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LGBT Travel and Hollywood Unite at IGLTA Foundation Fundraiser

Daniel Franzese from HBO's 'Looking' and an Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation auction add star quality to Montage Beverly Hills event

Los Angeles (25 March, 2015)—Join the International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association and tourism professionals from around the world for an evening that brings together vintage Hollywood and global travel with modern flair. The second annual IGLTA Foundation fund-raising event will be held from 7-9 p.m., April 8 at the Montage Beverly Hills and will feature a special appearance from actor and Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation Ambassador Daniel Franzese (“Eddie” on HBO’s *Looking*).

Set on the terrace of the luxury hotel – which takes its design cues from 1920s Southern California estates – the event will support the IGLTA Foundation’s efforts to improve the quality of LGBT tourism worldwide. Also in attendance: Elizabeth Taylor’s granddaughter Naomi Wilding, on behalf of The Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation. ETAF has donated five stunning photographs of Taylor captured during her Hollywood heyday for a silent auction to benefit both ETAF and the IGLTA Foundation.

Guests will enjoy music, cocktails and light fare and have the opportunity to win amazing global travel prizes, including a two-night stay at the Hôtel Villa Rivoli, a charming property in the center of Nice, France; a Pullman Cabin aboard the Eastern & Oriental Express Train on the Singapore to Bangkok journey, presented by Belmond; a two-night stay at the luxurious Belmond Charleston Place in the heart of downtown Charleston, South Carolina; and a \$2,000 Delta Vacations gift certificate for a dream getaway.

“We’re looking forward to an elegant evening on the Montage Terrace, which will assist our efforts to make the world more welcoming for LGBT travelers,” says IGLTA President/CEO John Tanzella. “Thanks to our wonderful partners in tourism and The Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation it’s going to be a memorable night that brings together philanthropy, travel, and a touch of Hollywood glamour. It’s a perfect complement to this year’s Annual Global Convention in Los Angeles.”

The IGLTA Foundation provides assistance to LGBT tourism businesses in emerging markets that lack governmental support and conference scholarships that allow tourism students and small business owners to attend IGLTA’s Annual Global Convention (April 8-11 in Los Angeles; igltaconvention.org; #IGLTA2015). The 2015 scholarship recipients represent Colombia, China, Jamaica and Japan.

RSVP requested, as event capacity is limited. Tickets are \$100 and may be reserved at www.iglta.org/rsvp/foundation-losangeles/.

A special thank you to Preferred Hotel Group and Montage Beverly Hills and The Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation for their event contributions and to Delta Air Lines for generous support of the IGLTA Foundation conference scholarship program.

About IGLTA & the IGLTA Foundation

The International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association is the leading member-based global organization dedicated to LGBT tourism and a proud Affiliate Member of the United Nations World Tourism Organization. The association's membership includes LGBT and LGBT-friendly accommodations, destinations, service providers, travel agents, tour operators, events and travel media in 80 countries. In 2012, the philanthropic IGLTA Foundation was launched to support the mission of the association and its membership through scholarships, marketing assistance in emerging destinations, and research. For more information, iglta.org or igltafoundation.org and follow us on Facebook/Twitter @IGLTA or @IGLTAFoundation.

The IGLTA Annual Global Convention would not be possible without the generous support of our convention sponsors. Host City Sponsor – Los Angeles Tourism & Convention Board; Presenting Level – Delta Air Lines; South Africa Tourism; Visit West Hollywood; Official Level – Athens Development and Destination Management Agency; Embratur; GayCities; IBM; Tourist Office of Spain, Andalucía Tourist Board, Gran Canaria Tourist Board, and Madrid Region Tourism Board; Tourism Toronto and Ontario Tourism; VisitBritain; Visit St. Petersburg/Clearwater; Conference Level – City of West Hollywood; Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation; Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau; Frontiers Media; Kinky Boots, The Musical; Las Vegas Convention & Visitors Authority; Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce; Out & Equal Workplace Advocates; Pink Banana Media; Preferred Hotel Group and Montage Beverly Hills; Silversea.