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**Illusionist Michael Grasso, “America’s Got Talent” Top 10 finalist,  
to keynote Northwest Kidney Centers’ Breakfast of Hope fundraiser**

Seattle, WA (March 2, 2011): Michael Grasso, “America’s Got Talent” Top 10 finalist in 2010, will perform at Northwest Kidney Centers’ 9<sup>th</sup> annual **Breakfast of Hope** to raise money for life-sustaining dialysis care and the expansion of Northwest Kidney Centers’ specialized kidney pharmacy.

The event will be held May 19 from 7:30 to 8:45 a.m. at the Seattle Westin Hotel, 1900 Fifth Ave. Robert Mak, host of "KING 5 News Up Front," will serve as master of ceremonies.

Grasso is a three-time kidney transplant recipient. He began studying magic 27 years ago at age 9 and has since been on a personal quest to push his art to the highest level of skill and originality. During breakfast, he will entertain guests with sleight of hand and inspire them as he unveils the story of how he pursues his dreams while living with kidney disease.

There is no charge for the event, but there is a suggested donation of \$150 per person. For more information, go to [www.nwkidney.org/breakfast](http://www.nwkidney.org/breakfast) or contact Wendy Stauff, event coordinator, at 206-720-8585 or [breakfast@nwkidney.org](mailto:breakfast@nwkidney.org).

**About Northwest Kidney Centers:** Northwest Kidney Centers keeps people in the Seattle area alive with dialysis care, educates the public about kidney health, and collaborates with UW Medicine in the Kidney Research Institute. It is one of very few community-based, nonprofit dialysis providers in the country. Founded in 1962, it was the first out-of-hospital dialysis program in the world. Its mission remains critical today. One in seven American adults now has kidney disease, up 30 percent in the last decade. People on dialysis at Northwest Kidney Centers average four prescriptions each month; kidney transplant recipients use nine. Learn more at [www.nwkidney.org](http://www.nwkidney.org).

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