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Benihana Celebrates 45th Anniversary With \$45 Dinner for Two Special

MIAMI, Fla. (January 5, 2009) – The year 1964 created a lasting impact upon America: the Ford Mustang was introduced, Beatlemania reached the States and the first Benihana restaurant introduced the nation to Japanese cuisine. To commemorate 45 years as the world's Japanese restaurant leader, Benihana treats guests to a \$45 Dinner for Two Anniversary Special beginning January 5 and continuing throughout 2009.

The excitement begins with Benihana's knife-wielding, theatrical performing chefs preparing and serving a trio of Benihana's famous tender steak, succulent shrimp and juicy chicken, served with soup, salad, shrimp appetizer, hibachi vegetables, rice and green tea. Blending delicious Japanese dishes with a dazzling chef performance has been Benihana's recipe for success for almost half a century.

"Our founder Rocky Aoki passed away last year, yet his vision remains as vibrant and popular today as ever," said Joel Schwartz, Chairman and CEO of Benihana. "As we celebrate 45 great years of delighting our guests, we are pleased to offer the same timeless dining experience at this special anniversary value."

Benihana adds to the anniversary party with a wide variety of specialty drinks and Benihana beverages, including the Hot Sake Infusion. Served in a large sake bottle and traditional Japanese sake cup, the Benihana Hot Sake Infusion combines hot sake and a choice of Sour Apple, Strawberry, Passion Fruit, Raspberry or Lychee liqueur.

For more information about the \$45 Dinner for Two Anniversary Special or to find the Benihana nearest you, please visit www.benihana.com.

About Benihana

Benihana Inc. (NASDAQ GS: BNHN and BNHNA) operates 62 Benihana teppanyaki restaurants, nine Haru restaurants, and twenty-two RA Sushi restaurants. Under development at present are eleven restaurants: six Benihana teppanyaki restaurants and five RA Sushi restaurants. In addition, twenty franchised Benihana teppanyaki restaurants are operating in the U.S., Latin America and the Caribbean.

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