



## **Children's Literacy Gala Led by Star-Studded Cast – Including Colin Powell and U.S. Secretary of Education**

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**Washington, DC** – Where can you purchase lunch with a Congressman, dinner with the man who penned Watergate, and enjoy a great lineup of nationally recognized speakers?

This month, in one place only – at a Gala for Everybody Wins! DC, the region's largest children's literacy and mentoring organization. Each year, Everybody Wins! DC helps more than 4,000 children in 36 Title I public elementary schools discover the magic of reading through shared experiences with caring mentors.

Everybody Wins! DC is hosting its Annual Gala, Open Books Open Doors, on March 11th from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm at the Capital Hilton (16th & K Streets, NW, Washington, DC).

Keynote speakers for the evening include: General Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret); United States Department of Education Secretary Arne Duncan, Senator Tom Harkin, (D-IA) and Congressman Jim Moran (D-VA), among others.

Hundreds of attendees will participate in a fun-filled live and silent auction, which will feature donated items from a number of celebrities, such as dinner with journalist Bob Woodward and lunch with Congressman Jim Moran. The auction will also include an Alexander Ovechkin-autographed jersey, tickets to an Elton John concert, and a visit from several of the Nationals baseball team's mascots.

The mission of Everybody Wins! DC is to pair students with Reading Mentors to instill a love of reading and learning and foster a sense of self-esteem. The ideas behind our mission remain simple and straightforward, yet can bring about profound change in the lives of young students: expose children to great literature, give them a positive role model, inspire them to read, and you will make a difference in their lives.

For more information on the 2009 Everybody Wins! DC Annual Gala, please contact Leigh Chowdhary at 202.347.9467 ext. 20 or follow the link below to our website.

<http://www.everybodywinsdc.org/pagecontent.php?sect=involved&id=19>