PRESENTATION SPEECH

FOR

CHRISTOPHER FLECHA

Hello everyone and welcome! I want to thank you all for being here tonight and I especially want to acknowledge \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for allowing me a few moments to speak to all of you, even though we’re all caught up in the sights and sounds and energy that just fills this room!!! The dancers performing and competing tonight are special on so many levels. They show us how, with some steps and movements, determination and passion, the human body becomes an integral instrument in the symphony of dance, mind and music. They show us how their hard work and endless practice have paid off, and they show us the power of human touch through their demonstration of performance, communication, and personal pride. There’s something to be said for a person who knows his or her own strength in the most positive and life affirming way, and I’m sure that you’ll all agree that to be able to find **THAT PLACE-THAT THING-THAT SPARK** within the soul of our kids, and to be able to nurture **that thing** to find accomplishment and pride would be life changing for them…. and for **YOU**.

I’m here today to speak with you about an exciting, valuable and incredibly worthwhile project that really needs **YOUR** human touch. Tonight, in the midst of all of this optimism and accomplishment, it is my privilege to introduce you to (**Name the clothing line**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Here it is…. a clothing company with a purpose and a mission. Very simply, we make these clothes with intention of giving back to those kids who have been marginalized and placed at risk through no initial fault of their own. (**Tell a little bit about what you make, where it’s sold, and how it’s manufactured**) Our line is not fancy but it’s special-for what it does. We make \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and we employ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to see to it that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The fabrics we use are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and we take pride in every stitch we sew. Let’s face it; there are way too many young people who live their lives in the shadows-and not by choice. Whether they’re exposed to drugs, gangs, bullying, sexual predators, or other negative circumstances, it’s time that those of us that can, **DO**, and let’s face it **ALL OF US** can do **SOMETHING-**andas long as we’re united in aproductive and nurturing cause, we **CAN’T LOSE.** We at (**Name of clothing company**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are committed to dedicating 20% of all proceeds from our sales to support programs and organizations whose purpose is to nurture our kids on many levels-from funding various types of equipment and sports teams to providing much needed financial support for educational programs, to paying program fees and scholarships for less fortunate kids, we know that every penny we are able to share will go to good use. I cannot think of a better, more optimistic way to provide for the future. A long time ago there was a TV commercial in New York for a famous men’s clothing store. It depicted a bunch of little kids playing in the streets and it took place in the 1920’s. Each child took his turn to answer the question, “What do you want to be when you grow up,” and finally, the question was asked of the little boy who clearly took pride in his “look.” The voice over says, “Hey, little Barney, what do **YOU** want to be when you grow up?” and little Barney shrugs his shoulders and says, “I don’t know, but you’re all gonna need clothes!!!” (**Say this with enthusiasm and wait for the laugh**). Let’s take that one step further…. You’re all gonna need clothes, so you may as well make those purchases count for something worthwhile!! It’s no secret… the world is getting more and more complicated. Growing up is getting more stressful. Exposure to negative influence is becoming more widespread and it is up to us as adults, to guide our youth and show them the way to a positive road to life.

At this very event, we are awarding 20% of tonight’s proceeds to those kids that want to learn but might not be able to afford the privilege. We believe that everyone is entitled to have the opportunity to learn, and so a limited number of very lucky kids will be awarded scholarships to three-month dance classes-twice a week, thanks to your generosity. Keep this in mind-the more we make, the more we can share and give to these kids. We don’t want **any** of them to feel left out. Think about it.

As a teacher at this great Latin Cultural Center (**Use the name of it**), it is my privilege to work with many kids as I teach them mixed martial arts, self-defense, extreme cardio fitness and personal training. I know the power that comes from having personal pride in who you are and what is possible, and I know that it’s critical to support the youth of today in order to preserve and celebrate our world tomorrow. I hope you agree and I would love to speak to each one of you about the opportunities available through supporting \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Thank you for your time, enthusiasm, and compassion, and the kids thank you too!