



Chevy Chase to Speak at National Wildlife Federation's 75th Anniversary Gala about His Wife's Conservation Achievements

Jayni Chase to Receive National Conservation Achievement Award for Education

Reston, VA. (April 12) – National Wildlife Federation announced today that actor Chevy Chase will speak about his wife's, Jayni Chase, significant conservation accomplishments at the Federation's 75th Anniversary Gala on April 13, 2011, in Washington, D.C. Jayni Chase will receive the National Conservation Achievement Award or "Connie" for Education. The event will honor seven additional Connie recipients, featuring First Lady Michelle Obama, Robert Redford and Senator Richard G. Lugar (R-Ind.).

"For more than 20 years, I've had the privilege of witnessing Jayni, my wife's manifestation of taking a belief that positive environmental change must begin with the education of our children, and turning it into reality," said Chevy Chase. "Her enduring efforts have paved the way for great change by greening one generation of children after another."

"I'm honored to receive this award from National Wildlife Federation, an organization that has helped lead conservation efforts for more than 75 years and one that has had such an impact on our youth," said Jayni Chase. "As we move forward, capturing the attention of children and ensuring their commitment to conservation as they grow is the key to correcting our current path."

Jayni Chase is currently spearheading two ambitious green school initiatives, GREEN Community Schools, creating "Model" green schools in our cities in collaboration with the MGR Foundation, and Energy Efficient Schools, in a partnership with National Wildlife Federation and Serious Materials. In 1988, she founded the Center for Environmental Education (CEE) which is now a robust and critical online resource to build environmental education programs in K-12 schools and has become a vital resource for educators world-wide.

"As a leading environmental educator for conserving and protecting the earth's available resources, Jayni Chase has made a significant impact by ensuring that generations to come will not only learn to protect our planet, but also engage in environmentally friendly habits that will reap benefits for generations to come," said Larry Schweiger, president of the National Wildlife Federation. "Her achievements as a tireless advocate make her most suited for this award."

The National Wildlife Federation has been honoring conservation heroes since 1965, through its National Conservation Achievement Awards and Dinner. This annual celebration – known informally as the "Connie Awards" – recognizes individuals and organizations that have made

outstanding contributions to protecting wildlife through education, advocacy and on-the-ground conservation. For more information on each the Connie recipients, please visit, www.nwf.org/connies.

National Wildlife Federation's 75th Anniversary Gala & Conservation Achievement Awards Dinner will draw more than 500 people to celebrate the 75th anniversary and honor Robert Redford and seven additional conservationists. The evening will include a black-tie optional cocktail reception followed by a seated dinner program featuring emcees actor Gloria Reuben along with National Wildlife Federation Naturalist Dave Mizejewski and some of his animal friends. Proceeds from the evening will help the Federation in its efforts to protect wildlife throughout North America.

Press Contacts: Mary Burnette, 703-438-6097, Burnette@nwf.org
Kelly Dieter, 703-288-8684, kdieter@hayespr.com