

WZZR's Josh Cohen to host Keep Martin Beautiful's 2012 Environmental Stewardship awards ceremony

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THE FIREFLY GROUP

Josh Cohen will host the 2012 Keep Martin Beautiful Environmental Stewardship awards on Feb. 8 at Piper's Landing Yacht & Country Club. Tickets are on sale now at www.keeptmartinbeautiful.org or by phone at 772-781-1222.

PALM CITY — Keep Martin Beautiful is pleased to announce Josh Cohen, host of WZZR's Josh Cohen & the Hometeam, as the master of ceremonies for its annual Environmental Stewardship awards on Feb. 8.

"Josh is a not only a resident of Martin County, but is an active member of our community, giving back to many local organizations. He is someone we believe is going to be a great fit for this year's event," event chairwoman Mary Kindel said. "Throughout the year, our volunteers and nominees work together, enjoying themselves during community cleanups and beautification projects. We want that same positive energy to radiate from our annual awards ceremony, and his lively personality and ability to entertain the crowd is a perfect match."

Since 1994, Keep Martin Beautiful has been dedicated to litter prevention and waste reduction, beautification and community improvement, and neighborhood revitalization. The organization's signature annual fundraising event, the Environmental Stewardship awards, is a way to recognize and reward members of the community who are living KMB's mission each day -- promoting environmental stewardship and innovation through education and action.

More than 50 nominations were submitted for this year's competition, in categories including Youth & School Programs, Business & Professional Organizations, Government Agencies, Non-Profit & Civic Groups and Unsung Heroes. The winners from each of the five categories will be announced during the awards ceremony at Piper's Landing Yacht & Country Club. The cost to attend the event is \$65 per person, and includes dinner. Discounted rates are also available for groups of eight or 10.

A notable panel of judges has reviewed each nomination for its scope of work in Litter & Marine Debris Prevention, Recycling Programs & Activities, Beautification & Restoration Projects, Neighborhood Revitalization Efforts and Innovative Projects such as green building, energy efficiency, and other environmental initiatives.

Judges for this year's event include:

- Ed Ciampi, chair of the Martin County Board of County Commissioners
- Josh Cohen, master of ceremonies and host of WZZR's Josh Cohen & the Hometeam
- Valerie Gaynor, Environmental Studies Council
- Jackie Holfelder, Scripps Treasure Coast Luminaries assistant editor
- Rhonda Irons, Keep Martin Beautiful president
- Troy McDonald, City of Stuart commissioner
- Eve Samples, Scripps Treasure Coast Martin County columnist
- Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch, mayor of the town of Sewall's Point

Key sponsors of the 2012 Environmental Stewardship awards are: Martin County Solid Waste, AT&T, TD Bank, Waste Management, The Firefly Group, AgTEC, Seacoast National Bank, Quit Doc Research & Education Foundation - Tobacco Free Partnership of Martin County, Harmony Martin County, FPL, Sailors Return, Wallace Automotive Group, NisAir, Thomas Winter Photography, Piper's Landing Yacht & Country Club and The Stuart News.

For more information about Keep Martin Beautiful's Environmental Stewardship awards or to reserve tickets for this year's awards dinner, call 772-781-1222, email info@keeptmartinbeautiful.org or go to www.keeptmartinbeautiful.org.

About Keep Martin Beautiful

Keep Martin Beautiful is a 501(c) (3) non profit community organization founded in 1994. Its mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of life in Martin County through litter prevention, promotion of recycling, improvement of solid waste management practices, and beautification and community revitalization activities. KMB signature events and programs include the annual Environmental Stewardship Awards Ceremony, International Coastal Cleanup, the Great American Cleanup, the Adopt-A-Road program, the Adopt-A-Street program and other educational and outreach activities. Connect with KMB on Facebook at www.facebook.com/KeepMartinBeautiful, on Twitter at www.twitter.com/KMBmartin or visit www.keeptmartinbeautiful.org. For more information, call 772-781-1222 or email info@keeptmartinbeautiful.org.