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**Fulton St. Event Benefits Louisiana Hospitality Foundation**  
***Block Party to Celebrate Ruth's Chris Steak House Opening***

NEW ORLEANS (May 13, 2008) – On Friday, May 16, 2008, Fulton St., New Orleans' newest retail, entertainment and dining district, will celebrate the opening of Ruth's Chris Steak House by hosting "Fulton St. Welcomes Ruth's Chris Steak House," a block party benefiting the Louisiana Hospitality Foundation.

The event, which goes from 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m., will feature food from each of the restaurants on Fulton St. including Ruth's Chris, Gordon Biersch, Grand Isle and Ernst Café. Entertainment will be provided by Rockin Dopsie, The Top Cats and One A-Chord. Tickets are available for \$50.00 and may be purchased online and at all Ticketmaster locations.

The Louisiana Hospitality Foundation is a non-profit organization made up of New Orleans hospitality industry leaders whose mission is to improve the community and provide support for the education, health and social welfare of New Orleans-area children. The board represents some of the biggest names of Louisiana's hospitality industry including the Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Galatoire's, Drago's, Zea's, Arnaud's, Outback Steak House and more.

"We are very excited to be working with Fulton St. and Ruth's Chris Steak House," said Glen Armantrout, Vice President of the Louisiana Hospitality Foundation. "The generous funds we will receive from their event will go along to assisting our New Orleans hospitality family and to new culinary and arts education programs for area children."

Since its foundation in 2006, the Hospitality Foundation has assisted restaurants reopening after Katrina, given donations to specific persons in the hospitality industry and made significant contributions to children's programs in the area. Their current initiatives include a \$5,000 grant to Lorenzo Rodriguez, a long-term Emeril employee who is now unable to work due to a tragic automobile accident, as well as a grant to help build the Lake Area Community Center.

"We are honored to join Ruth's Chris and all of our Fulton Street restaurant partners to raise funds for the Louisiana Hospitality Foundation," said Jim Hoskins, Senior Vice President and General Manager of Harrah's New Orleans. "We are committed to supporting the vitality and diversity of our community, whether through business or charitable endeavors."

David Blicht, President of the Louisiana Hospitality Foundation continues, "Ruth's Chris has been a very important component of the New Orleans restaurant community and their commitment to open in the downtown area is a sure sign the city is coming back."

### **About Louisiana Hospitality Foundation**

The Louisiana Hospitality Foundation was founded in 2006 with a mission to facilitate the efforts of the hospitality industry to improve the community in a variety of ways and to provide support for the education, health and social welfare of the children of the community. It is designated as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. For more information, please contact David Blicht, Hilton New Orleans Riverside, at (504) 584-3849.

### **About Ruth's Chris Steak House**

Ruth's Chris Steak House, Inc. is the largest fine-dining steakhouse company in the U.S., as measured by the total number of company-owned and franchise-owned restaurants, and has 121 locations worldwide. Founded in New Orleans by Ruth Fertel in 1965, Ruth's Chris specializes in USDA Prime grade steaks served in Ruth's Chris signature fashion ... "sizzling."

To experience fine dining at its prime ... just follow the sizzle to Ruth's Chris Steak House. For information, reservations, or to purchase gift cards, visit [www.RuthsChris.com](http://www.RuthsChris.com) or call 1-800-544-0808.

Ruth's Chris Steak House, Inc. also owns Mitchell's Fish Market, which operates under the names Mitchell's Fish Market and Columbus Fish Market, an award-winning, upscale casual seafood restaurant and bar recognized for its high quality food, contemporary dining atmosphere, and excellent service, with 19 locations, and Cameron's Steakhouses, which operates under the names Cameron's Steakhouse and Mitchell's Steakhouse, a sophisticated 21st century update of the upscale American steakhouse, with three locations. For information, reservations, or to purchase gift cards, visit [www.MitchellsFishMarket.com](http://www.MitchellsFishMarket.com), [www.MitchellsSteakhouse.com](http://www.MitchellsSteakhouse.com) and [www.Camerons-Steakhouse.com](http://www.Camerons-Steakhouse.com)

### **About Harrah's**

Harrah's New Orleans is operated by a subsidiary of Harrah's Entertainment, Inc., the world's largest provider of branded casino entertainment. Since its beginning in Reno, Nevada nearly 70 years ago, Harrah's has grown through development of new properties, expansions and acquisitions. Harrah's Entertainment is focused on building loyalty and value with its customers through a unique combination of great service, excellent products, unsurpassed distribution, operational excellence and technology leadership.

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