for a donation of \$50 or more online or the day of the benefit event.

Competitors and children who register and pay entry fee before December 1 will receive free admission to a post-race pancake breakfast from 9 a.m. to noon. Races will start and finish at the Spinnaker Restaurant on the waterfront. The 8K race begins at 8 a.m. followed by the 5K race at 8:05 a.m. on a flat downtown course that will feature magnificent views of Mt. Tamalpais, Angel Island, San Francisco Bay and the San Francisco city skyline. The Kidz Fun Run, which is one kilometer, will start at 8:45 a.m.

The event is part of the Sausalito Winterfest three-day weekend festival sponsored by the Sausalito on the Waterfront Foundation.

For more information, call (415) 335-6321 or visit www.thedipseakids.org.

ABOUT THE DIPSEA KIDZ PROGRAM:

Dipsea Kidz is a unique developmental program to help at-risk middle school kids in Marin County improve their overall health through a structured afterschool physical fitness training, mentoring, nutritional and educational program founded by the Dipsea Race Foundation in 2011 in association with Willow Creek Academy in Sausalito. The mission of Dipsea Kidz is to use the challenge of training for cross country runs to help students develop long-term goals, improve their health, and overcome obstacles. Dipsea Kidz builds confidence, resiliency life skills, and reinforces the value and commitment and hard work. Youngsters can then draw on these values for achievement throughout their lives.

ABOUT THE DIPSEA RACE FOUNDATION:

The Dipsea Race Foundation is a charitable non-profit (501(c) 3) corporation whose mission is to “foster national amateur sports competition by sponsoring, maintaining and perpetuating, through charitable contributions and endowments, the Dipsea Race, the Dipsea Trail, the Dipsea Hall of Fame, and educational scholarships. It was established in 1997 to protect and promote the race and the values it represents. After a century of existence, the race has become an essential part of the community and cross-country running; the Foundation was created to preserve the race for future generations. The Dipsea Race Foundation has three main goals: to preserve the race and the trail for current and future generations, to support the entities and organizations that control the property over which the trail winds, and to encourage boys and girls from all backgrounds to appreciate and protect the Dipsea and other trails on Mt. Tam.

ABOUT THE SAUSALITO ON THE WATERFRONT FOUNDATION:

Formed in 1989 to launch the annual holiday lighted boat parade, the Sausalito on the Waterfront Foundation has evolved to creating awareness and providing hands-on opportunities for less advantaged youngsters to explore the mysteries and joys of the San Francisco Bay and Sausalito waterfront. Partnering with the Bay Model and Aquarium on the Bay, the Sausalito On The Waterfront Foundation has established educational programs and scholarships enabling students from Willow Creek Academy, San Domenico School and Tamalpais High School to attend seminars to learn about topics ranging from how tides and currents work in San Francisco Bay to lectures on the marine environment and the need to protect it. The students also were invited on various charter vessels in Sausalito to experience interpretative information on the bay, sailing and the environment. Last year, some students were rewarded with an invitation to ride aboard one of the award-winning boats in the 26th Sausalito Annual Lighted Boat Parade & Fireworks.

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