

23rd Catalina Conservancy Ball set for April 14

FOR THE ISLANDER

The 23rd Annual Conservancy Ball on April 14 at the historic Avalon Casino Ballroom. Catalina Express will offer a late-night return boat at 11:58 p.m. on April 14. The Catalina Island Conservancy is one of the Island's major local events as well as a fundraiser for the Conservancy. This year's theme: "Your Adventure Begins Here."

As the theme suggests, the evening promises to be one filled with adventures in dining, dancing and fun. The black tie event will celebrate the successful progress of the Imagine Catalina campaign's two important milestones: construction of The Trailhead and the completion of Trekking Catalina. Trekking Catalina, a master trails system, added 27 miles of new and enhanced trails to the Island's interior—the most extensive enhancement of the Island's trail system since the opening of the Trans-Catalina Trail in 2009. The event will also start the countdown to the anticipated opening of The Trailhead Visitor Center in Avalon later this year. The Trailhead will serve as the Conservancy's new, prominently located visitors' center where adventure on Catalina Island

begins for everyone.

"This year's Conservancy Ball will also focus on the many adventures available on the Island—from breathtaking hikes to exciting Eco Tours of the interior," said Tony Budrovich, Conservancy president and CEO. "We are working hard to create the best possible backyard for Avalon residents and visitors of Catalina to explore and experience."

Guests will be treated to dinner, enjoy big band sounds of Society Beat and will have the opportunity to bid on many one-of-a-kind items during the silent and live auctions. The Conservancy also extends a heartfelt thank you to all the sponsors of the event, especially our key corporate sponsor partners - Capital Group and Edison International. Proceeds from the Ball are used to support the Conservancy's vital conservation, education and recreation programming on Catalina Island.

"Please join us for an evening you won't forget," said Budrovich. "The Ball will be an entertaining event and a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the many memorable adventures Catalina Island offers to us all."

For more information, visit CatalinaConservancy.org.