



12th Annual Taste of the Stars Gala
**STARLIGHT CHILDREN'S
FOUNDATIONTM MIDATLANTIC**

PRESS RELEASE

**Starlight MidAtlantic to Honor Franco Nuschese with the Starlight
Community Star Award**

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Washington D.C.--Starlight Children's Foundation MidAtlantic will present its Starlight Community Star Award to Franco Nuschese for his significant and ongoing support to the healing of and service to critically ill children and their families. Nuschese is principal owner of Cafe Milano in Georgetown.

The award, presented at Starlight MidAtlantic's Annual Taste of the Stars Gala on Saturday, November 19 at the Four Seasons, recognizes an individual whose leadership sets the standard of excellence in contributing to the health and well-being of children and their families. With each award, Starlight publicly affirms present achievements, seeks to encourage further work on the part of the recipient, and hopes to motivate others to follow their lead in service.

"There is no better choice for our Starlight Star Award than Mr. Nuschese," said Jim Bell, gala chairman and member of the Starlight Children's Foundation MidAtlantic Board of Directors.

"Franco has dedicated time and resources to his community and caring for those who are most likely to be left behind. He makes me proud to be a fellow Washingtonian. He is a true community star who recognizes the importance of being involved, taking initiative, and solving problems in their communities."

Nuschese actively supports many local and national charitable organizations, including Knock Out Abuse Against Women and the educational programs of philanthropist Joe Robert. Nuschese has hosted benefits to support the memorial for victims of the 9-11 attack on the Pentagon and for rescue workers of 9-11. He has volunteered food and his time to feed the homeless, and has contributed to events benefiting American military veterans and troops.

Nuschese chaired the 2011 Spanish Catholic Center Gala in Washington, D.C., an event which raised funds to provide health and other vital services to the Latino community as well as other immigrants from all around the world. Nuschese is also the director of international relations for the Robert C. Gallo Foundation for AIDS and Virus Research which supports the work of the eminent scientist. He is a member of the board of directors for the Corcoran Gallery of Art.

Nuschese's enterprises include Capital Wines (an importer of fine Italian vintages), Embassy Row Catering and Sette Osteria restaurant.



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About Starlight Children's FoundationTM MidAtlantic:

Since 1999, Starlight Children's Foundation MidAtlantic has been helping seriously ill children and their families cope with their pain, fear and isolation through entertainment, education and family activities. Last year, Starlight MidAtlantic provided over 2 million hours of entertainment in the hospital, in the community and on the Web, for 220,000 children and their families in the District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. To learn more visit www.starlight-midatlantic.org

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