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For Immediate Release
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BrazilFoundation Honors Francisco Costa in NY and Celebrates The Power of Community Actions

The **XIV BrazilFoundation Gala New York** will be held on Wednesday, September 14th, at Cipriani - 42nd Street, and will raise funds for social projects in Brazil. During the event **BrazilFoundation** will pay tribute to **Francisco Costa**, fashion designer and former Women's Creative Director of **Calvin Klein**, for his creative contributions to the fashion world, and for his dedication to **BrazilFoundation** and other social causes over the past 11 years.

Francisco Costa is engaged in numerous social causes in Brazil and around the world. He designed the logo for **BrazilFoundation's #TeamRio** campaign - an initiative raising awareness and funds for social projects in the city of Rio de Janeiro, at the occasion of the Olympic Games. He also contributed his artistic talent for the opening ceremony of the Paralympic Games. For the past 10 years he has served on the Board of ACRIA, an organization that promotes care and treatment for people with HIV. Francisco also has an established career: in 2002 he took over as Women's Creative Director for Calvin Klein, after having worked at Gucci and Oscar de la Renta. He has also won several awards for his craft, including the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Award, and being named Womenswear Designer of the Year in both 2006 and 2008 by the Council of Fashion Designers of America.

The gala is one of the most important Brazilian events in the United States and every year it brings together 500 guests from the business, diplomatic, sporting and artistic worlds. **Pedro Andrade** and **Julia Goldani Telles**, a young actress in the American TV series "The Affair", will be the masters of ceremonies for the evening. Actress **Samantha Schmutz** will open the evening with a show, which will include a special performance by **Nathy Veras**, member of the group Os Artistas, a sociocultural project in the City of God, Rio de Janeiro, supported by **BrazilFoundation**. The electrifying **Elba Ramalho** will sing some of her greatest hits to close the event.

This year's gala will celebrate the power of community actions, and the people who mobilize their networks to strengthen these actions. In this spirit the night will also honor **Rafaela Rangel**, Founder of "Brasileiras de NY" (a group for Brazilian women in New York), and the **Morato family**, for mobilizing Brazilian communities in Connecticut and New York in support of 5 projects. An organization called Liga do Bem, who trains volunteers to make uplifting visits to patients in hospitals and shelters in Campo Grande, MS, will also be honored.

Actress **Juliana Paes** will be the auctioneer at the benefit auction, with help from **Sheron Menezes** and NBC weatherman **Raphael Miranda**. Among the auction items this year include artwork by **Marcos Chaves**, courtesy of Nara Roesler Gallery, an experience at Casa de Uco



Vineyards & Wine Resort in Mendoza, Argentina, and jewelry from **H. Stern, Jack Vartanian** and **Carla Amorim**.

The **XIV BrazilFoundation Gala New York** is sponsored by **Bloomberg Philanthropies, Natura Brasil** and **LATAM**.

Confirmed attendances include: Francisco Costa, Dree Hemingway, Toni Garrn, Lais Ribeiro, Luciana Curtis, Giovanni Bianco, Janaina Tschappe, Natalia Beber, Cameron Winklevoss, Jayma Cardoso, Jack Vartanian, Gabriela Duarte, Andrea Pirlo, Pedro Andrade, Julia Goladani Telles, Noah Le Gros, Thassia Naves, Camila Coelho, Camila Coutinho, Fernanda Keulla, Juliana Paes, Sheron Menezes, Elba Ramalho, Raphael Miranda, Samantha Schmutz.

BrazilFoundation Contact

Junior Amaro

+1 (212) 244-3663 | +1 (646) 657-5088

press@brazilfoundation.org

About BrazilFoundation

BrazilFoundation mobilizes resources for ideas and actions that transform Brazil. We work with local leaders, organizations and a global network of supporters to promote equality, social justice and economic opportunity for all Brazilians. In 15 years of operations, **BrazilFoundation** has raised over US\$ 35 million for social initiatives in the areas of Education, Health, Culture, Socioeconomic Development and Human rights. The resources raised have enabled **BrazilFoundation** to identify, finance and monitor more than 500 social projects in 26 Brazilian states, directly benefiting thousands of people.