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**THE
CELEBRITY
ISSUE**

plus Contessa 19 Finalists

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SCENE



"You can't change the past, but you can make a difference for the future, one person at a time."

- Petra Nemcova



Did you know?

- Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere.
- 1.2 million children live in poverty in Canada - almost one in every six children.
- In First Nations communities, one in every four children lives in poverty, and 40 per cent of off-reserve Aboriginal children live below the poverty line.
- Ray Zahab, Charlie Engle and Kevin Lin ran 7000 km through the Sahara in 111 days to bring awareness to the need for clean water in the region and raise proceeds for H2O Africa.
- Last year's One X One gala raised more than \$1.3 million in proceeds to benefit Canadian charities.

"You hear these statistics and think they only apply to Africa. This is happening in Canada and more so in our First Nations communities."

- Joelle Adler, founder of One X One



"There are viable solutions to these real problems, and I have seen them work."

- Matt Damon



ONE X ONE

gala inspires change

By Tina Christopoulos with very special thanks to photographer George Pimentel



Michele Simon and Tanya Kempthorne from Hemessey Salon + Spa presented the proceeds from the Redken annual cut-a-thon. Stay tuned for more information on how to get involved next year in upcoming issues of *Salon Magazine*.

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If star-struck was the initial reaction to the third annual One X One gala on September 9, then awe-inspired was the parting feeling. As the evening progressed and the red carpet light bulbs faded in the background, the united message for change was undeniable.

The evening's highlights were many and had far-reaching effects. From Wyclef Jean's moving speech about his native Haiti and its plight of poverty to Quebec's 13-year-old singing sensation Nikki Yanovskiy's sweet desire to help kids like her, the stage performances were high in emotion.

An uplifting excerpt from the documentary produced by Oscar-winning actor and gala host Matt Damon, *Running the Sahara*, had the sophisticated crowd misty-eyed. Jean also delivered a swaggering performance and brought down the house with last summer's hit single *Hips Don't Lie*, featuring friend and fellow humanitarian Shakira.

The benefit gala raises donations for global children's charities and presents the organization's Difference Awards to people who have made a difference against child poverty. First Nations National Chief Phil Fontaine, Golden Globe winner Richard Gere, Duchess of York Sarah Ferguson, supermodel and philanthropist Petra Nemcova and Fred and Bonnie Cappuccino, parents of 21 adopted children and founders of Child Haven International, were honoured for their humanitarian work. Wyclef Jean was recognized with the special American Express Humanitarian Award for his work with the Yéle Haiti movement.

One X One is a non-profit foundation committed to preserving and improving the lives of children in Canada and around the world. ■