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Fleurty Girl Lauren LeBlanc to address audience at Business Leadership Awards Luncheon on May 29

METAIRIE, LA – The Jefferson Chamber of Commerce will host the <u>Business Leadership Awards Luncheon</u>, presented by First NBC, on Thursday, May 29, 2014 at Metairie Country Club. The keynote speaker of the luncheon will be Lauren LeBlanc, the woman behind the much loved New Orleans brand, Fleurty Girl.

This event honors the accomplishments of both small and large businesses and the impact they have made on the Jefferson Parish business community. Don't miss this celebration of entrepreneurship, achievement, perseverance and community service.

"As Jefferson Chamber business members, we are recognizing our peers, who are some of the best in their field. These people have not only made an impact on their industry, but also the Jefferson Parish community," said **Tom Meyer, Jefferson Chamber Awards Committee Chair**.

The following award winners will be honored at the event:

- Entrepreneurial Spirit Award Jeris Freesmeier, with State Farm Insurance
- Family-Owned Business of the Year Daul Insurance Agency
- **Innovator of the Year** *Nola Motorsports Park*
- Large Business of the Year The Laitram Corporation
- Small Business of the Year Universal Data Inc.
- Women-Owned Business of the Year Starr Textile Services
- Joseph Rault Community Leader of the Year, Presented by Peoples Health Leon Giorgio, Jr.
- U.S. Chamber Blue Ribbon Award Winner BooKoo Bounce
- U.S. Chamber Blue Ribbon Award Winner FSC Interactive
- U.S. Chamber Blue Ribbon Award Winner PosiGen
- JEDCO Challenge Winner Terry Ancar, with PortaVision Medical

Registration will begin at 11:30 a.m., with the luncheon and program beginning at 12:00 p.m.

Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased at www.jeffersonchamber.org or by calling (504) 835-3880. Chamber Member tickets are \$35. Future Member tickets are \$45. Reserved tables for eight guests can be purchased for \$300.

Media are welcome to attend.

For more information, please contact Selva Riemann at (504) 835-3880 or selva@jeffersonchamber.org.

About Lauren LcBlanc:

Lauren LeBlanc is the woman behind the much loved New Orleans brand, Fleurty Girl. Her personal story and "you-can-do-it spirit" has continued to motivate and inspire people. In May 2009, this single mother of three

took her income tax refund check and invested all of it into her own idea, Fleurty Girl, a unique New Orleans collection of tees and apparel. Within a month, Lauren sold out of her initial inventory and continued to do so every time she came out with more items. Locals fell in love with the brand and tourists sought it out as well. Lauren opened her first shop six months later and today has five retail locations around New Orleans and turned her \$2,000 tax refund check into a multi-million dollar company with over 30 employees.

About the Jefferson Chamber:

The Jefferson Chamber is a leading voice for Jefferson Parish's business community. As a non-profit, membership-driven organization, the Chamber is an effective advocate for small and large businesses at the local, state and federal levels. The Chamber's mission is to work for the advancement of the business community; to enhance the economic, civic and cultural environment; and to improve the quality of life in Jefferson Parish. The Jefferson Chamber is Four-Star Accredited by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and was awarded the 2013 Chamber of the Year Award by the Louisiana Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives in the Large Chamber Category.

For more information about the Jefferson Chamber, visit www.jeffersonchamber.org, follow on Facebook (facebook.com/jeffersonchamber) and on Twitter @jeffersoncoc.

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