FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



CatConLA Names FixNation As Charity Beneficiary

LOS ANGELES, December 16, 2014: CatConLA (<u>catconla.com</u>), the first annual two-day weekend conference, celebrating groundbreaking products and ideas in art, design, pop culture, and attitude... for cat people, has selected FixNation (<u>fixnation.org</u>) as their official beneficiary. FixNation is a non-profit organization committed to cats, and to supporting Trap-Neuter-Return. FixNation is a high quality, full-time spay/neuter cat clinic that provides free services for feral, stray and homeless cats and low cost for pet cats, sterilizing as many as 100 cats per day. FixNation will receive \$1 for every ticket sold to CatConLA, as well as a portion of the net proceeds from CatConLA merchandise sold.

Described as "Like Comic-Con, but for cat people," CatConLA is part expo, part symposium, showcasing the world's top cat-centric merchandise and speakers for those of us who possess a great love of all things feline. Creator of the event, Susan Michals, chose FixNation because "This organization is just as important to our feline friends as those out there who work so hard to get all those homeless kitties adopted - though in some ways, even more. FixNation is about population control - something that's hard to get a handle on anywhere, but especially here in Los Angeles. I feel CatConLA was the perfect platform to honor and support the work they've done, and will continue to do."

Karn Myers, Co-Founder & Executive Director of the cat organization stated: "We're thrilled to be the beneficiary of the first CatConLA. FixNation has worked with more than 11,000 volunteers to sterilize more than 110,000 cats in Los Angeles. This is definitely a "cat town" and we're hoping for many more years of these events! Susan is a visionary and a true friend to FixNation and cats."

On June 6th and 7th, 2015 at The Reef in Downtown Los Angeles, CatConLA will debut with lectures, seminars and meet and greets with some of the biggest names in the cat world, including **Simon Tofield**, creator of "Simon's Cat," and Mike Bridavsky, aka best friend and companion of **Lil BUB**, who will also be in attendance. In addition, more than 150 exhibitors will showcase their cat-centric wares, all of which will be for sale to the public.

"Conferences and events like CatConLA are key to furthering the popularity of cats and the variety of content and art that is being created around cats," states founder and CEO of Cheezburger, Ben Huh. "Since there aren't cat parks, this is the IRL "dog park" for cat connoisseurs - we get to share our stories and celebrate the power of cats."

Additional speakers confirmed for CatConLA 2015 are as follows: **Angie Bailey**, author and creator of Catladyland, Whiskerslist and Texts from Mittens; **Kate Benjamin**, founder of Hauspanther.com and co-writer of "Catification" with 'Cat Daddy' Jackson Galaxy; **Joann Biondi**, creator of Lorenzo the Cat; **Keith Bowers**, senior editor of Catster and Dogster; **Will Braden**, the man behind the feline philospher, 'Henri Le Chat Noir'; **Ben Huh**, founder and CEO of Cheezburger; **Diane Lovejoy**, author of "Cat Lady Chic;" **Kady Lone**, designer and editor, Cats of Instagram and owner of celebrity cat, Pudge; **Francesco Marciuliano**, NY Times bestselling author of "I Could Pee On This;" **Eli Omidi**, creator, Cats of Instagram; **Rob Reger**, Creator of Emily the Strange and the Bad Kitten Club; and **Scott Stulen**, creator of the Internet Cat Video Festival.

Tickets for CatConLA, as well as the schedule of events, will be announced in early 2015.

Hours of CatConLA:

Saturday, June 6th: 9am - 5pm

Sunday, June 7th: 9am - 5pm

Location:

The Reef, 1933 S Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90007

About CatConLA:

CatConLA was conceptualized and produced by Susan Michals, a journalist and producer who writes about the intersection of art, culture and celebrity. Her work has been featured in media outlets such as The Wall Street Journal, DETAILS, GalleristNY, Huffington Post, and Departures, among others. She is also the creator of Cat Art Show LA which debuted in January 2014 with artists like Shepard Fairey, Ray Caesar and Tracey Emin. Open four days, the exhibition brought in nearly 5,000 visitors and was showcased in Time, The Daily Beast and over 30 other global publications. Cat Art Show LA 2: The Sequel, is slated for January 2015. She owns one cat, a Maine Coon, named, Miss Kitty Pretty Girl.

CatConLA can also be found on $\underline{Facebook}$, $\underline{Twitter}$, and $\underline{Instagram}$.