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Moore plugs 'Freckleface Strawberry' at Art and Soul

Flame-haired actress Julianne Moore wrapped up her day of D.C. advocacy at hot restaurant Art and Soul on Capitol Hill, where she signed copies of her latest children's book, "Freckleface Strawberry and the Dodgeball Bully."

Earlier Tuesday the actress – a goodwill ambassador for Save the Children -- met with Sens. Mary Landrieu (D-La.), Joe Lieberman (I-Conn.), Blanche Lincoln (D-Ark.) and Mark Pryor (D-Ark.), and FEMA's Craig Fugate to promote a kids' disaster-preparedness plan and literacy. She also handed out hugs to children at Mazique Parent Child Center in Washington, not to mention **gushed over** Barack Obama with POLITICO's Patrick Gavin.

But back to last night's soiree:

As guests waited for Moore to sign their books, waiters passed around upscale apps like caviar on cucumber, mini lobster rolls and fried mac and cheese (don't ask, just go with it).

Since a.) this was a book event and b.) part of Save the Children's field work is improving schools and promoting literacy, we asked Moore to name some of her favorite authors. As a kid, she said, she loved Louisa May Alcott and Laura Ingalls Wilder – and now her kids like Barbara Parks' "Junie B. Jones" series.

Moore got involved with Save the Children through a friend in L.A. Mark Shriver, the group's vice president and managing director of U.S. programs, told us Moore's experience growing up as a "military brat" gives her valuable perspective on the difference in schools across the country.

In fact, Shriver's appreciation of Moore led to a semi-awkward situation during his remarks to the crowd.

Shriver: [on Moore] She's been the muse of this entire operation.

<Audience laughs>

Shriver: Um, is that the right terminology?

Moore: Maybe a little too intimate.

Shriver: Well my wife is here. <Awkward laughter> Jeannie?

<Audience laughs>

Shriver: OK, more like she's the muse of Save the Children.

Also spotted at the fiesta: Hilary Rosen, Norah O'Donnell with daughter in tow, and Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.).

-- *Jacqueline Klingebiel and Ariel Alexovich*

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