

# Walk the Green Carpet

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*Annenberg Community Beach House*

Making environmental protection second nature is paramount to **Grades of Green**, a visionary, local non-profit that is empowering young minds and California schools to take an honest look at implementing sustainability programs from recycling and worm bins to waste reduction for school supplies. The local group's annual fund raising gala, Verte (green in many languages) will make a splash this Friday, April 27, at the Annenberg Community Beach House in Santa Monica. Hosting some of the most forward thinkers on environmental issues and MC'd by JD Roth, award-winning producer of "The Biggest Loser" series, the evening will bring together luminaries and active parents alike to highlight key programs such as in-class composting, trash-free lunches (students bring reusable food containers, bottles and cloth napkins), and walk to school Wednesdays. One of the Grades of Green flagship activities, Make a Difference Monday, provides schools the tools to inspire students to do one thing every Monday that helps the environment, and Verte guests will have access to take Grades of Green's easy to use templates home.

The event is also an opportunity to up-close to the marketplace's latest crop of luxurious green cars—including the incredible Fisker—a performance by singer/songwriter Gregory Alan Isakov (featured on "Brothers and Sisters"), farm-

friendly fare and ECOcocktails. Tickets are available through the Grades of Green website. Founder Shaya Kirkpatrick notes their maxim, "Every shade of green makes a difference." It's amazing what a little color can do! [gradesofgreen.org](http://gradesofgreen.org). NATASHA McCOY