

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Caption [images available upon request]

‘Ding’ Darling to host Project Refuge upcycle fashion show

Calling all eco-conscious conservationists, wannabe fashion designers, and “trashionistas.” Mark your calendar for Tuesday, March 10, 2020, and Project Refuge: A Couture Fashion Show Using Trash. The fashion show and “Twist-Tie-Optional Luncheon” will take place at The Sanctuary Clubhouse on Sanibel Island, part of the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge.

The “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS), which is hosting the event, is currently taking applications for fine fashion designs made from recycled materials to be modeled on the runway that day. The reimbursable entry deposit is \$50. Applications will be accepted through Oct. 1, 2019.

Tickets for Project Refuge will go on sale Nov. 1, 2019, for \$100 each, which includes the show and luncheon. Visit www.projectrefugeding.com for an entry application, to purchase tickets, and to learn more about the event.

“We are excited to debut this fun and creative event to celebrate the refuge’s 75th anniversary and raise awareness about recycling and the threat of trash to our wildlife,” said Birgie Miller, DDWS executive director. “All profits will directly benefit the refuge’s education and water-quality research programs.”

DDWS is tying the event in with free presentations by internationally recognized upcycle designer Nancy Judd (RecycleRunway.com) on Friday, March 13, part of the refuge’s annual Friday Lecture Series. Judd will meet with designers and models at a special meeting following the fashion show.

“We are also seeking volunteers for the event,” said Project Refuge co-chairs Toni Ory and Kimberly Powers. “And sponsorships are now available.

Contact Dot Voorhees at 239-472-1100 ext. 239 for information about sponsoring or volunteering for the event.

ABOUT DDWS

As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, DDWS works to support J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge’s mission of conservation, wildlife and habitat protection, research, and public education through charitable donations and Refuge Nature Shop profits.

To support DDWS and the refuge with a tax-deductible gift, visit dingdarlingsociety.org or contact Birgie Miller at 239-472-1100 ext. 4 or director@dingdarlingsociety.org.

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