

**April 24, 2014**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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*\*\*\***MEDIA CREDENTIALING:** Media passes will be required in all areas of the event. If you have not done so already, contact Amy Higgs to request passes no later than April 30, including names of individuals when possible. Passes will be available at the media table in the main registration area beginning at 6:30 p.m. the night of the event.*

**Basketball in the bluegrass supports Ferdinand's Ball May 1**

*UofL, UK standouts to be special celebrity guests at the only Derby party that's all about the horses*

**WHAT:** Fifth annual Ferdinand's Ball celebrity Derby gala

**SPECIAL GUESTS:** University of Louisville standouts Peyton Siva, Russ Smith and Luke Hancock; University of Kentucky's Darius Miller, Doron Lamb, Nerlens Noel, Jodie Meeks, Jarrod Polson and Jon Hood

**WHY:** Proceeds benefit Old Friends Equine Retirement Facility, a nonprofit Georgetown, Ky., facility that rescues retired racehorses from neglect, abuse and slaughter. Ferdinand's Ball was founded by sisters and community volunteers Kim Boyle and Aimee Boyle Wulfeck in honor of Ferdinand, the 1986 Kentucky Derby winner sent to slaughter in Japan after winning millions in racing.

**WHERE:** Muhammad Ali Center, 144 N. Sixth St.

**THEME:** Morocco meets the Kentucky Derby, featuring fire-eaters, belly dancers and more

**WHEN:** Thursday, May 1

- **8-9 p.m. red carpet photo ops and VIP cocktail hour** (celebrities, sponsors only)
- **9 p.m.-midnight main event** (open to the public)

**FOOD AND DRINK:** Open bar provided by Red Stripe and Southern Wine & Spirits. Gourmet appetizers and desserts provided by Masterson's.

**AMENITIES AND ENTERTAINMENT:** Silent auction; live music during the VIP hour by Louisville-based, all-female folk trio [Southern Sirens](#); main event music by the world-class [Endless Summer Band](#). Magnolia Photo Booth Co. will have a booth on site. Magician Richard E. Darshwood, who has performed for Jerry Bruckheimer, Miranda Lambert, Martin Scorsese and many others, will also showcase his amazing talents. Henna tattoos provided by Rose Flowers and dream interpretations by the Louisville School of Metaphysics.

**2014 FERDINAND AWARD RECIPIENT:** ESPN reporter Jeannine Edwards, for her unwavering commitment to ethical horse retirement.

**CONFIRMED CELEBRITIES ATTENDING:** UofL legend Darrell Griffith; 2014 Miss Kentucky Jenna Day; actor Josh Hopkins from “Cougar Town;” Triple Crown winning jockey Jean Cruguet; former jockey and racing analyst Richard Migliore; Matt Jones and Drew Franklin, Kentucky Sports Radio personalities; Dhani Jones, chairman of the Bow Tie Cause, NFL linebacker and star of the Travel Channel’s “Dhani Tackles the Globe;” Jockey Rosie Napravnik; Mark and Matt Harris from A&E’s Storage Wars; Actor Robert (Bobby) Furano from “The Sopranos”

**2014 SPONSORS:** Papa John’s, 90 North Racing, Goldmark Farm, Whip Fundraising, Pure Romance and NFocus Louisville magazine.

**TICKETS:** VIP cocktail hour, \$500 (limited quantities). Main event VIP section, \$250. Public main event, \$125. To purchase tickets, visit [www.ferdinandsball.com](http://www.ferdinandsball.com).

**FOR MORE:** Visit [www.ferdinandsball.com](http://www.ferdinandsball.com) or [www.oldfriendsequine.com](http://www.oldfriendsequine.com).

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