



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***Glee Star & San Diego Adventurer Lend Their Names to 33-Story Rappel for Kids Included Together (KIT)***

*Lauren Potter & Erica Davis join 'Over the Edge for KIT' - A spectacular charity event benefiting San Diego youth*

**SAN DIEGO, CA** - For the third year in a row, brave individuals will accept the challenge to rappel 33 stories - 357 feet, to support the inclusion of children with and without disabilities in out-of-school time programs. Join Kids Included Together (KIT) on **August 20, 2011**, as we descend the west coast's tallest waterfront building, the Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego, for our annual fundraising event that challenged and inspired Southern California: *Over the Edge for KIT*. The first step is the hardest, and Honorary Event Chair, *Glee*'s Lauren Potter, and San Diego Adventurer, Erica Davis, make it an unforgettable experience!

The rappel begins at 9AM for participants who will descend the hotel's Harbor tower. Friends, family and supporters can cheer on participants from the poolside spectator lounge. Funds raised support Kids Included Together (KIT), a San Diego based non-profit that supports recreational, child development, and youth development programs that include children with and without disabilities.

For the 2011 rappel, KIT welcomes *Glee*'s Lauren Potter as Honorary Event Chair. An inspiration to all, Lauren Potter has proven herself as a young woman of strength and of character. Barriers and limitations put before her became a personal challenge to let people know she is worthy of high ideals and capable of great expectations.

Lauren has benefited from and is committed to a simple ideal: that she shares in the rights and privileges of all citizens and has much to offer. By simple extension, she believes these rights extend to all people.

Erica Davis, who made history last year by climbing to the top of the 19,340 feet high Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, will also join Lauren Potter in the day's activities. Erica Davis, a 28 year-old Carlsbad resident, will rappel in a special racing wheelchair which has been a necessary tool since Dec. 31, 2005, when a genetic condition impacted Davis' ability to walk. Erica Davis was the first female paraplegic to conquer the highest mountain in Africa in an amazing six days, reaching the snowcapped summit in near freezing temperatures.

KIT CEO Jeff Myers states:

*Lauren Potter and Erica Davis are two great examples of strength, talent and determination. KIT is honored to have these two women embrace KIT's mission and help us celebrate the ability in every child.*

The Classy Award winning event for "Most Creative Fundraising Event by a Charity" generated over \$70,000 for San Diego programs in 2010. The event featured a host of local celebrities, including Whitney Southwick (NBC

7/39), Sam Bass (*KyXy*), Mia Stefanko (*Ranch & Coast Magazine*), Monir Fernandez and Jesse Vasquez (*Radio Latina*), Jeff Barnes (*Mission Times Courier*) and more – all rappelling to support children with disabilities.

### **How does it work? 5 Steps to 33 Stories**

**Step 1:** Go to [overtheedgeforkit.com](http://overtheedgeforkit.com) and create your personal donation page. You can also pledge to help someone else go over the edge or sponsor the event.

**Step 2:** Give or get a minimum of \$1,000 in pledges to reserve your place on the rope.

**Step 3:** The big day: August 20, 2011. Arrive onsite & practice your rappel from a lesser height.

**Step 4:** Rappel 33 stories - 357 feet over the edge of the West Coast's tallest waterfront building, the Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego.

**Step 5:** Celebrate your grand entrance at the Landing Party with your family, friends and supporters!

Learn more at [overtheedgeforkit.com](http://overtheedgeforkit.com).

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**About Kids Included Together:** Kids Included Together (KIT) is a San Diego-based non-profit organization that provides best practices training for community-based youth organizations committed to including children with disabilities into their existing recreational, social and child care programs. Since KIT's founding in 1997, program efforts have resulted in the inclusion of over 25,000 children with disabilities and the training of over 33,000 youth providers who serve these children. KIT has affiliations with 64 organizations operating at over 307 site locations, including many of the largest youth care providers in San Diego County, such as Boys & Girls Clubs, YMCAs, "6-to-6" after-school programs at San Diego Unified School District sites and the San Diego Zoo, to name a few.

In addition, KIT supports US Navy, US Marine, US Army and US Air Force Child and Youth Programs worldwide. The US military receives training and technical support from KIT using a combination of live visits and cutting-edge technology. For more information, please visit [overtheedgeforkit.com](http://overtheedgeforkit.com) | [kitonline.org](http://kitonline.org).

**About the Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego:** Located on the Gaslamp Quarter's waterfront, the Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego defines San Diego's dynamic skyline. Overlooking San Diego Bay and the Pacific Ocean, this urban resort is comprised of two stylish towers, the 33-story Seaport Tower and the 40-story Harbor Tower, the latter of which is 497-feet tall, making it the tallest building on the west coast waterfront. Connecting the two towers is a four-story building that boasts a rooftop pool with a 25,000 square-foot deck. The stylish Hyatt includes 95 one-and-two-bedroom suites, Kin Spa, a fitness center and several award-winning restaurants and lounges. It is adjacent to Seaport Village, near Horton Plaza and convenient to San Diego International Airport, San Diego Zoo and Sea World. For more information, call (619) 232-1234 and visit [www.ManchesterGrand.Hyatt.com](http://www.ManchesterGrand.Hyatt.com).