

PRESS RELEASE

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STEVE AZAR TO HOST CELEBRITY FUNDRAISER IN THE DELTA

Award-winning singer-songwriter and producer Steve Azar, a Delta State University alumni and current artist-in-residence for the Delta Music Institute, will host the First Annual Steve Azar Delta Soul Celebrity Golf and Charity Event presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Mississippi and The Skin Institute. The event will be held June 7th, 8th, and 9th in Greenville, Mississippi and surrounding areas. All proceeds will benefit the Steve Azar St. Cecilia Foundation, which supports various children's charities and also aims to benefit music and art programs within educational and cultural institutions throughout the Delta.

Various celebrities from across the worlds of sports, music, TV and film will make their way to Mississippi to experience a taste of the Delta and participate in activities to support the foundation. Several confirmed celebrities include former Chicago Bears quarterback Jim McMahon, two-time Olympic Gold medalist swimmer Steve Lundquist, actor Chris Rich (Reba, Murphy Brown), world renowned saxophonist Branford Marsalis, Denver Broncos Head Coach John Fox, Hall of Fame baseball player Reggie Smith, and Gary Valentine of TV sitcom King of Queens to name a few. Azar, a native of Greenville, commented, "My hopes are that this event will not only be a successful fundraiser, but that it will highlight the Delta and her wonderful people, food, history, and hospitality, while providing a great opportunity for our community."

Along with the golf tournament, other festivities will include the "Big Night" celebrity party, auction, and concert featuring Steve and friends. Guests will nosh on fabulous food by Chef Luis Bruno, a celebrity chef in his own right who has been featured as a guest of TV show Paula's Best Dishes with Paula Deen and has had onstage appearances with Bobby Flay, Emeril Lagasse, Cat Cora and Rachael Ray. A **VIP** sponsor and celebrity dinner at the legendary Doe's Eat Place and a true delta catfish fry with "all the fixin's" at historic Bellevue Plantation are also on the agenda.

Opportunities for the community to participate in this exciting event are available through tickets and sponsorship packages. More details on these opportunities are at www.steveazar.com or contact thedeltasoul@steveazar.com.

The Steve Azar St. Cecilia Foundation is a Mississippi 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2006 by Steve and his wife Gwen. To read more about the foundation please visit, www.steveazar.com/azar-foundation.