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**PRESS RELEASE**

Education, Entertainment, Features, Event Calendars  
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## **Boris Kodjoe & Nicole Ari Parker to Host Terri J. Vaughn's 8th Annual Angel Awards Benefit in San Francisco Aug. 13, 2011**

### ***Dr. Warren Strudwick & Edward Fitzpatrick Honored; Kelly Price Performs***

*Rarely seen without a smile on her face and twinkle in her eye, high-spirited television and movie actress Terri J. Vaughn has a soft spot for teens growing up in distressed areas like her own childhood neighborhood—San Francisco's Hunter's Point projects. Fourteen years ago, Vaughn founded TAKE WINGS FOUNDATION (TWF), a non-profit organization that addresses social and life skills needs of at-risk teens. As it has annually, since 2004, the Foundation will host a star-studded awards gala to benefit the organization Saturday, August 13, 2011.*

**SAN FRANCISCO, CA** — Accomplished and engaging actors Boris Kodjoe and Nicole Ari Parker will host the highly-anticipated affair, and GRAMMY®-nominated R&B vocalist Kelly Price will provide the evening's entertainment. TAKE WINGS FOUNDATION will honor Warren J. Strudwick, M.D., M.B.A. and Fitzpatrick Dealership Group president Edward Fitzpatrick for their respective spirited community involvement and philanthropic contributions. The San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 55 Fourth Street, will be the host venue for the eighth annual Angel Awards Benefit on Saturday, August 13th. Tickets are \$150 each, and may be purchased online at [www.TakeWings.org](http://www.TakeWings.org).



TWF founder Terri J. Vaughn

**2011 ANGEL AWARDS BENEFIT CO-HOSTS:**

Nicole & Boris Kodjoe

Vaughn's long-time friends and past co-cast members—husband and wife actors Nicole Ari Parker and Boris Kodjoe—will host the 2011 Angel Awards Benefit. Frequently acting co-stars, the inseparable talented couple is founders of Sophie's Voice Foundation, a non-profit organization named in honor of their daughter Sophie, who was diagnosed with spina bifida at birth. In January 2009, *People Magazine* featured Parker to introduce the Foundation.

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### 2011 ANGEL AWARDS BENEFIT ENTERTAINMENT:



Kelly Price

Multi-talented stage, screen and television actress, and sensational R&B singer, songwriter and producer recently dropped her latest album *Kelly*, which she believes delivers her most honest and transparent work to date. Leading the album out of the gate is the spirited single *Tired*, which received a 2011 GRAMMY® nomination in the Best Female R&B Vocal Performance category.

### 2011 ANGEL AWARD HONOREES:



Warren Strudwick, M.D.



Ed Fitzpatrick

"I am excited that the Take Wings Foundation will acknowledge the professional contributions and community involvement of its two extraordinary 2011 Angel Award honorees," said Vaughn. "Dr. Warren Strudwick, a board certified orthopedic surgeon and sports medicine practitioner, is president of Sinkler Miller Medical Association and head team physician for the Oakland Raiders." She continued, "Ed Fitzpatrick is president of Fitzpatrick Dealership Group—Valley BMW and Valley Lexus in Modesto, and Coliseum Lexus of Oakland. Ed is a philanthropic contributor to the arts, education and community enhancement, who, this year had Warrior Arena at California State University, Stanislaus renamed Ed and Bertha Fitzpatrick Arena to recognize their monetary commitment to the school. Both of our honorees are each remarkable individuals and pillars of our community."

### 2011 HONORARY ANGEL AWARDS BENEFIT CHAIRPERSONS:

Take Wings Foundation, its founder Terri J. Vaughn, and the organization's Board of Directors are honored to have the support of individuals and corporations who champion the Take Wings Foundation's mission. The distinguished 2011 Angel Awards gala honorary chairpersons are **Denise Washington LeNoir, M.S.N.** (Family Nurse Practitioner specializing in healthcare for adolescents and teens, and 2010 TWF Angel Award recipient); **Alvin "Al" Attles** (former Golden State Warriors guard and head coach); and **Michael A. LeNoir, M.D., F.A.A.A.I.** (practicing Oakland/San Francisco Bay Area pediatrician and allergist, and CEO of Ethnic Health America Network).

### 2011 ANGEL AWARDS BENEFIT SPONSORS:

The Take Wings organization is grateful to its corporate supporters for their continued generous sponsorship: Wells Fargo, Safeway, Inc., Golden State Warriors, Bay Area Orthopaedic Sports & Spine (Dr. Warren Strudwick), Coliseum Lexus of Oakland (Edward Fitzpatrick), Kaiser Permanente, Ross Stores, KBLX 102.9-FM, and the House of Hennessy, who will provide hand-crafted Hennessy Privilege cocktails.

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### **ABOUT TAKE WINGS FOUNDATION (TWF):**

Take Wings Foundation is a non-profit organization whose mission is to build the self esteem of San Francisco Bay Area at-risk teens between the ages of 13 and 18 by providing positive experiences and role modeling. The foundation's core components in achieving its mission involve encouraging and enabling youth to provide community service, participate in life skills development activities and workshops, and earn academic scholarships, while emphasizing education, health and fitness. In 2010 TWF added Take Wings Male Youth Program to its previously all-girls program.

### **ABOUT TERRI J. VAUGHN:**

Terri J. Vaughn has entertained us on television for eight seasons as a series regular. First, she stole America's heart with her lovable portrayal of *Lovita Alizay Jenkins* on the WB's "The Steve Harvey Show." After that, Vaughn made her way to UPN's "All of Us." Currently, she is a cast member on the hit TBS television sit-com "Tyler Perry's Meet the Browns." Among her film credits are "Three Can Play That Game," "Tyler Perry's Daddy's Little Girls," "Redrum," and "Angels Can't Help But Laugh." Vaughn has been honored with three Image Awards for Outstanding Supporting Actress, a nomination for a 2005 BET Comedy Award, and she also got a nod for BET Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama Series for her work on "Soulfood."

But, before Vaughn ever had her first audition, she was growing up in a housing project in San Francisco's Hunter's Point district. Today, she is determined to create positive, inspirational and educational experiences for teens growing up in disadvantaged communities. Out of her desire to give back to her community, in 1997, Vaughn started the [TAKE WINGS FOUNDATION](#).

### **EDITORS:**

- ✓ To arrange pre-event interviews, obtain photos of noted participants, or RSVP (required for on-site event coverage), contact Toni Beckham | 209-832-8020/408-499-3664 c [Toni@PRetCetera.com](mailto:Toni@PRetCetera.com).
- ✓ **Press Credentials Required** to obtain event press pass
- ✓ Press pass entitles holder to media-related activities (photos, video, and sound bites) throughout the gala evening; does not include dinner or gala table seating.

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