



Clockwise from top left: Flare's Susie Wall and B.C. rugby Hall of Famer Gareth Rees at the Gap/Flare VIP shopping event; Tara Parker Tait PR staffers Amanda Haines and Kumiko Ide at the Gap; Penny Phang and Warren Moon at Imagine1day launch; Nikki Gertsch and Shannon Cotman at the Justthereforthebeer.com Holiday VIP party; Gurmeet Sengara and Monika Deol at the Williams-Sonoma private event; Ciara Corcoran and Andrew Chang at the Imagine1day launch.

## 'TOQUE' RAISES FUND FOR WESTERN FRONT, WILLIAMS-SONOMA OPENS

STORY AND PHOTOS BY RAJ TANEJA

### REV FLIGHT 48 FEATURING STEVE PORTER WITH RICHARD SHIU

On Thursday, Nov. 29, dance music producer, remixer and DJ **Steve Porter** (famous enough to have his own genre of music called "Porterhouse") hit Richard's on Richards, dazzling the crowd in the same method that got him discovered by renowned DJ and producer Chris Fortier back in '99. Event sponsors REV and Progressive Entertainment sweetened the pot by adding go-go dancers dressed as sexy stewardesses and giving a lucky patron a flight to Carnival in Rio. **Scott Audio** was on-site enjoying the night, back in the swing of things after a couple-year hiatus, and was promoting the upcoming PASSION NYE event that recently took place at SOHO on Denman.

### 'TOQUE' - A FUNDRAISER AT THE WESTERN FRONT

Friday, Nov. 30, saw denizens of Vancouver's art scene, including hipsters, artists and craftsters, gathered at the east side's Western Front for the first of two days of Toque, a holiday sale and fundraiser for the artist-run centre. Visitors got the first look at new products from seasoned vendors, discovered new artists and designers, and purchased one-of-a-kind items created just for Toque. The event's finest included names as inventive as the wares they carried, such as **Bee & Hornet**, **Doodlepuffy**, **mono**, **Office for the Reanimation of Dead Ideas** and **Pudding Products**.

### JUST HERE FOR THE BEER HOLIDAY VIP PARTY

On Friday, Nov. 30, Canada Cup of Beer organizers **Colin Jack** and **Rick Mohabir** invited some select friends and colleagues to an invite-only holiday party hosted by the beautiful Molson girls inside the John Molson Academy. The party featured Nando's flame-grilled Portuguese-style chicken, Jamaican patties and plenty to drink. Hosts

and part-time models **Shannon Cotman** and **Nikki Gertsch** expertly poured tastings of Molson beer, including the newly released Rickards White Belgian Style Ale, dispensed from Molson's subzero draught tower, while members of the media, sponsors, VIPs and supporters discussed the upcoming Canada Cup of Beer, scheduled for the summer of 2008 at UBC.

### GAP HOLIDAY EVENT

The GAP, in conjunction with *FLARE Magazine*, held a seasonal shopping event with wine, champagne and hors d'oeuvres at their Robson Street location on Dec. 4. Shoppers unsure of what to buy were given style tips and combinations picked out by *FLARE*'s West Coast 411 stylist, **Susie Wall**, as well as a decent 20-per-cent discount on the arrangements. Attendees including rugby great and B.C. Sports Hall of Famer **Gareth Rees**.

### WILLIAMS-SONOMA GRAND OPENING

The 92-year-old **Chuck Williams**, founder of Williams-Sonoma, greeted some of Vancouver's most notable figures, including **Brian Jessel**, **Monika Deol**, **Sarah McLachlan**, **David Hawksworth** and **Carmen Ruiz y Laza**, for the opening event of his Western Canada flagship store on South Granville. The event, a fundraiser for Vancouver's Chefs for Life, was catered by West Restaurant and featured what could have been described as some of the best culinary sensations enjoyed since the last annual Passions fundraiser at Dr. Peter Centre. Attendees nibbled on lobster medallions a quarter-inch thick and foie gras that only the top and most discerning chefs have access to, while they perused the 7,000-square-foot space featuring items fit for entertaining royalty.

**ATTENDEES NIBBLED ON LOBSTER MEDALLIONS A QUARTER-INCH THICK AND FOIE GRAS THAT ONLY THE TOP AND MOST DISCERNING CHEFS HAVE ACCESS TO.**

# IMAGINE1DAY LAUNCHES, TIKI LOUNGE LOWBROW ART SHOW

STORY AND PHOTOS BY RAJ TANEJA

## IMAGINE1DAY LAUNCH EVENT

Chip and Shannon Wilson of Lululemon fame invited Vancouver's most influential people to their Point Grey home on Tuesday, Dec. 11, for the launch of Imagine1Day, an innovative charity with the goal of enabling all children in Ethiopia to complete quality primary education by 2020. Volunteers aptly wore shirts labelled "Raise your karma, give us money," and with initial funding of \$10 million of the Wilsons' own cash, the buzz quickly spread throughout the room about the charity's innovative approach to transparency. With an A-list including Lumiere's **David Sidoo**, football Hall of Famer **Warren Moon**, **Arthur Griffiths**, **Paul Vickers** and **Penny Phang**, attendees used computers provided by Best Buy Canada to make their pledge and purchase the materials integral to building a school in Africa. Imagine1Day raised almost enough money to complete their first project in Seffo Maialekti, Northern Ethiopia, which commences construction on Jan. 15.

## ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS LINGERIE FASHION SHOW

On Tues. Dec. 11, Aradia Fitness and the Beauty Night Society teamed up for the third annual Christmas Lingerie Pole Dance Fashion Show. Attendees got a chance to see lingerie models strut their stuff and entertain the crowd while a large percentage of the proceeds taken at the door went to the aid of Beauty Night, a volunteer-based organization that provides makeovers and other wellness programs to marginalized adults and youth. This year Aradia Fitness frontrunner **Dawn Hinze** and Santa's sexy little helpers kept the flow by giving out hundreds of dollars of prizes ranging from gift certificates to Aradia's pole dance studio to very naughty and best-kept-secret stocking stuffers.

## TIKI LOUNGE LOWBROW ART SHOW AT LUCKY RED

Lucky Red, the pint-sized gallery fashioned like a set from Gilligan's Island and located on the bitter side of Chinatown, opened their doors on Saturday, Dec. 15, for their fifth annual holiday Tiki Lounge party. Lowbrow artists **Rheanna Fancypants**, **I, Braineater**, **12 Midnite** and **Tank Standing Buffalo**, among others, gathered to display and enjoy each other's works. In the spirit of the season one notable piece of art, conceived and finished only hours before in the back alley near the Cobalt, featured a Christmas card depicting a lovely Polynesian princess sipping on what could have been a mai tai from the inverted, decapitated head of old Saint Nick.

## THE LIST CHRISTMAS PARTY

The List, the exclusive DJ series hosted by Trust's **Savio** at the always cosmopolitan surroundings of the OPUS Bar in Yaletown, held their Christmas party on Thursday, Dec. 20, with **DJ Dove**. Dove, an Afro-Cuban hailing from New York with more rhythm than you can shake a stick at, took over the decks from local DJ **Eric Carver** to bedazzle attendees, including Santa Claus himself and L.A.-based house music legend **Marques Wyatt**. The next List event is scheduled for Feb. 14, again at OPUS.

WITH AN A-LIST INCLUDING LUMIERE'S DAVID SIDOO, FOOTBALL HALL OF FAMER WARREN MOON, ARTHUR GRIFFITHS, PAUL VICKERS AND PENNY PHANG ...



Clockwise from top left: Santa with Trust's Savio and friend at The List Xmas part at Opus; Pennylane's Lisa Caruso and Paul Vickers at the Imagine1day launch; Tank Standing Buffalo and Jim Cummins at Lucky Red; Cate Simpson, Gloria Macarenko and Shelley McArthur at Williams-Sonoma; Eric Carver and DJ Dove at Opus; Louise Wynn, Heather Robertson and Jordan Brewer at Opus.