

2011 FRIENDS OF ELYSIAN DINNER AND AUCTION RAISES 28,000 FOR SCHOOL'S FACILITIES FUND

February 28, 2011

FUN and **FUN**draising was on the menu at the Elysian Charter School's Annual Fundraising Dinner and Auction held this past Saturday night at the Westin Hotel in Jersey City.

The Friends of Elysian Charter School thanks all our FRIENDS for making the 2011 Dinner and Auction a terrific success. **The event raised just over \$28,000 for the Elysian Facilities Fund.** As announced during the event, this dinner & auction served as the capstone for The Friends of Elysian's six-month fundraising drive to benefit the Facilities Fund. Your generosity and contributions in all our fundraising events held since September helped us raise just over \$158,000 for the school's facilities fund.

We thank the 201 Friends who attended the event on Saturday as well as the 268 people, including our little Eagles, who participated in this successful fundraising drive, which exceeded its financial goal by \$54,000 and achieved a 67% participation rate in the Elysian community.



Floral designer **Christina Anderson** and **Deb Lewis**, co-chair of the Friends of Elysian, assembled the gorgeous smoky rose and white hydrangea centerpieces and sponsor, **Hunter Public Relations**, designed the event signage and auction program.



Susan Chait, Pamela Strell and **Steve Sternberg**, parents of 6th grade students helped prepare the winning class basket "Spiderman: Turn off the Dark" which sold for \$850 and earned the class a pizza party.



Mac Hartshorn, of Hartshorn Portraiture, one of the event sponsors, worked with Angela's Kindergarten class to create, "Who We Are" featuring photos of the children in the class. The piece spurred a lot of competitive bidding so Mac and his wife, Jennifer Hartshorn, donated another copy.

We also thank the following **Sponsors and Gold Donors** for supporting our event:

SPONSORS: Hunter Public Relations, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Right Angle Framing, Hartshorn Portraiture, Battaglia's Home, Wiley, New York Spirits Awards, Christina Anderson Floral Design, BCB Community Bank, RealTimeRental, Todd Lewis Construction, SportsCare Institute, Camp Riverbend, Toni & Guy Hairdressing, Room84, Deer Mountain Day Camp, Deerkill Day Camp, Hoboken Orthodontics, Haven Savings Bank, Hoboken Jujitsu, Club H and Koko Fitness.

GOLD DONORS: Susan Chait & Steve Sternberg, Paul & Kim Demopolus, Diane & Jay Imus, Frances & Brian Jennings, Pat Kelly & Anthony LeFeber, Jennifer & Mac Hartshorn, Nina Long World Travel Adventures, Grace & Todd Leong, Monika Nemeth, Deb Lewis & Gene Steinhart, Lisa & Adam Levy, Kelly Naughton, Wendy Setzer, Jerry Slavin, Janet Rothermel & Chris Keene, Pamela & Robert Strell, Ana Sanchez & Joe Clemente, Laurie Peterson, Lyn Dexheimer & Leigh Higgins, Sherry Tomasso, Eva & Robert Harag.

It was a festive evening for our school—with delicious food and drinks, lively conversation, and of course, a lot of spirited bidding.

The top items sold in the **Silent Auction** included Macy's Parade Grandstand Viewing Tickets (\$1,600), a large painting called "Touch" created by Josie Miguel's Kindergarten Class (\$1,500) and 17 registrations for The Casey Mizzone/John Rutledge First Annual "Krazy Kickball Invitational" (\$1,100). Other popular items included a "Girls Only" vacation to the Dominican Republic; a photo canvas created by Angela's Kindergarten Class with the help of photographer, Mac Hartshorn, Elysian's former art teacher, Cynthia Lisa and Liz Swift; a "Margarita and Cinco DeMayo Snacks" party sponsored by Diane Imus and Pat Kelly and NY Jets Tickets donated by Joe Clemente and Ana Sanchez.

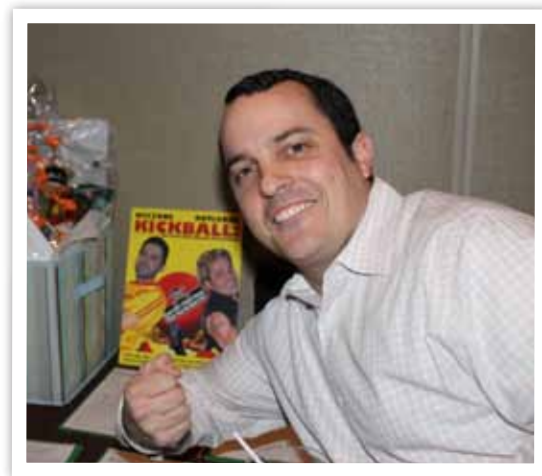
Once again the **Class Baskets** proved to be a huge hit raising more than \$4,800 for the Facilities Fund. We thank the classes and the class parents who worked hard to create these auction items. Congratulations go to the **Sixth Grade**, and parents Pamela Strell, Susan Chait, Janet Rothermel and Chris Keene for securing the highest bid among the class baskets—\$850! Second prize goes to the **Third Grade's** "Weekend Away Basket" which sold for \$751 and the third prize went to the **First Grade** with the I-Pad basket that went for \$750. For their efforts the winning classes will be awarded a pizza party (6th grade), an ice cream party (3rd Grade) and a collection of board games (1st grade).



Elysian Board Members **Pat Kelly** and **Kim Demopolus**, served on the event committee and secured dozens of items for the auctions. Kim also won big herself by selecting the mystery bag containing the Coach wristlet.



Josie Miguel, Kindergarten teacher, stands proudly next to "Touch," the artwork created by her students which sold for \$1,500. Josie also served on the auction committee and worked with event sponsor **Right Angle Framing** to have the children's artwork professionally framed.



John Rutledge, Fifth grade teacher, pumps up his guns to promote the Casey Mizzone-Kickball Invitational which was one of the most popular offerings in the Silent auction.



Charter school executives came as guests of Elysian's business Manager, **Kathy Mone**, to show their support for Elysian including: **Carlos Perez**, CEO of NJ Charter School Association, with wife Lindsey, **Anne Wallace**, founder of the Ethical Charter School and **Derrel Bradford** of E3, an organization that lobbies for charter schools.

Speaking of winners congratulations to Kim Demopolus, Lynne Shapiro, Barbara Valez, Eileen Griffin, Rashila Amin, Madeline Rich and Karen Seeman Pinn for choosing the **Super Mystery Bags**. Once again, these bags sold out almost immediately and these big winners walked away with merchandise valued over \$150.

Finally, we thank the **Auction Event Committee** for their help in collecting auction items and working the auction throughout the night: Gene Steinhart, Kelly Naughton, Sherry Tomasso, Josie Miguel, Cynthia Lisa, Pamela Strell, Pat Kelly, Kim Demopolus, Nishant Amin, Susan Chait, Lyn Dexheimer, Rob Harag, Jennifer Hartshorn, Andrea Hession, Lisa and Adam Levy, Ken Nilsen, Wendy Kinney, Kathy Prussack, Jeri Slavin, Liz Swift, Alicia Warburton and Alicia Weinstein.

To view select event photos, visit the **Elysian Charter School Facebook page**.

Thanks again to everyone for supporting this important event for the Elysian Charter School's Facilities Fund and for participating in the fundraising efforts throughout the past six months. Our school has a strong future thanks to your contributions.

See you next year!

Diane Imus, Frances Jennings, Grace Leong, Deb Lewis and Donna Olah-Reiken
 Event Chairs