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## **Chicagoland ReStores Announce Returning “ReStory” Contest Series for Fall**

**ADDISON, Ill.** (October 10, 2013) — Returning for a second time, creative Do-It-Yourselfers can participate in Chicagoland Habitat for Humanity ReStore’s “What’s Your ReStory” contest beginning on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013 through November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Previous contest sponsors BMO Harris Bank and New Balance Chicago will come together once again to inspire participants to “turn trash into treasure” with various prizes.

“We are thrilled to have the ‘What’s Your ReStory’ contest returning for a second time this year,” Jim Fessler, DuPage ReStore Manager, explained. “This is the perfect opportunity for homeowners to channel their inner artist and repurpose everyday household items to save hundreds or, in some cases, even thousands of dollars.” – Doesn’t have to be home owners, maybe just customers – could be home renovation or craft project?

The ultimate goal of the “What’s Your ReStory” contest is to challenge ReStore shoppers to reuse, recycle and repurpose everyday household items that may otherwise be thrown into landfills. Combined, the seven Chicagoland ReStores have individually diverted over 500 tons of waste from entering Illinois landfills annually. By participating in this contest, homeowners have the unique chance to add to that overall statistic while improving their home with a personal touch.

Contest entries will be judged by a panel of BMO Harris Bank, New Balance Chicago and Habitat ReStore representatives based on the criteria of: originality, quality of workmanship and best reuse of a ReStore product. The winner will receive a grand prize of a \$500 Mastercard Gift Card, made possible by BMO Harris Bank. Other prizes will include a \$250 store gift certificates from New Balance Chicago and \$100 gift certificates to participating Habitat ReStores. Complete contest rules can be found online at [www.chicagolandhabitat.org](http://www.chicagolandhabitat.org).

To enter the contest, ReStore customers can submit 3-5 photos or a 30-second video describing their project to [restorecontest@dupagehabitat.com](mailto:restorecontest@dupagehabitat.com) or online at [www.chicagolandhabitat.org](http://www.chicagolandhabitat.org). Participants are asked to include their name and contact information with submission. Deadline to be considered for this contest is November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

The building materials and home products sold at Habitat for Humanity ReStores sustain both the environment and local communities by offering shoppers the ability to purchase items at greatly reduced prices. Regardless of profession, homeowner status or income, anyone can experience ReStore and find a bargain. Inventory is donated by local and national manufacturers and retailers, as well as contractors and homeowners. All profits benefit Chicagoland Habitat for Humanity’s mission to provide affordable housing for low-income families.

### **About Chicagoland Habitat for Humanity ReStore**

Chicagoland Habitat for Humanity ReStores are facilities dedicated to helping the environment by repurposing household items and construction materials that would otherwise end up in landfills.



ReStore collects, examines and sorts donated items and then sells these materials to the general public at greatly reduced prices. All profits fund the Habitat for Humanity mission. For more information, please visit [www.chicagolandhabitat.org](http://www.chicagolandhabitat.org)

**About BMO Harris Bank**

Based in Chicago, BMO Harris Bank N.A. provides a broad range of personal banking products and solutions through over 600 branches and approximately 1,300 ATMs in Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota, Nevada, Arizona and Florida. BMO Harris Bank's commercial banking team provides a combination of sector expertise, local knowledge and mid-market focus throughout the U.S. Deposit and loan products and services provided by BMO Harris Bank N.A. Member FDIC. BMO Harris BankSM is a trade name used by BMO Harris Bank N.A. BMO Harris Bank is part of BMO Financial Group, a North American financial organization with 1,600 branches, and a retail deposit base of approximately \$180 billion.

**About New Balance Chicago**

New Balance Chicago is an independently owned and operated licensee of New Balance Athletic Shoe, Inc. The Lincoln Park location was the first New Balance store to open in the country in 1995. Since then Oakbrook Terrace (2001), Orland Park (2006) and Schaumburg (2009) have opened in the surrounding suburbs. New Balance Chicago specializes in a wide selection of styles in multiple sizes and widths.

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