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SAVE THE DATE:

17th Annual Gala
February 7, 2015
River Oaks Country Club



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¡MUCHAS GRACIAS! St. Anne Community



The rhythms, colors and flavors of Latin America set the ambiance for the St. Anne School Foundation 16th Annual Gala ¡Bailemos Tango! on February 8, 2014.

More than 400 guests participated in the evening's festivities and helped raise more than \$610,000 (gross revenue). ¡Muchas Gracias! Proceeds from the annual gala support the work and mission of the Foundation to benefit St. Anne Catholic School.

For more than 30 years, the Foundation has provided support to the school through annual grants, special grants and scholarships for students and faculty. The Foundation is also building an endowment to benefit St. Anne Catholic School.

"The generosity demonstrated by the St. Anne Community at this year's Gala is a tribute to the importance of quality Catholic education – the largest ministry on the St. Anne campus," said Mary Fairbrother, St. Anne parishioner and president of the St. Anne School Foundation.

Community Volunteers Planned the Gala

Under the leadership of Gala Chairs Alicia & Juan Hartsfield – St. Anne parishioners and parents of St. Anne Catholic School students Joaquin (1st grade) and Julian (Kindergarten) – the 2014 Gala was held for the third consecutive year at River Oaks Country Club, site of the first fundraising event for the Foundation in 1985.

For the fourth consecutive year, the ticket price remained at \$250, and included a jam-packed evening of fun, fundraising and fellowship.

Gala planning responsibilities were handled by a dedicated leadership team: Acquisitions Chairs Sybil & Terrence Starling, Logistics Chairs Ginnie & Tim McConn, Underwriting Chairs Victoria & Bryan Benoit, and Steering Committee Chairs Jacqueline & Michael Kenneally. They worked with a Gala Committee of more than 30 members, including St. Anne Catholic School parents and St. Anne parishioners.

"The volunteer support of so many dedicated and enthusiastic parents and parishioners made chairing the Gala such a wonderful experience. Lots of hard work, but lots of fun also," said Alicia Hartsfield. "Juan and I extend our heartfelt thanks to all!"

(continued inside)



**HONOREE
TRINI MENDENHALL SOSA**

The Honoree for the 2014 Gala was Trini Mendenhall Sosa, St. Anne Parishioner and proud grandmother of St. Anne Catholic School student Jacob Mendenhall, son of Jan & Oniel Mendenhall.

"Trini's multiple philanthropic and civic pursuits are exemplary. We have long admired her talent and vision and were so pleased to have the opportunity to honor her," said Mary Fairbrother, St. Anne School Foundation President.

Trini is founder and chairman of the Trini and O.C. Mendenhall Foundation, which supports women, minorities and education, especially Catholic education. She has received numerous awards in recognition of her service to the community, especially the Hispanic community. She was inducted into both the Texas Women's Hall of Fame and the Houston Hall of Fame.

At the 2014 Gala, Trini was recognized for her dedication to others and her commitment to live her deep Catholic faith by sharing her time and treasure. Trini – te apreciamos y admiramos mucho!



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St. Anne School Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible within the full extent of the law.

LATIN-THEMED FUN, FUNDRAISING & FELLOWSHIP

As guests arrived at the 2014 Gala, they were treated to the rhythmic entertainment of Brazilian drummers on the steps of River Oaks Country Club.

Upon entering the club, guests received complimentary bidding devices from BidPal or utilized their SmartPhones to bid on auction items in the Silent and Almost Live Auctions. Auction items were donated by nearly 200 individuals, organizations and businesses throughout the Houston area and beyond. ¡Muchas Gracias!

St. Anne alumni from Strake Jesuit and St. Thomas high schools assisted guests with the new bidding technology.

Enticing venues with a variety of price points were interspersed throughout the club and included a Wine Pull, Opportunity Bags, Red Carpet Photos, Havana Cigar Bar, and a Casino. Carnavale-costumed performers roamed throughout the venues, posing with guests for photos.

More than a dozen volunteers from the school and parish assisted with the various venues throughout the evening.

Guests enjoyed appetizers and an open bar, before joining the Carnavale parade to process to the ballroom for a Latin-infused gourmet dinner that included a combo entrée of ancho chili glazed beef tenderloin and seared Chilean sea bass.

SUPPORT FOR ST. ANNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
2014 Gala proceeds, along with the Annual Giving Campaign, will fund the St. Anne School Foundation's \$250,000 Annual Grant to St. Anne Catholic School. The grant is designated for the 2014-15 school year and will support needs-based tuition assistance, faculty continuing education, classroom enhancements and technology needs. Proceeds also will help grow the Foundation's Endowment for the benefit of St. Anne Catholic School. 2014 Gala proceeds have already been put to work to provide a \$5,000 Special Grant to enhance the Spanish language curriculum for the benefit of all students at St. Anne Catholic School. ¡Muchas Gracias! The St. Anne School Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. The mission of the Foundation is to solicit and administer funds to maintain and strengthen the learning environment that St. Anne Catholic School provides for the parish and for the community.

2014 GALA PHOTOS

Order online:

www.martinezphoto.poundslabsonline.com
<http://amykiddphotography.smugmug.com/browse>
password: tango



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THE COLORS OF LATIN AMERICA ENHANCED THE EVENT

The transformation of the ballroom with vibrant shades of red, orange and pink in overhead lanterns and table-top hand-made paper flowers further emphasized the Gala's Latin theme.

As guests were served a trio of desserts, the Live Auction began with an appeal for contributions to the Fr. John Robbins Bourse Scholarship, which supports the enriching diversity of St. Anne Catholic School.

Contributions to the Bourse combined with the auction of 20 vintage prints by renowned photographer Jack Barnosky – husband of St. Anne Catholic School Principal Kathleen Barnosky – generated nearly \$27,000, which was generously matched by an anonymous donor.

Thirteen items were presented in the Live Auction, including vacation homes on Martha's Vineyard, Rosemary Beach, Telluride, and Oslo, Norway, as well as a luxury villa at Victoria House in Belize. Also included were "Garcia's Bend," a mixed media painting by

St. Anne parishioner and nationally acclaimed artist John Pavlicek; a fishing trip with "Fisher of the People" Fr. Jay Walsh; and a private concert with St. Anne parent and Grammy award-winning soprano Ana Maria Martinez.

Also during the Live Auction, five St. Anne families most generously and enthusiastically provided their support for a year-long reserved parking space on the St. Anne campus.

The Live Auction was followed by a Tango demonstration by local dance instructor Suzanna Collins and her partner. Honorary Chairs Marianne & Tim Sulser, who recently relocated to Denver, led guests to the dance floor for more Tango action. Then, local band Grupo KaChe kicked off two hours of dance music for Gala guests to enjoy.

The Gala evening wrapped up with guests enjoying empanadas – the perfect late-night snack for the 2014 Gala theme: ¡Bailemos Tango! A Latin American Festival of Rhythms, Colors & Flavors!

