

# **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 4, 2010**

Sixth Annual URBANA event:

## **Epic party features live art + 'street dance' performance; adding up to great way to help support local youth**

**(Ottawa, ON)** Well-known for its epic parties that feature Ottawa's talented arts community, coupled with an ability to raise impressive funds to support community programs that work to prevent homelessness, organizers today announced the sixth annual URBANA.

URBANA – an annual fundraising event that has so far raised \$65,000 – will be held this year on Thursday, April 1, 2010. Attendees will be treated to a cocktail evening of provocative street dance performances while several works of art are created - live. The event, organized by Dharma Developments, will raise funds for Ottawa's Youth Services Bureau (YSB), an organization celebrating 50 years of providing a wide range of programs that give youth a chance to achieve their potential.

"Every year, we are inspired through our collaboration with the staff and volunteers from the charitable organization our event supports. Their tireless efforts that improve the quality of life for those who need a helping hand are, in a word, remarkable," said Akash Sinha, president of Dharma Developments and co-founder of the URBANA event. "URBANA celebrates their accomplishments along with the support of our guests who attend our annual event and make all things possible."

The evening includes urban rhythms by DJ Memetic, hors d'oeuvres and live visual art, created by young artists from YSB, under the direction of local artist and illustrator Jordan Kent. For the first time, Ottawa's own Funk Delivery, performing street style dance such as locking, popping and b-boying will be featured. The evening will be held in one of Ottawa's trendiest urban spaces: Saint Brigid's Centre for the Arts and Humanities in the Market. Raffle prizes include a grand prize trip for two courtesy of WestJet. A silent auction of unique pieces of art created on windows will also be featured.

Sponsors for the event include Gowlings, Community Champion; WestJet, Uniglobe, Hydro Ottawa and Enbridge, Ace Sponsors; Caisse Populaire, Welch and Elite, Heart & Soul Donors; and Metro News and Dharma Arts, Media Partners.

## **Event Details:**

Thursday, April 1st, 2010

6 to 9 p.m.

Saint Brigid's Centre for the Arts and Humanities

314 St. Patrick Street, Ottawa

Tickets: \$85 available online at [www.DharmaDevelopments.com](http://www.DharmaDevelopments.com)

## **About Youth Services Bureau**

The Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa (YSB) is one of the largest and most comprehensive non-profit agencies serving youth in Ottawa and is a registered charity. This year marks its 50th anniversary of offering a wide range of programs that give youth a chance to achieve their potential. Every day, young people face difficult choices and life-changing events. YSB supports young people and their families as they resolve complex issues affecting their physical and emotional well-being. YSB provides a safe and non-judgmental environment for youth where they are valued and empowered. The organization promotes respect for diversity including gender, culture, religion and sexual orientation, and provides services in both French and English.

YSB services are strategically located in 20 sites across Ottawa. They offer a wide range of programs that serve between 2,500 and 3,000 young people and families each month that include:

- A 24-hour crisis line
- Short and long-term counseling
- Mental health services
- Emergency and supportive housing
- Services for street-involved youth
- Employment assistance
- Leadership development

Organizations that have benefited from URBANA in previous years include The Alex Munter Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, the Ottawa Youth Services Bureau, Cornerstone Housing, Raising the Roof and Options Bytown.

For more information about the event, visit

[www.dharmadevelopments.com](http://www.dharmadevelopments.com) or go to Dharma's [Facebook page](#).

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Additional information can be obtained by contacting:  
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