

FASHION FOCUS CHICAGO

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FASHION FOCUS CHICAGO PRESENTS FASHION CAFÉ SERIES

First Event May 21 to be hosted by Director of Fashion Arts and Events Melissa Gamble

Fashion Focus Chicago is pleased to present the Fashion Café Series at the Chicago Cultural Center. The first-ever fashion series will bring Chicago boutiques and designers together for a once monthly evening of shopping and a discussion hosted by a member of the Chicago fashion community.

“In these tough economic times, we are focused on doing things to ensure that the small fashion businesses of Chicago continue to thrive,” said Melissa Gamble, Director of Fashion Arts and Events, City of Chicago. “We hope the Fashion Café Series will add to the already successful Fashion Focus programming by giving our retailers and designers a platform to be out in the community on an ongoing basis.”

The first Fashion Café event will be held May 21, 5 - 8 p.m. at the Chicago Cultural Center, 77 East Randolph Street and will be hosted by Melissa Gamble. This Café highlights contemporary womenswear designers and retailers including, Beta Boutique; House of Sole; Bess & Loie; Shibuy Hada; Paul Sisti and John Schultz; Christopher Augmon, and new jewelry designer Rebecca Zemans and new womenswear line Jlee Silver.

The Fashion Café series event dates for 2009 are as follows:

June 18, 5-8 p.m. Sustainable Fashion

* July 21 & 22, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. (Fashion Café skips a month for Sidewalk Sale in Daley Plaza)

August 20, 5-8 p.m. Childrenswear

September 17, 5-8 p.m. Athleticwear

* October - (Fashion Café skips a month for the fifth annual Fashion Focus Chicago in late October)

November 19, 5 - 8 p.m. - Menswear

December 3 - Glitter: A Holiday Shopping Event

All events are free and open to the public.

* Fashion Café skips a month for previously scheduled events.

The Fashion Café Series is part of Fashion Focus Chicago. Fashion Focus Chicago supports and promotes fashion designers and retailers living and working in Chicago through events, seminars, and city programs. Chicago boasts more than 400 designers and 375 independent fashion boutiques. To learn more about this exciting industry, please check out www.chicagofashionresource.com.

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