

Roche Bobois to Make Large Furniture Donation to Miami's Non-Profit Kristi House

Written by Australian Business

NORTH PALM BEACH, FL, September 26, 2013 **/24-7PressRelease/** -- With Florida locations in Coral Gables and North Palm Beach, the international home furnishings company, Roche Bobois, plans to donate a significant amount of furniture to Kristi House in Miami this coming November. A wide range of high-styled products, primarily from Roche Bobois' Nouveaux Classiques collection, will help create a comfortable and enduring setting within Kristi House and at its drop-in center. Kristi House opened its main facility in 1999 and is ready for refurbishment in key spaces.

As the designated advocacy center for child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation in Miami-Dade County, the non-profit Kristi House provides a healing environment for approximately 800 children and teens each year, as well as their families, through prevention, treatment and coordination of services with its community partners.

Among major sponsors for Kristi House's 14th annual "Touch a Heart Dinner & Auction" fundraiser at the Four Seasons Miami, slated for Friday evening, November 1, Roche Bobois will also showcase several furniture pieces from its Fall 2014 Les Contemporains collection, which will be up for bid during the event's live auction.

"We frequently introduce new products into our two main collections, which means there is likely to be some brand new merchandise that may not have previously sold. We have accumulated a lot of it in our warehouse in Miami and prefer to donate that unused furniture rather than run a warehouse sale," said Julien Bigan, Roche Bobois general manager for the U.S. South East. "We believe Kristi House is a very worthy organization that strives to break the horrific cycle of abuse. It also provides assistance regardless of income. Helping this organization is one of the ways of giving back to the local community where we conduct business."

"We feel extremely fortunate that Roche Bobois approached us to find out our needs and then committed to making a very generous donation of furnishings appropriate for the various settings at Kristi House," said Lauren Harrison Genovese, Kristi House's vice president and co-chair of the Touch a Heart Dinner & Auction. "Roche Bobois' European-designed furniture is beautifully crafted. It is also long lasting and generally colorful, which will appeal to the age groups we serve. We truly appreciate this act of kindness, and it is certainly something our child victims, their families and our employees will welcome and enjoy. In addition, the beautiful set to be auctioned at our annual Dinner is already creating a buzz of excitement."

Bigan and his team initially visited Kristi House in late August. In September a representative from Kristi House visited home furniture company's warehouse to view the available furniture. "We are currently reviewing floor plans to decide the best furniture for each of the spaces,"

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Bigan explained. "We will also be providing design expertise, such as space planning, and putting the furniture we deliver in place for a cohesive feel."

"It's fortunate for us that two of Roche Bobois' 250 retail locations are in South Florida. That's why Kristi House appeared on Roche Bobois' radar screen when they were seeking a charity that would benefit from this amazing donation of stylish and innovative furniture," Genovese said.

The November 1 Kristi House fundraiser will feature a reception, gourmet dinner with fine wine pairings, and an auction of wines, one-of-a-kind travel and other luxury items. Actor/singer/composer Carlos Ponce will be the guest host, and Her Royal Highness Princess Madeleine of Sweden is expected to be among other distinguished guests. The cost to attend is \$500 per person or \$5,000 per table. Proceeds go directly to help the child victims that Kristi House serves. For further information, contact Bianca Fernandez at (305) 547-6802 or visit <http://www.kristihouse.org>.

For further information about Roche Bobois, visit <http://www.roche-bobois.com> or call (305) 444-1138 in Coral Gables, (561) 835-4982 in North Palm Beach.