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**Thomas Hart Benton, "The Race," Lithograph**

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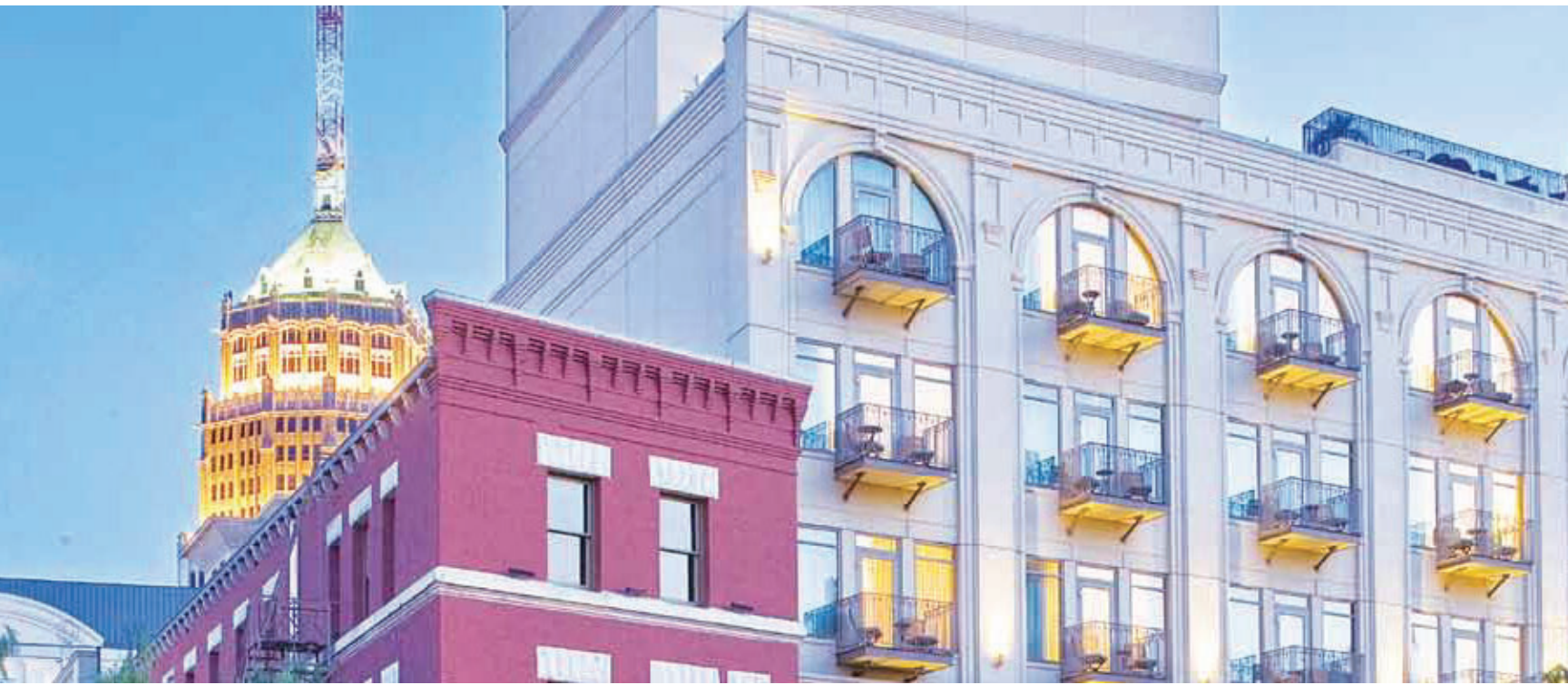
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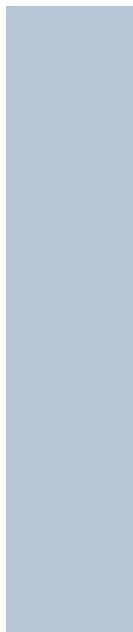


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# What are *Your* Aesthetic Options?

Healthy, beautiful skin is Nancy Hill's passion. For over a decade she has coupled medical-grade technology and pharmaceutical grade products to treat a wide variety of skin conditions. Her belief is: *Beautiful skin at any age is possible through non-invasive, no down time treatments.* Her results are amazing.

---

## Nancy Hill,

Masters Prepared Nurse Practitioner, focuses her attention on detail.

Understanding how the laser interacts with unique skin types is imperative in correcting skin concerns. The proven combination of experience and medical expertise sets Hill apart from other providers. Hill believes women of all ages can restore and enhance their skin to new health.

**“My philosophy to achieve beautiful skin is simple; use the appropriate treatments and customized skincare products”** she says. “My skin care treatment decisions are based on science and clinical data, not on trends. Once you find a practitioner who understands these principles, aging gracefully is easier,” she explains.





Hill is known for her finesse and expertise in the three-part laser skin rejuvenation, including complexion blending, skin tightening, and wrinkle reduction.

**It is one of the most effective treatments to make you look years younger.** Another highly utilized treatment involves body contouring through volume reduction, skin tightening, and collagen production. Effective for all areas of the body, regardless of your shape, diet or exercise plan (especially popular areas are the neck, arms, and abdomen.) All laser treatments are done by Hill, since a “laser in inexperienced hands can cause irreparable damage,” she explains.

**“My skin care treatment decisions are based on science and clinical data, not on trends.”**

Another exclusive treatment the spa is known for is the Intraceuticals Oxygen Treatment facial. Used by celebrities and professionals world wide, this treatment uses the benefits of hyperbaric oxygen to deliver specialized serums to the skin to effectively hydrate, lift, tone, and tighten. **“One treatment will transform your skin in just an hour,”** explains Hill.

Complimenting the laser treatments and oxygen facials, Jenae Salaiz, a licensed aesthetician, provides traditional spa services, while specializing in customized facials, eyebrow shaping and tinting, and airbrush tanning. Their teamwork and dedication to their clients’ results in a loyal following.

**Would you like to know your Aesthetic Options?**  
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# THE SOCIETY DIARIES TEXAS

JANUARY • FEBRUARY 2016

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On the cover:

**APPOINTMENT WITH DESTINY**

Dress by Jean Louis Sabaji, at [Jeanlouissabaji.com](http://Jeanlouissabaji.com).  
Price upon request.

Silver Fox Shawl by Shahchi Fur, \$2000 at  
[Shahchifur.com](http://Shahchifur.com), Necklace by Erica Courtney at  
[Ericacourtney.com](http://Ericacourtney.com). Price upon request.



# BAYSIDE OR BEACHSIDE

## Resort Style Living Along the Texas Coast

The Texas Coast continues to enjoy record visitors to its shores and along with that, robust second home sales. Whether it's the relaxed coastal lifestyle, the abundance of activities available, or just the year-round mild climate, there's no question that more and more families are purchasing vacation homes on the coast. These factors are some of the primary reasons that McCombs Properties is committed to developing premier resort communities in Rockport and Port Aransas.

### **BAYSIDE:**

**The Reserve at St. Charles Bay**, the first of their coastal communities in Rockport, has experienced such great success with The Boardwalk phase of the development, that McCombs Properties recently completed the canal excavation of their South channel. This eagerly anticipated dredging has created additional homesites and cottages available for sale along the western portion of the neighborhood and now gives homeowners easy access to the bay. With fishing being such a popular pastime, the homesites and cottages are designed to accommodate a personal boat dock on the property. Community amenities include a bayfront lighted boardwalk, resort-style pool, fishing pier and a kayak club.

### **BEACHSIDE:**

**Palmilla Beach Resort and Golf Community** in Port Aransas is another one of McCombs Properties' coastal developments. This crown jewel of the island, is a master-planned community nestled among Texas' only links-style golf course and features miles of beach front, a resort-style pool and its own restaurant and bar. Meticulously planned by renowned architect and land planner Mark Schnell, the charming architectural details are reminiscent of Florida's highly acclaimed Rosemary Beach, and create an inviting streetscape that fosters connectivity and friendly interaction. Because Port Aransas is such a popular vacation destination, many property owners offer their vacation homes to renters to offset the cost of ownership.

Whether you prefer fishing on the bay and relaxing on the deck or 18 holes of golf followed by a run on the beach, the wide variety of ownership options offered at the McCombs' coastal properties are sure to include something for everyone.





*Bayside* - SECOND HOMES THAT ARE SECOND TO NONE.

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WATERFRONT HOMESITES  
From the \$200's

WATERFRONT COTTAGES  
From the \$500's



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A man with dark hair, wearing a white t-shirt and green shorts, is sitting and playing a guitar. He is smiling broadly, looking towards a woman with long, wavy blonde hair who is seen from the back. The scene is outdoors, likely at a beach, with bright sunlight creating a warm, golden glow. Other people are visible in the background, slightly out of focus.

# WILD UPSIDE

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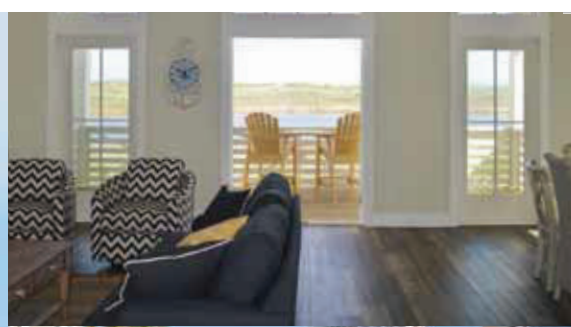
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## HERE'S TO 2016

WE WISH YOU HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND GOOD FORTUNE in 2016, and that it be your best year ever. If you have made New Year's intentions, I hope you diligently keep them. If not, and you are like me, simply making it a point to do your best every single day this year by giving thanks for living in a booming Texas while working toward enhancing your health, then the productive path is already set. To me the secret is to being happy, help make others happy, do what you love to do, and live with energy, passion and style.

I've also found that balance is key in life. It helps us to improve and appreciate all we have. I find that starting the year being grateful helps to make this a better year, because the phrase "gratitude is the best attitude" helps as a world view. Developing that attitude of gratitude, and giving thanks for everything that happens to you are steps toward achieving something bigger and better than your current situation. I've also found that attitude determines our life; it makes the difference on how we want to live it. Excellence is not a skill, it is an attitude. To reference one of my personal heroes Albert Einstein, he said "Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new."

Personally, I'm very proud of the success of *The Society Diaries* as we enter our sixth year of publication – we are far from new, yet I feel we are just warming up to our potential. None of it would be possible without the talents of our world class editorial and advertising teams, and especially without the support of all of you, our amazing readers. I believe that there is no success without commitment - possibly the best description of commitment to me is "persistence with a purpose" and it's how we operate around here.

So, let's all make this 2016 a year of an even more enhanced purpose by being grateful, having a positive attitude and committing to achieving your personal and professional goals, and we look forward to sharing the journey with you. Let us know how it is going – we want to hear from you and learning about your accomplishments, too.

Thank you for your time in reading *The Society Diaries* and let us know about events or issues you would like to see more of as we progress into the bright New Year.

**Eduardo Bravo, Publisher**  
**Eduardo@thesocietydiaries.com**



## THE BEST IS YET TO BE

CHEERS TO RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR SUCCESSFULLY, as we have enjoyed being a part of your 2015. We are pleased that our publication has cast a wide net over our great state, connecting social philanthropists to one another through immense philanthropic efforts in all our markets of Austin, Dallas, Houston, San Antonio and beyond.

You, our very social reader, create the stories we have reviewed in our social chronicles throughout the year. The events are *your* projects, and they all represent the high performing lifestyles in Texas. A detailed process behind-the-scenes at *The Society Diaries* takes us from enjoying your events to bringing them alive in print. In every issue we spotlight these events in order to serve as a mini history that present a glimpse into the lives of the biggest parties and personalities around the state.

We are often told our publication serves as not only a way to keep the pulse on the dynamic social scene, but also as a valuable tool in many business transactions as well. For example, those who find themselves in a situation wanting to convince clients of the grandeur of Texas lifestyle and the possibilities our state can offer, open *The Society Diaries* for it to be seen in living color. That, to us, is very exciting and as we enter our sixth year, we enjoy being a part of your bright future as well.

As always, thank you for your readership and support, and we wish you a

Happy New Year in 2016 with many more celebrations ahead to chronicle.

**Rossana Leeper, Associate Publisher**  
**Rossanaleeper@gmail.com**



# TSD JANUARY•FEBRUARY 2016

## 104. THE AMBASSADOR'S DAUGHTER

It's a winter wonderland for our favorite dignitary's daughter and here she is dressed in the season's finest fashion to heat up the cold days and nights of her many official duties... and beyond.

**Photography by Mark Oberlin**  
**Styling by Franzy Staedter**

## 114. A LIFE, UNEXPECTED

What makes an unforgettably legendary woman like Texan Dollie Cole? It's many things, according to those who adored her way of accomplishing things that made a difference in a chic, bygone era.

**By Anne Cole Pierce**

**Photography courtesy of Walter Daran, General Motors Photographic, J. M. Dentler, Edward Noble, Dominic J. Palazzolo, Louis Schaumacher, Bob Scott, Tony Spina, and Will Van Overbeek**

## 120. CULTURAL CAPITAL

Mexico is alive and wondrous, especially with its thriving art scene. In Mexico City especially, the art museums and fine art galleries are abundant and world class. Join us, won't you?

**By Jonathan Spindel**

## 126. SOUTHERN CHARMED

Want to experience the serene glamour and comfort of a five-star resort just a quick jet ride away? The Ritz-Carlton Orlando will have you dazzled.

**By Jonathan Spindel**

**Photography courtesy of Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes**

THE WOMAN HE LOVED  
Dress by Julea Domani, \$690 at Juleadomani.co. Mink and fox fur jacket by Shahchi Fur, \$3000 at Shahchifur.com. Necklace and earrings by Erica Courtney at Ericacourtney.com. Price upon request.



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**CHOO**



saks.com

*San Antonio North Star*  
7400 SAN PEDRO AVE. 210.341.4111

## DEPARTMENTS



YSL Prairie Flower Crossbody bag

### 44. ACQUIRE

If you're a hopeful romantic like we are, you'll love what our style editor Erin Busbee has selected as her favorite new fashion picks to inspire you.



### 52. BEHAVE

Our Ms. Modern Manners Sharon Schweitzer shares her savvy etiquette insight about business, travel and personal conundrums so that you are always feeling confident.



### 64. REFLECT

My, how 80 years flies by in a hurry. The anniversary of the Texas Centennial of 1936 in Dallas gets a cool, retrospective look from Texan Jonathan Spindel.

### 31. PUBLISH

Publisher Eduardo Bravo and Associate Publisher Rosana Leeper are excited about entering our sixth year of publication.

### 38. CONTRIBUTE

It takes a village to create this magazine and our digital media platform. Here is a look at some of the many talented dynamos who help make it happen.

### 42. EDIT

Editor-in-Chief and Creative Director Lance Avery Morgan is ready for a winter wonderland, as he offers inspiration for your New Year, and pop cultural topics that seem to prevail this time of the year.



Terry Gold Elixir Glacé

### 50. BEAUTIFY

Being beautiful is always evolving, so that's why we love bringing the newest and most exciting products and scents to you, according to our beauty trend follower Kelsey Goldberg.

### 54. EVOLVE

The best advice for thriving in the New Year? According to our Austin-based Resonance Repatterning practitioner Mary Schneider we can all help create a brighter future.

### 56. RAISE

Dr. Miranda Fernande Walichowski, our newest contributor, weighs in on how we can look to stylish mothers of the past that can influence our own parenting.

### 58. EMERGE

There's so much more to meditation than meets the eye, according to expert Paige Davis, who helps us breathe in the possibilities of inner peace in the New Year.

### 60. CHERISH

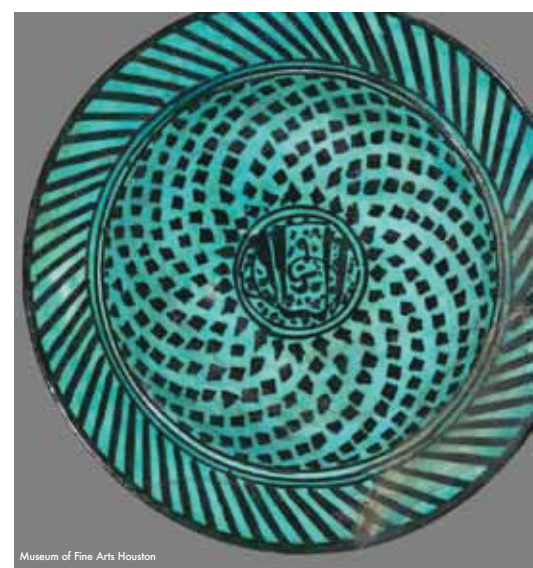
We love all creatures great and small, and photographer Suzanne Negley does, too, as she travels the state to find the poshest pooch owners.

### 62. DISCOVER

Dallas, dazzling as ever, is teeming with hip happenings, style and people as our style setter Cynthia Smoot reports.

### 70. PROMOTE

A look at the Julian Gold and Saks Fifth Avenue fall fashion events.



Museum of Fine Arts Houston

### 46. CURATE

Want more culture? It's here, there and everywhere at some of our state's finest museums in the country, according to our active arts devotee Jonathan Spindel.



Thomas & Hudson

### 66. READ

The best tomes the winter season has to offer are here and ready to be devoured, according to bibliophiles Kelsey Goldberg and Jonathan Spindel.



### 68. REGALE

It's the annual international ball season and etiquette expert Sharon Schweitzer shares the hits and misses of waltzing into the white tie world.



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## ENTRANCE·ARRIVAL



130. TYLER Alexander McCullough and Lady Carnarvon

### THE VERY BEST EVENTS ACROSS TEXAS & BEYOND

#### SPECTATE

**78. SAN ANTONIO**  
The Charity Ball gala

#### ENTRANCE

**82. AUSTIN**  
The Women's Symphony League ball

**84. HOUSTON**  
The Best Buddies bash

**88. DALLAS**  
The Fashion Industry Gallery gala

**92. SAN ANTONIO**  
The Witte Game Dinner

**94. AUSTIN**  
The Zachary Scott Theatre event

**96. HOUSTON**  
The Memorial Hermann Hospital event

**98. SAN ANTONIO**  
The Opening German gala

**101. HOUSTON**  
The Tom Ford store opening

**102. AUSTIN**  
The Alzheimer's Assn. event

#### ARRIVAL

**130. TYLER**  
The Texas Rose Festival Museum luncheon

**132. AUSTIN**  
The Elizabeth Ann Seton Board gala

**134. SAN ANTONIO**  
The Blue Star event

**136. DALLAS**  
The Perot Museum event

**140. HOUSTON**  
The TEACH event

#### ARRANGE

**144.** Laura Villagran-Johnson and Kevin Smothers of Austin Social Planner have canvassed the state for all the best events for you to attend.



136 DALLAS Carrie & Steven Becker & Merry and Chad Vose



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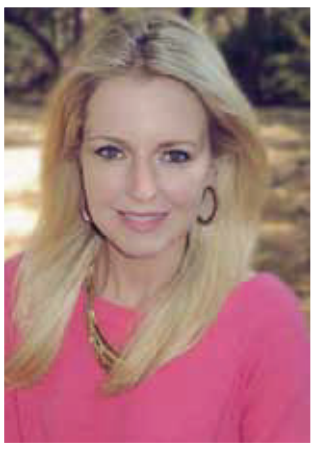
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ERIN BUSBEE

San Antonio style maven Erin Busbee founded her own fashion consulting company, Busbee Style, through which she offers fashion styling, personal shopping and closet organizing. This month she helms the glamorous jewelry feature. Busbee has appeared as a style expert with numerous television appearances. Busbee writes, produces, and presents style "How To" videos on her YouTube channel, BusbeeStyleTV, and has her own fashion and beauty blog, BusbeeStyle.com



PAIGE DAVIS

Paige Davis, who contributes this month with her *Emerge* column, is an entrepreneur, *Huffington Post* blogger and certified meditation teacher with the McLean Meditation Institute. She created Soul Sparks as a destination to inspire and empower anyone looking to live a more meaningful life through meditation and mindfulness programs. More on her can be found at Soulsparks.com

ROB GIARDINELLI

Certified professional coach and branding expert by day, social commentator by night describes Associate Editor Rob Giardinelli and his multi-tasking when covering this month's Austin and Houston social stories. What may appear seamless actually takes hours of research, interviews, and photo gathering to accurately chronicle the state's charitable event stories. He's involved several charities and loves sharing how Texans so generously and passionately give back to the community they love, while weaving interesting social commentary and showcasing the many who work tirelessly to raise awareness toward important issues in the state.



LAURA VILLAGRAN-JOHNSON & KEVIN SMOTHERS

If there is an event or gala to attend in our region, count on Laura Villagran Johnson and Kevin Smothers to keep you in the know. As the founders of the social guide and online calendar *Austin Social Planner*, Austin's definitive online source for society events, they know where to go, when to be there and how to dial in to the particular charity behind it. The founders have a combined an events background of almost 30 years across Texas, New York and Los Angeles. Photography by Stacey Harrell



SUZANNE NEGLEY

Suzanne Negley helms our Cherish department page about chic people and their pets. After completing her B.A. in Art History and a stint in haute cuisine at Le Cordon Bleu in Paris, Negley worked as a styling assistant for Net-a-Porter.com and an accessories assistant for *Vogue* magazine in New York. She eventually and happily followed the siren call back to Texas, and now lives in Austin where she works as a stylist, river enthusiast, and full-time animal lover.



MARK OBERLIN

Our feature photographer for this issue's *The Ambassador's Daughter* fashion cover story editorial is Los Angeles-based Mark Oberlin. Oberlin has also photographed the collections of many of the West Coast's top fashion designers. He is an acclaimed painter, as well, and has exhibited his paintings in Los Angeles, New York City and San Francisco galleries. More of his work can be found at Markoberlinphotography.com

ANNE COLE PIERCE

Anne Cole Pierce, Esq., is the daughter of the late Dollie Ann Cole, former Vice Chairman of The Smithsonian Air and Space Museum and Edward N. Cole, former President of General Motors Corporation and writes a loving memoir of her mother's life in this issue. She recently retired as a family law attorney in Michigan and previously practiced law in New Jersey, Ohio, California and Texas. Married to Karlton W. Pierce, Jr., a retired General Motors Executive for 36 years, they divide their time between homes in Michigan, Florida and the Cole Family Ranch in Lockhart, Texas.



JENNIFER ROOSTH

Associate Editor Jennifer Roosth is a Houston-based writer who never ceases to be amazed by the wonderfully generous spirit of the Houston philanthropic community. "It's nice to live in a city where so many are excited about giving back," she says, "In the process, they throw some mighty fine parties."



MARY SCHNEIDER

Mary Schneider, who helms our Evolve column, has been a student of alternative healthcare modalities for over 25 years. She is an Austin-based Certified Resonance Repatterning Professional in private practice (Repatternit.com). Schneider is also an ordained minister and certified in Touch for Health, and has studied homeopathy, the Chinese 5 Element Acupuncture System, the work of Byron Katie, Fabian Maman and numerous other alternative modalities. She regularly loves speaking in the community about *How We Heal*.



SHARON SCHWEITER

Our Ms. Modern Manners expert Sharon Schweiter, J.D. is an internationally recognized intercultural communication and international etiquette expert who advises and trains executives, entrepreneurs and emerging leaders in Global 2000 companies. An avid writer and popular blogger, she is the author of *Access to Asia* (Wiley). Her travels, both business and leisure, have taken her to over 60 countries on the world's seven continents. She makes her home in Austin, with her husband John and their golden retriever, Charm. Photography by Korey Howell Photography.





DAVID SIXT PHOTOGRAPHY

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## CONTRIBUTE

### CYNTHIA SMOOT

A partner at Gangway Advertising, Cynthia Smoot creates buzz for some of Dallas' hottest brands through interactive social media strategies and public relations for the firm's lifestyle clients. She is the go-to resource for what's happening and who you need to know in Dallas. Through her wildly popular lifestyle blog OhSoCynthia.com readers get the latest scoop and inside information on fashion, food, philanthropy, events, celebrity and reality TV news. Smoot describes her blog as "a love letter to the city of Dallas" and enjoys taking readers along for the ride as she experiences all that the city has to offer.



### JONATHAN SPINDEL

Jonathan Spindel is a native Austinite with a global appetite for arts and culture. When he's not searching the world for the best trends to share with our readers, he can be found at local art galleries, music venues, and coffee shops around the capital city. He's reports on all that makes us proud to be part of Texan society and is inspired by the unique individuals and organizations he engages as Associate Editor, highlighting the happenings that bring the best to, and make the most of, our great state.



### FRANZY STAEDTER

Los Angeles-based Franzy Staedter styles this issue's fashion cover story, *The Ambassador's Daughter*. Her signature is creating styles that retain a clean and classic quality. She loves working with celebrities like Josh Dallas, John Cho, Kevin McHale, Grace Gealey and Stef Dawson, while her styling talents has been published in *Vanity Fair Italia*, *Vogue Italia*, *Elle Canada*, *Instyle*, *FHM*, *DuJour* and *Vents* with covers for *Bello*, *The Fashionista*, *Composure* and *XO*. Staedter also styles and costume designs for production houses creating content in film, television and advertisements.



### SHANNON MILLER TURNER

Our South Texas social chronicler is a native of Los Angeles who spent most of her childhood in San Antonio. Shannon Miller Turner now divides her time between the two cities and is happy to call both of them home. With a B.A. in Communications (Magna Cum Laude), writing is and always has been her passion. Involved with numerous charitable causes, Turner is also the co-founder of San Antonio's Le Brunch, a non-profit event now in its 14th year. She has been married for 20 years and is the mother of two. Photography by J. Wilkinson Co.



### MIRANDA F. WALICHOWSKI

Miranda F. Walichowski, PhD is a docent at Texas A&M University in the Department of Educational Psychology and contributes to our new parenting column debuting in this issue, *Raise*. She is also the owner and founder of MiraNous.com and through that she works with women who want to manage multiple roles as wives, mothers, and professionals, with excellence and peace. Since successful women can find themselves overly committed, tend to feel disheartened, depleted, and spirited, Dr. Walichowski helps these women gain control and prioritization in their lives and by doing so, live their heart's desire of being wholehearted, integrated, and peacefully productive in their *one* precious life.



## PROMOTE

### LUXURY UNVEILED

Let's face it: The world's fastest SUV is something to celebrate. So is the world's most luxurious SUV. And, it's most powerful SUV. The fact that it's all the same vehicle is something that gets any motorist's heart revving, too. The Bentley Bentayga launch was recently hosted by Steve and Ava Late at Late European's Bentley Austin to both applause and aah's.



According the luxury automotive experts, the Bentley is decades ahead of anything ever created for public roads. As comfortable scaling city

avenues as it is canvassing mountain terrains, the enigmatic machine boasts reaching a speed of 187 MPH. What a way to drive responsibly and in such style. For more information visit [Bentleyofaustin.com](http://Bentleyofaustin.com)

### AND THE AWARD GOES TO...

As the award season approaches to inspire red carpet looks for the next season, we were excited to be nominated, and to accept, the San Antonio Fashion Awards' Magazine of the Year 2015, presented by Style Lush TV, for the Magazine of the Year 2015.

The first of its kind, the award was among categories such as: Model of the Year, Best Event of the Year, Fashion Stylist of the Year, among others. The winners were announced among many worthy nominees, and then the party began.



The evening was pure magic as a gathering of the city's fashion pros gathered under the stars at the plaza of the Tobin Center for Performing Arts. Burgundy Woods, the founder of Style Lush TV, has a vision for making the world more stylish every day. We couldn't agree more and humbly accept our award. For more information, visit [Stylelushtv.com](http://Stylelushtv.com).

### TUXEDO'S JUNCTION

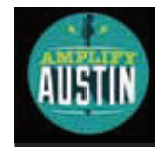
Want to be the best dressed man in a room? Or, escorted by one? Look no further since gala goes in every ballroom this spring will see a litany of Cassandra King's Cassandra Collection of stunning cufflink and stud sets for the discerning man. Her jewelry for women is also full of show-stopping pieces that are just as dazzling. For more information, visit [Cassandracollections.com](http://Cassandracollections.com)



Cassandra Collections 14kt. gold cufflinks and studs set. Price upon request

### AMPLIFYING AUSTIN GIVING

We love that the Amplify Austin Day, created by I Live Here, I Give Here, is on March 8-9, 2016. It gives philanthropists of all stripes a chance to give back to the community in one fast-paced day that sets the city on its heels. Founded in 2013, to date, it's raised \$7,715,391 in those one day periods, with special pride taken in giving to these substantially homegrown non-profits. To donate and for more information visit [Amplifyatx.com](http://Amplifyatx.com)





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# THE *REAL* REAL

AS WE START THIS BRIGHT AND SHINY NEW YEAR, WE think it's going to be rather luminous, don't you? As a kid I remember when Peter Drucker, the noted economist, stated, the best way to predict the future is to create it. Around here we couldn't agree more...that potential is an unlimited resource, so buckle up for more fun that we're projecting to bring you in 2016. As we look forward, we often look to the past. In fact, the good folks at the International Time Capsule Society (yes, there really is such a thing) recommend leaving for the future what we think of it now.

What they recommend is simple: use an airtight, stainless-steel container then fill the receptacle full of inert argon gas to enhance preservation if you want it to be sealed for a century or more. Include a letter, preferably in permanent ink on acid-free paper, slipped into a protective plastic sleeve, with a bit of 'social criticism of our own era' and your hopes for the future within it. This would be a heartfelt attempt at connection with generations from now, along with some items placed that aren't technologically focused (remember floppy discs?), yet are timeless. If you bury it, its recommended to find places that aren't likely to be built over, like the edges of a national park or historic site. But make sure to leave locational evidence: a marker atop your site, or an article in your local newspaper, or GPS coordinates written into your will. Because according to the time capsule experts, people are always losing their time capsules.

Something that is very much happening now, that continues to trend in various iterations, is reality television. I know, I know. Love it or hate it, we social monkeys love to observe ourselves from behind the glass or within it. We've received myriad calls in the past decade-plus from television production executives on both coasts who as they express it, want to tell the Texan's real story of how they live their lives, loves and the pursuit of happiness. Uh-huh. So, when it was announced that Bravo was extending their wildly successful *Real Housewives* franchises of women behaving badly, to Dallas, we were a bit skeptical. We know many of them and feel that they are stylish, fun and of course, very sociable, at every gala in town and beyond, many times doing good and raising funds for very worthy causes. We're hoping the spotlight on them will illuminate the very best that Texas has to offer. And, that we all know to how use which fork and when.

Money will be a part of the show, naturally, since it tends to make the world spin on its axis. In fact, that noted, I've known a Houstonian investment banker for over a decade who has an interesting theory on inherited wealth. He simply doesn't believe in it at all. He's the archetypal American success story – with his humble beginnings in the Midwest growing up where it was the survival of the fittest in a rural environment. Born of decent intellect and even decenter looks, he worked for everything he has; instead of bearing a chip on his shoulder the size of a California redwood for not being dealt a better lot in life, he put himself through law school and climbed his way to a partnership at a bustling Manhattan firm. Then, seeing an opportunity in Texas to run a com-

pany, he and his wife and three kids high-tailed it here pronto. Typical of Texas these days? Very. Admirable? Very, very. His children will work to pay for half their car and half their higher education when the time comes so that they are engaged in the process of creating their own life. Then, after that it's all up to them, no decedent trust funds or fiduciary endowments in their future.

With this golden couple (and what they have achieved on the social and philanthropic scenes), I wonder how that affects donations to worthy organizations if that mindset doesn't give to the generation ahead, or even the one after that? As the saying goes of turn-of-the-century immigrant success stories, from Poland to polo in three generations with the right drive, smarts and plenty of luck. Since I was also raised with a disciplined approach to money - it's a currency of energy and it comes and it goes based on myriad situations both personally and professionally, so stiff upper lip and all that, old boy.

Those are the sorts of stories we will continue to tell in 2016 as we enter our sixth year of publication, and beyond. So when we put together our our time capsule around here, it will be chock-full of our canon of *The Society Diaries* magazines that is an ongoing valentine to Texas, as well as all the organizations we have celebrated with social chronicling, and yes, our several hundred profiles of dazzling people, places and things. And, that capsule will be filled with plenty of argon to preserve and help people understand in the future what Texas is today.

XO Lance Avery Morgan  
[lance@thesocietydiaries.com](mailto:lance@thesocietydiaries.com)

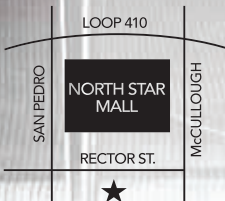


Photography by Megan Kyle Bennett

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## ACQUIRE



### ARMED & GORGEOUS

When you just want one statement piece, pick something like this gorgeous, gold-plated and crystal bracelet by Oscar de la Renta. \$425. Availability and photo courtesy of Julian Gold



### NAILED IT

You'll be your young daughter's heroine if you gift this Nails Inc. Chelsea Embankment Gardens Floral nail polish. \$15. Availability and photo courtesy of Saks Fifth Avenue



### FULLY FLORAL

Nicholas gives the classic floral print, full skirt a modern twist with sculptural pleats and asymmetrical folds. \$750. Availability and photo courtesy of Saks Fifth Avenue



### HARD, MEET SOFT

I love the contrast in this Alexander McQueen leather jacket. The belted waist and peplum details adds femininity to an otherwise edgy, masculine moto jacket. \$4,135. Availability and photo courtesy of Saks Fifth Avenue

# ISN'T IT ROMANTIC?

It's all about the details of soft color palettes, the cascading ruffles, the feminine florals, and the intricate lace. Get inspired with these romantic pieces selected by our own *chic style editor Erin Busbee*



### SUNNY DAYS AHEAD

Dior's "So Real" sunglasses are so cool, and of the moment. Seen on everyone from "It Girl" Olivia Palermo to pop icon Rihanna for a 90s vibe. \$595. Availability and photo courtesy of Saks Fifth Avenue



### KISS ME, PLEASE

"Tenacious" by Kevyn Aucoin is the perfect shade of pink to take you from day to night... from winter to spring. \$33. Availability and photo courtesy of Julian Gold



### FLOWER'S POWER

For the sweet country girl with discerning taste... the "Prairie," flower-printed, cross-body bag by Saint Laurent. \$1,790. Availability and photo courtesy of Neiman Marcus

### SOLE'S MATE

Fur...feathers...suede and an ankle wrap, all in one shoe. Seems too good to be true. Thank you, Aquazzura! \$950. Availability and photo courtesy of Saks Fifth Avenue





### CROWNING JEWELS

You don't have to be a princess to look like one. But have security around when you wear this stunning, multi-color sapphire, and diamond necklace by Oscar Heyman. \$240,500. Availability and photo courtesy of Neiman Marcus and Duncan & Boyd



### RUFFLE YOUR FEATHERS

Add this bold "Peacock Feather" 5x7 frame by Jay Strongwater to your console or end tables. \$2,500. Availability and photo courtesy of Neiman Marcus



### THE HEAT IS ON

Lalique created the "scent of euphoria" with the "Ocean Crystal" candle. \$1,100. Availability and photo courtesy of Neiman Marcus.



### CLASSIC FAIRY TALE

Does it get more romantic than this dress? You will actually look and feel like Cinderella at the ball in this beautiful, embroidered, icy blue tulle gown by Carolina Herrera. \$9,990. Availability and photo courtesy of Neiman Marcus

### DROP IT LIKE IT'S HOT

The "Horsebit" diamond and gold drop earrings are ideal for those who want a versatile, everyday, elegant pair of earrings that will go with everything. \$5,980. Availability and photo courtesy of Saks Fifth Avenue



### GOLDEN DAYS AHEAD

A gorgeous pair of floral-applique pumps by Jimmy Choo in champagne is subtle and sexy. \$1,495. Availability and photo courtesy of Neiman Marcus

### VICTORIAN VICTORY

This ruffled lace blouse by Alexander McQueen is a woman's friend. It will cover an aging neck, extra weight around the middle, and batwings. \$1,295. Availability and photo courtesy of Neiman Marcus



### ROMANTIC INSPIRATION

Erdem is one of the sources for romantic inspiration this spring 2016, don't you think? Photo courtesy of Style.com

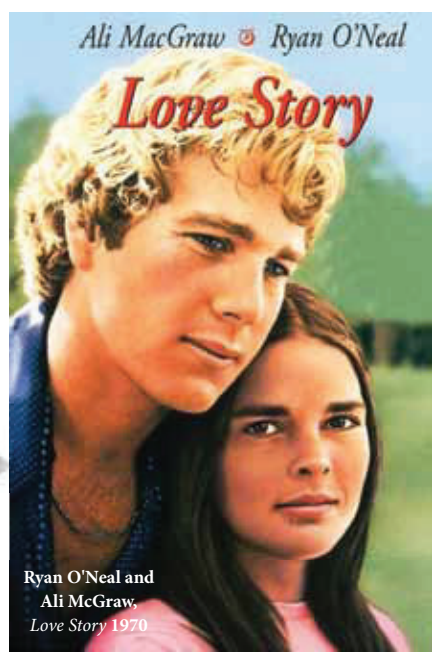
### DREAM A LITTLE DREAM

A beautiful, tranquil bedroom with modern bursts, and a hint of romance. I'm in love with the "Meryl" bed bench, and luxe throw blanket. The "Arlington" bed is by Lillian August. Bench: \$1562 - \$1713. Bed: \$4113. Availability and photo courtesy of Stowers Furniture



### ENGLISH BEAT

From the tousled, braided hair, to the Victorian-inspired high-neck, to the light, ethereal fabric, this Alexander McQueen look epitomizes romance. Photo courtesy of Style.com



Ryan O'Neal and Ali McGraw. Love Story 1970

# CUTLURALLY ENGAGED

Texas is a state of mind, and it's also a state of the arts. Our connoisseur of culture Jonathan Spindel shares a selection of this season's outstanding events

## AUSTIN



The Long Center

### ROCK WITH THE TROCKS

Stunning feats of ballet mixed with comic parody will make you *ooh* and *ah* and *laugh out loud*. See why the Ballet Trockadero has been delighting audiences for 40 years. February 3. At [TheLongCenter.org](http://TheLongCenter.org)



The Blanton Museum

### GET ILLUMINATED

Long before the printing press, sacred texts were written and illustrated by hand. See the beautifully preserved Crusader Bible, vivid illustrations and all, at the Blanton Museum for a limited

time. Until April 3. At [BlantonMuseum.org](http://BlantonMuseum.org)

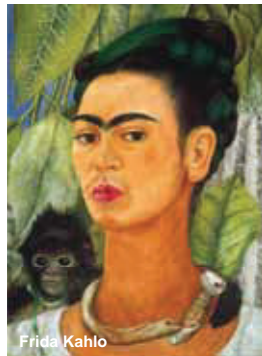


Mother Falcon performs

### SEE THE MUSIC, BE THE MUSIC

Looking for an authentic live music experience, but without the hassle and crowds? Black Fret's membership program presents some of Austin's most talented local musicians in unique private venues, all while supporting the local music economy. Performances year-round. Become a member today at [BlackFret.org](http://BlackFret.org)

## DALLAS/FORT WORTH



Frida Kahlo

### FABULOUS FRIDA

Paying homage to the extraordinary Frida Kahlo, dozens of local artists present their interpretations of her inimitable style. Until January 30. At [BathHouseCultural.org](http://BathHouseCultural.org)



The Crow Collection

### DAZZLING DIMENSIONS

Get inspired by Alexander Gorlizki, whose imaginative patterns and colors may just spark your own creative impulse. You may know Gorlizki from his work with fashion designers and global artists. Until March 20. At [CrowCollection.org](http://CrowCollection.org)



Dallas Symphony Orchestra

### SWING AND SWOON

You'll want to stand up and swing dance the night away at the Dallas Symphony Orchestra's presentation of Gershwin's timeless jazz hits. January 22-24. At [MyDSO.org](http://MyDSO.org)

## HOUSTON

### THE BRIDGE TO ROMANCE

A lyrical tale of lasting love, *The Bridges of Madison County* endures as one of the most romantic modern musicals. Don't miss your chance to see it on stage. January 19-31. At [TheHobbyCenter.org](http://TheHobbyCenter.org)



The Hobby Center



MFAH

### ROYAL RELICS

Showcasing a king's ransom of precious artifacts, this collection of Islamic art from around the world will astound you with its ancient luxurious craftsmanship. Until January 2017. At [MFAH.org](http://MFAH.org)



The Infinity Machine

### INFINITY AND BEYOND

An experimental visual-and-sonic mobile, *The Infinity Machine* inaugurates a series of installations in the Byzantine Fresco Chapel. A lively addition to the Menil campus in the Museum District. January 31 – February 28. At [Menil.org](http://Menil.org)



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CURATE

## SAN ANTONIO



### COLLECTOR'S CONNECTION

Have you ever wondered how curators select art pieces that go together perfectly? See how they do it, and learn how you can, too, at their demonstrative exhibition. Until April 17. At [McNayArt.org](http://McNayArt.org)



### SINGERS WITH SOUL

Treasures of modern music, Mavis Staples and Nick Lowe bring their musical teamwork and real-life friendship to the stage for an unforgettable evening of song. March 8. At [TobinCenter.org](http://TobinCenter.org)

### SETTING THE PACE

ArtPace welcomes its newest International Artists in Residence this spring. Featuring contemporary talent from all over the world, the Residence program promises to surprise you with art developed on-site. Experience the process at [ArtPace.org](http://ArtPace.org) 



ArtPace

# CURVES, CHANDELIERS & CHAMPAGNE...

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**E**xperience the aesthetic feel of home furnishings that whisk you away to a time of neoclassical elegance. Lili Alessandra, maker of fine linens and soft furnishings, celebrated their flagship store opening at The Vineyard Shopping Center in San Antonio, Texas.

Working with highly skilled artisans, Lili Alessandra transforms luxurious linens into magnificent works of art for the home. Home collections include a complete line of decorative pillows, coverlets, bedding, drapery panels, upholstered headboards and occasional furniture. This season, Lili Alessandra introduces an Italian bed sheet collection.



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# DEBUTING, DINING & YACHTING

From how to be one's best at a debutante ball or fine dining situation, to yes, floating on a yacht, our trusty *Ms. Modern Manners Sharon Schweitzer, JD*, is on the scene to encourage your very best behavior possible

## Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

Our best friend's daughter is making her debutante bow at an international cotillion that we are invited to attend. Shall we bring a gift to congratulate her as well?

### Debuting Do's

## Dear Bow-Tied,

The debutantes, who are daughters of the international elite – including ambassadors, diplomats, and industry giants – traditionally receive flower arrangements as gifts from family and very close friends, a week or so before the ball (prior to travel). Gift ideas also include luxury personalized or monogrammed stationery; or a donation to her favorite charity in her honor, noted in a card of congratulations. Jewelry, pearl or diamond earrings, and lockets with childhood photos are classic choices that she can also hand down to her daughter.



## Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

I like to think of myself as rather sophisticated. So, when I ask for the salt to be passed, shouldn't the pepper also be passed simultaneously, or is that too Old World? What's the rule nowadays and while we are on the subject isn't it considered rude to season food before tasting it?

### Seasoned Guest

## Dear Man For All Seasonings,

Hopefully when you are dining with others you don't have salt on the table to begin with because the assumption is that the chef has prepared flavorful food. Adding salt prior to tasting the food, sends the unspoken message that you anticipate the food to be unsavory and need additional seasoning.

"Please pass the salt" is always a request for both. Salt and pepper are 'married' and travel the global table together – this includes saltcellars, which are also passed simultaneously with the pepper.

## Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

I'm in an awful pickle. My dear friend's daughter called off her wedding months in advance of the ceremony. Alas, I gave a pricey gift to show our love and hopes for her bright future through a local specialty gift store where she was registered. Since the wedding's no longer happening, how is that handled? Does the bride reach out or do I deal directly with the store?

### Wedding Gifter

## Dear Friend of The Bride,

Neither, and please be patient. The traditional rule that once a gift is given the recipient may do anything they wish with it does not apply in this

instance. Brides and grooms are usually so traumatized by a cancelled wedding, and resulting fees associated with cancelled hotel blocks, caterers, florists, flights and honeymoon packages, that the time it takes to gather the gifts, package and return them to their invited guests may be months.

Social graces require the former bride and groom to return the engagement, shower, and wedding gifts received, including personalized or monogrammed items. Gifts that may have been used already (sheets, towels, and kitchen hardware) are not returned.

## Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

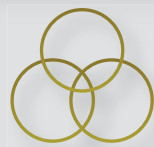
In the spring, we will be floating in the Med, on a sizeable private yacht with high-net-worth friends. What is the proper gratuity for our two-week adventure?

### Tacking & Jibbing To Be

## Dear Tack-ful,

Prior to setting sail, these financial arrangements should be confirmed in writing to avoid uncomfortable surprise. Sophisticated sailors inquire via email months prior to departure as to their anticipated contribution toward travel on the vessel.

Expect to contribute, at a minimum, 10% of the total trip expenses, including expensive fuel costs. Inquire about an appropriate additional gratuity amount for the captain and staff, over the 10%. Once home, follow-up with a gracious handwritten thank-you note and a luxury gift for the host and hostess. When a situation presents itself like this, the utmost manners are required, so have fun and enjoy the journey as you would with any vacation. **S**



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PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID SIXT

# HELLO, BRIGHT FUTURE

Transformation in the present depends on the completion of the past. Letting go of what's happened to make way for a better future is key. Here, *Austin-based Resonance Repatterning practitioner, Mary Schneider* shares insight on how you can create greater personal growth in 2016

AT THIS TIME OF THE NEW YEAR, WE TRADITIONALLY evaluate the year that has just passed and look to the year upon us for something that is going to be more, better, or different. How do we suppose that is going to happen for us? Unless we take the chance to look at ourselves from a different perspective, it is probably *not* going to happen. Einstein said the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. If we take this wisdom to heart, we will want to look at creating things for the better in new and different ways.

## LOOKING WITHIN

We all have a tendency to look outside ourselves for the answers to our problems and symptoms of distress. The answer cannot be found in the external world. We think that if we just had more money, a better job, a different relationship... that things would be better. A very wise friend of mine once said, "Wherever you go, there you are." More money, a better job, and a different relationship, will not lead us to more, better or different experiences and feelings in any deep and lasting way. If we really want this kind of change to occur, we want to engage ourselves in real transformation that helps reconcile our past, in order to move into the future.

Completion always prepares the way for new beginnings. The more acknowledgement and gratitude we express for the ending of a particular event or activity, the better our transition into our next endeavor becomes. Just as de-cluttering our homes and office spaces helps with de-cluttering our minds and hearts, so too de-cluttering our lives of incomplete past experiences makes way for empowered actions and outcomes in the present.

When you let go of what you no longer need, you make room for expansion. So, why not look at the most inspired and empowered words of wisdom I have learned from some of the greatest teachers in the world today? Since we have completed 2014 with the solid intention of creating a new beginning, let us fill this open, available space of expansion with the insights of the most inspired spiritual leaders of our time. Then, We can enter into this next new beginning with some food for thought as to how we might create whatever we want in 2016 with great intention.

Intention is an aim, plan or purpose that literally moves energy. Intention makes everything in the universe work. The intention of the sun is to shine and create warmth and brightness – and to come up every morning. Intention creates the resolve necessary to be or act in a particular manner. What I have continually seen in my practice over the years is that if someone actually does have the intention to make things more, better or different, the particular methodology for the resolution of their issues will appear.

## BEST INTENTIONS

Intention is the motivation to learn and grow in trust. For when a human being is having a difficult time in life (and we all experience this from time to time), the resolution to find a way to move through and beyond what is troubling them is in itself an act of trust. This is also true with regard to finding more, better, and different experiences. First we see the intention, and allow that the universe will always discern our level of commitment and will respond accordingly; thus, progress begins. What we need to move us to the next level of our growth and development will show up.

Generally, when we are in the process of transformation, what we are dealing with is not on a conscious level. Negative thought patterns and limiting belief systems in addition to our family system's rules and expectations are stored in our subconscious. In order for us to move into something more, better or different, we have to search for these patterns, look at them, contemplate them and see how they have affected our lives. After we have been through this step of the process, we will have the ability to let them go. This is a complex and beautiful process that we can achieve with intention and practice. Prayer, affirmations and positive thinking are all very helpful and in order for us to really transform, we need to look at the subconscious in all its iterations and get comfortable with it. And, this process takes time – patience and time.

In this bright, shiny New Year of 2014, let us resolve to move into transformation and completion by getting to know ourselves. What waits beyond this, is beyond anything that we have been able to envision or imagine. May this be the best year ever for all of us with an abundance of peace and love. **S**





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Jackie Kennedy with John Jr. and Caroline Kennedy, 1967



Princess Grace of Monaco with Princess Caroline, Princess Stephanie and Prince Albert Monaco, 1966

# ELEGANT MOTHERHOOD EXPLAINED

Are the words motherhood and elegance compatible? Yes, according to *our dynamic parenting and relationship expert Dr. Miranda Fernande Walichowski*, who explains how mothers through the ages have sought to successfully “have it all” as she shares tips for modern day mothering

IT SEEMS THAT TODAY’S MOTHERHOOD CONNOTES images of frazzled, hurried, disheartened, depleted, and dispirited women. Our lives seem to take on an increasingly externally and internally imposed busy-ness. This pace of life makes the idea of being a mother in the style of Audrey Hepburn, Grace Kelly, and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis an elusive, romantic notion of what motherhood could be. With modern day influences like First Lady Michelle Obama and Kate Middleton, Duchess of Cambridge, inspiring parenting examples persist today.

## PARENTING SPOTLIGHT

Audrey Hepburn once said, “I want to have a career without being a career woman.” It was said that her sons, Sean Ferrer and Luca Dotti, did not always know that they had a mother who was an icon. Audrey’s sons describe her as the type of mother who made them feel that more than anything they were loved and that they mattered.

Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis was a highly involved mother. She had deliberate and clear expectations for her parenting. She taught her children to be well-mannered, self-sufficient, respectful, and humble. Nevertheless, she was described as highly affectionate, playful, and fun-loving. Her

maternal love was palpable to all in the loving and playful glances that she and her son John would exchange.

We pine for the romantic, elegant, and mystique of mothers of an era passed, but those inspiring figures don’t only belong to history. We delight in seeing qualities of that evanescent motherhood in contemporary women too, such as Michelle Obama and Kate Middleton. These women are an ennobling manifestation of what motherhood can still be.

First Lady Obama often champions issues of work-life balance. She is known to express that her primary responsibility is to her daughters, Malia and Sasha. The First Lady upholds her values when she says “I am a mother first.” Furthermore, she creates a sense of solidarity with mothers across America when she describes her insecurities about her parenting. She has expressed that “there isn’t a day that goes by that I don’t wonder or worry about whether I’m doing the right thing for myself, for my family, for my girls.”

Kate Middleton, the Duchess of Cambridge, has brought a grounded perspective to parenting in the royal realm, as did Grace Kelly of Monaco.



Audrey Hepburn with son  
Luca Dotti, 1971



First Lady Michelle Obama with daughters  
Sasha and Malia Obama



Kate Middleton, Duchess of Cambridge and  
Prince George of Cambridge

Middleton is going against customary parenting expectations and declaring herself to be a hands-on mother. She and Prince William are relying very little on nannies and opting to enjoy the realities of juggling parenting with their commitments.

### YOUR PRESENCE IS REQUESTED

What is the secret to having an elegant motherhood? How does one capture that *je ne sais quoi* of women who brought and bring elegance to motherhood? The underlying quality of Audrey, Jackie O, Michelle Obama, Grace Kelly and Kate Middleton can be described as an attenuating ability to be fully present in the moment. That is what we find alluring about the women who embody the epitome of a mother.

Being fully present in our daily living seems to be a lost art. The world presents an intrusive busy-ness that can impede our ability to experience dulcet moments that can only come from being fully present in our one precious life. How does one hew to the art of being present? Here are a few suggestions:

1. When spending time with your child, practice a quietus of all distracting thoughts. A good visual is critical to this step. Picture a box. I like to think of an antique chocolate box with well-aged patina on the hardware and hinges. Make a commitment to store all distracting thoughts in this symbolic box while you are with your child. Having a space to “place” your thoughts of all the things that you need to do, alleviates the brain’s tenacious grip on those thoughts. At first, you may find yourself constantly filling the box with inopportune thoughts. However, clearing your mind will become easier with practice.

2. When spending time with your child, try to experience the world through your child’s senses. For example, things look different to a child who is stand-

ing three feet from the floor and looking up. You can sit on the floor with them and begin to see the world from their perspective. You can use the other senses to experience the world, just think about how things might taste, feel, smell, or sound from your child’s perspective.

3. When spending time with your child during play, ask questions. Children may not answer questions directly or convey their feelings in a concrete way. For example, if your child is having a problem with a friend, there is a way to learn about your child’s true thoughts and feelings. You can ask what their favorite toy (doll or stuffed animal) thinks about a similar friendship dilemma. You will be surprised at how articulate a child will be in expressing his or her innermost feelings and thoughts when they can disassociate from them through play.

4. Finally, and this is the culminating mastery point, envision what it is like to be your child. Imagine what truly delights them and why. Anticipate what they are thinking and feeling as you interact with them. The premise is to feel as if you almost become your child to fully understand your child. That is the deepest level of attentiveness and presence that can be had. Experiencing the world through your child’s perspective is the highest form of being present for your child.

Audrey Hepburn was known to say “love is action” and I couldn’t agree more. True maternal elegance requires much love and action. By mastering this technique of being fully present, the next time someone photographs you with your child, do not be surprised at what they will capture. The aura of an elegant mother will be realized in you. There will be something dulcet, a regal elegance, a donning of love that will inspire others to live the only life that matters. The life that matters is the one in which an individual is fully present.

# MEDITATION MYTHS REVEALED

**Meditation is for everyone. That includes you, according to our meditation teacher guide Paige Davis, who shares insight on meditation that can enhance your life for the better in the entire year ahead**

PRIOR TO MY FIRST MEDITATION TRAINING about three and a half years ago, I was what would be described as a “crisis meditator,” tapping into the meditation practice at the most expected of times (i.e., New Year’s resolution) or the most desperate times (i.e., overly stressed, overwhelmed, etc.)

I walked away from that meditation training with a set of mindfulness and meditation tools and techniques that fit my lifestyle. But more importantly, I came to understand that I had some myths around meditation that made it easy for me justify keeping a daily practice conveniently at bay. But once I busted through these myths, the true benefits of meditation and mindfulness began to show up in the most obvious ways like sleeping better, feeling more relaxed, and being less reactive and more responsive in my communications. There were unexpected benefits too, like feeling more emotionally connected in my relationships, experiencing greater focus and lucidity during challenging situations, and an overall feeling of peace and presence in my life.

“Meditation is not a way of making your mind quiet. It’s a way of entering into the quiet that’s already there,” says Deepak Chopra. Here are just a few popular myths when it comes to practicing mindfulness and meditation, and how you can overcome them to create a practice that suits your lifestyle.

## MEDITATION HOW-TO

**1. I can’t clear my mind:** You aren’t supposed to; thoughts are normal. The nature of the mind is to think, just as the nature of your eye is to see. Many people think meditation is about “clearing” our mind and while ultimately that may happen, it’s not because you close your eyes and magically stop thinking. Meditation is the practice of becoming aware of having a thought, and then gently and without judgment, coming back to a point of focus (breath, body awareness, etc.) So it’s normal to have a thought, and come back to the point of focus. Have a thought. Come back to the focus. Each time we do this it’s like a pushup for our brain and serves as daily exercise to be more present in our lives. You’ll find that as you do this, you can easily access more and more subtle levels of thinking and eventually you’ll experience the silence that underlies the thoughts. So in reality, thoughts are a tool to cue the point of focus.

**Tip:** Match your inhales and exhales. Close your eyes and inhale for four counts and exhale for four counts. Repeat four times. If your thoughts wander (which they will), just start over with your inhale by going back to one.



**2. I’m too busy:** When people think of meditation, they envision big chunks of time of sitting and doing nothing. Then, ultimately they imagine all the things they can get done in that time. But the truth is, you can start with 5 minutes. It’s a matter of prioritizing your time. Think of the time you spend waiting in line for a coffee or perusing social media – you manage to find it when you need it and most of us can find five minutes each day. So in reality, 5 minutes of meditation is better than none at all. Think of it as a mini nap, where you are nourishing yourself and will come out feeling more grounded, relaxed, and at peace.

**Tip:** Choose mindfulness triggers. Tack on five minutes of breathing to your daily rituals – after brushing your teeth, after your shower, waiting for the coffee or tea to brew, or pulling off on a side street on your way home. The simple act of breathing in and out of our nose accesses the parasympathetic nervous system which automatically calms and relaxes us.

**3. I’m too stressed:** We all know that stress is not great for us, yet many of us wear it like a badge of honor where we feel more important, valuable and useful. Stress activates our stress hormones (fight or flight), whereas meditation soothes our nervous system. The body shifts into a state of restful awareness (rest and digest). Meditation can actually help to increase the flow of energy in our bodies, which helps to improve our healing and optimal health. With meditation, we won’t become lazy or too relaxed, but we’ll be clearer, more creative, and better able to respond to situations with more focus and effectiveness. In reality, you’ll learn you can do less and accomplish more.

**Tip:** Become aware of how stress feels in your body. Next time you feel yourself getting riled up, practice S.T.O.P.:

**S:** Stop what you are doing

**T:** Take a few deep breaths

**O:** Observe your body and smile

**P:** Proceed with kindness and compassion

Hopefully, debunking these myths can be a game changer and eliminate the limiting beliefs that are blocking you from being more present, peaceful, and prosperous in our day-to-day lives. Now, let’s proceed into the New Year with mindful intentions, and become our very best selves, step by step. There’s nothing to lose, and you may be quite surprised by what you can achieve in this New Year. **S**



*bountiful*, diptych 36"x48" each  
acrylic on canvas, 2015

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# ANIMAL KINGDOM

The tie between people and their dogs goes back thousands of years. Our San Antonio-bred, pet loving Suzanne Negley learns more about that special bond these days with some of our favorite Texans



Kelly Wynne and Fonzi Ferguson, Austin

**KELLY WYNNE AND FONZI FERGUSON, AUSTIN**

**What is your favorite Texas past-time/activity together?** Yoga because he's a great morning stretcher.

**If your pet had a voice, who would he sound like?** Alfalfa from *The Little Rascals*... he even has the cowlick to prove it.

**What is your pet's greatest indulgence?** He loves taking naps every hour on the hour especially when he's working at Kelly Wynne HQ

**MADISON WILLIAMS AND BUTTERCUP, SAN ANTONIO**

**How would you describe your dog's style?** She has a feminine and delicate look from another time... she's comfortable with a fluffy white lace bonnet with a pink satin ribbon tied under her chin.

**If your furry pal was a character who was reincarnated, who would she have been?** Nana, the dog from *Peter Pan*. Buttercup looks after children, loves to keep things tidy, and has a very strong mothering instinct.

**Does your dog have any irrational fears?** Anytime I'm under the water she goes into lifeguard mode and jumps in the water to "save" me.



Madison Williams and Buttercup, San Antonio



Bailey McCarthy and Bella, Houston

**BAILEY MCCARTHY AND BELLA, HOUSTON**

**How would you describe your dog's style?** To me she looks exactly like Blythe Danner. Like her, Bella is practical, but beautiful with an appropriate hint of non-fussy glamour.

**If your furry pal was a fictional character who would she have been?** Margot Tenenbaum, played by Gwyneth Paltrow, in *The Royal Tenenbaums*. She has secrets but is deeply loyal. She probably smokes, but we would never know.

**Does she have any funny quirks?** She prefers to watch T.V. perched on top of the couch, because no one looks down on Bella. **S**

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# Winter's Cool In Dallas

Join our favorite girl-on-the-real-scene Cynthia Smooth as she scouts the latest and coolest offerings in Dallas this winter



Designs by Bullzerk

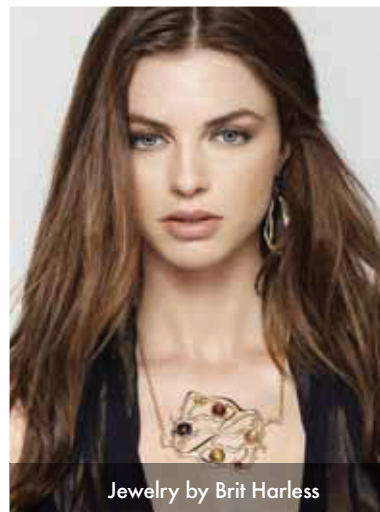
## BULLZERK'S "BIG D" ATTITUDE

There are many T-shirt manufacturers creating Texana state designs. But Dan Bradley has taken the hometown pride concept one step further and designs hilarious tees that capture the unique flavor of the neighborhoods that make up Dallas. Available at Bullzerk on Lower Greenville in Dallas or online, his witty mottos, from *Drag Me To Oak Lawn* to *Lakewood: Home Of The Original Dad Bod*, no neighborhood is safe from Bradley's snark and I couldn't love it more. Because he prints everything on-site, Bradley has the ability to react to local news events and stay au courant. In addition to t-shirts, Bullzerk sells posters featuring neighborhood landmarks, as well as smaller knickknacks like koozies, stickers and journals. Tees are \$23 each and made from a super soft cotton blend. Bullzerk is located at 1909 Greenville Avenue, or you can shop the entire collection online at [Bullzerk.myshopify](http://Bullzerk.myshopify)



## BAHZ INSPIRATION

The creations of Britt Harless are proof that it's possible to turn even the most devastating circumstances into something truly beautiful. After a series of personal tragedies, when Harless was at her lowest, she would go outside and study the oak trees in her backyard. Nature was a balm to her soul as she studied the curves of the bare trees in the deepest Dallas winter. "Even when the trees were bare, they still represented strength, nurturing, protection, and resilience. Their stoic, imperfect beauty was stunning. Inspired by their message of annual renewal, I started to sketch again, and once I started I couldn't stop. I found my way back to a central creative passion that



Jewelry by Brit Harless

I had left behind years ago, and that led to BAHZ," said Harless, who created the design line's name from her initials.

The debut collection from BAHZ is called *Winter Branches in Bastille*, a name that springs from the designer's French roots. Each handcrafted piece is named for a street around the prison monument in Bastille. Jewelry is made with .925 sterling silver, bronze, or 14-karat gold plate. Prices range from \$250 to \$825, and the collection is available for sale in upscale boutiques and select trunk shows. For more information, visit [Bahz.us](http://Bahz.us)



Maggie Kipp, Kimberly Schlegel Whitman, Ann Marie Marthens, Julie Clancy, Jamie O'Banion & Nancy Gopez



Cynthia Smooth & Kimberly Schlegel Whitman

## I'D LIKE THAT MONOGRAMMED, PLEASE

Reese Witherspoon once famously said, "My sheets are monogrammed, so is my silverware and pretty much everything else I own. My rule is, if it's not moving, monogram it." This is a motto that most Southern women live by, so it's no surprise that the first printing of Kimberly Schlegel Whitman's seventh book *Monograms For The Home: The Art of Making Your Mark*, which debuted this past fall, quickly sold out and the publisher has already ordered its second printing. FGI of Dallas and IBB Design in Frisco hosted a luncheon to celebrate Whitman, one of Dallas' most beloved and accomplished women authors. The book offers an inside look at both the history of monograms and ciphers, and how each can be incorporated into our everyday lives. The book is available on Amazon.com or in finer book stores everywhere. [S](#)

The book is available on Amazon.com or in finer book stores everywhere. [S](#)





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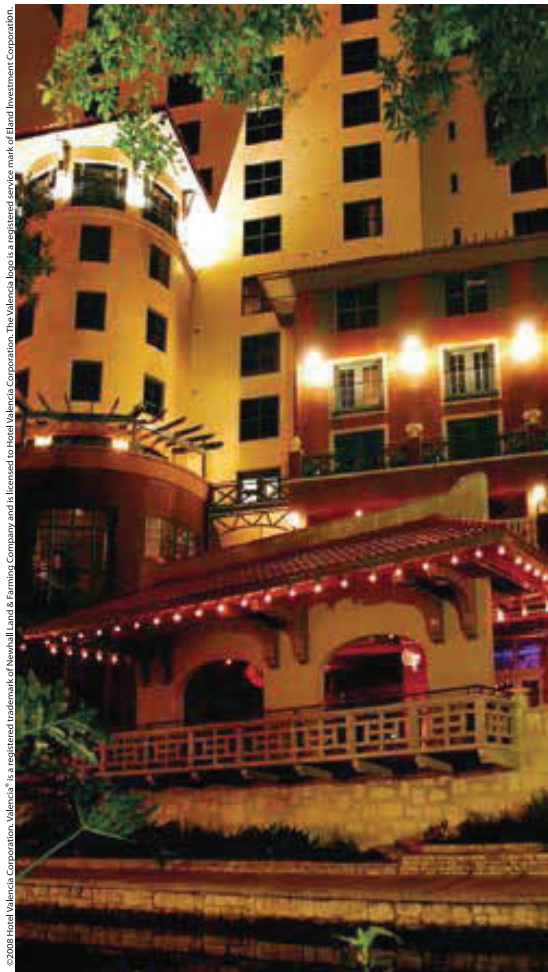


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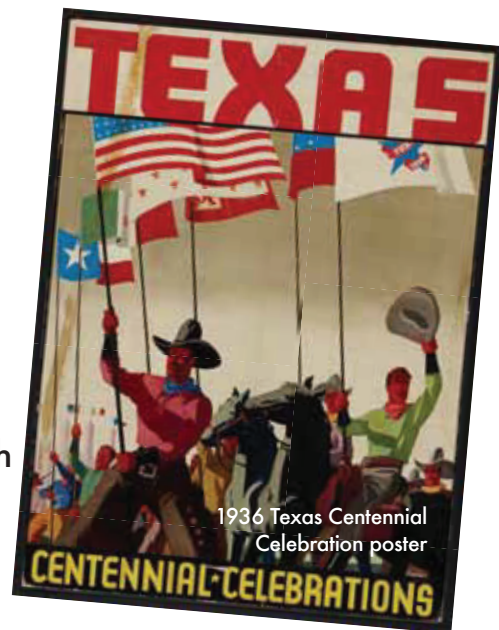


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# JEWEL OF THE EMERALD CITY

In 1936, Texas celebrated 100 years of independence with the Texas Centennial Exposition in Dallas and true to Texas form, the event was one of the biggest world's fair events in history. This year, on its eightieth anniversary, we look back at the epic celebration that helped our state weather the Great Depression and set the world's eyes upon Texas

By Jonathan Spindel Photography courtesy of Archival Images



Centennial Midway, 1936



Pavillion Midway, 1936



Texas Centennial Agriculture building



Texas Centennial Reflection Basin and Esplanade, 1936



1936 Texas Centennial Celebration aerial view

THE TEXAS CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION'S PAVILLIONS AT FAIR Park in Dallas are a window to the past, to a courageously ambitious project to spur economic growth during the depths of the Great Depression. In a display of Texas-sized confidence, the Centennial Exposition planners sought to celebrate Texas's independence as a state with a celebration the world would remember. Indeed, the event was a spectacular success, and its legacy remains as testament to the Texas spirit of ambition, strength, and modern grandeur.

To understand the scale of the then-unprecedented Centennial Exposition, visualize that in 1936, half of Texas's residents lived on farms or in towns of less than 2,500 people. Texas wasn't yet the economic powerhouse it would soon become. Amidst a backdrop of economic difficulty, the Centennial Exposition marked an important contrast between the realities and the aspirations of Texans during the depression era. World War II ahead wasn't even a thought, so with the Centennial Exposition, the Emerald City of Dallas, attracted Texans and Americans near and far like a dazzling beacon, where they became inspired by what the state could one day become, and indeed, has come to be.

By the numbers, the Texas Centennial Exposition was an event for the history books. More than six million people attended the expo, including President Franklin D. Roosevelt. More than 50 buildings were erected for the event, many of which remain today as notable examples of Art Deco architecture gaining mainstream acceptance by then. The event cost a reported \$25 million, yet created over ten thousand jobs and contributed a staggering \$50 million to the local economy. Thus, the Texas Centennial Exposition is credited with buffering Dallas from the latter days of the Great Depression.

Dallas's beloved Fair Park, an expansive, then-178 acre landscape, hosted the expo, and in turn was graced with some of the era's most impressive feats of architecture, including the monumental Hall of State. According to press accounts at the time and Texas State Historical Association, the fair was an unprecedented happening that lingers in memory to many to this day.

The vastness of the Centennial's endeavor offered something for everyone. The Cavalcade of Texas, a historical pageant covering four centuries of Texas history, was one of the most popular attractions at the Exposition.

The Hall of Negro Life was another popular attraction and is believed to be the first recognition of African-American culture at a world's fair. The Texas Centennial Olympics, held in the Cotton Bowl, hosted the first integrated public athletic competition in the history of the South. Universal Studios produced a newsreel of preparations for the Centennial beauty pageant, which shows models attempting to fit into life-sized cutouts of the Texas Centennial Committee's concept of the "perfect figure."

The celebrated Federal Theatre Project production of *Macbeth*, adapted and directed by Orson Welles with an all-black cast, was featured August 13–23 in the new band shell and 5,000-seat open-air amphitheater. The production was one of the most talked-about features of the exposition and drew large, enthusiastic audiences. For many it was their first opportunity to see a professional dramatic performance by African American actors. Integrated seating was a unique experience for theatergoers in Dallas at the time.

The publicity machined churned out stories surrounding President Franklin D. Roosevelt's visit to the exposition in a widely publicized event and Gene Autry's film *The Big Show* was filmed on location and shows many of the buildings and events of the event.

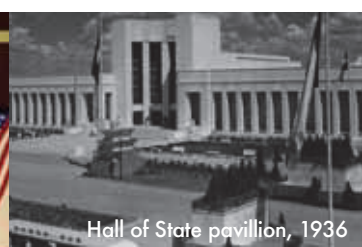
The Centennial Exposition required a massive publicity effort, but the promotion department was stymied by a lack of photographs. Never before had the state been photographed for advertising purposes. The Centennial Exposition hired Polly Smith to travel the state and tell the story of Texas through photos.

After a successful five-month run, the Texas Centennial Exposition was closed and would remain a precursor of the 1939 World's Fair in New York that would usher in a different world forever and the Centennial's exhibits changed and reopened the following year as the Greater Texas & Pan-American Exposition to include the state's Latino neighbors to the south.

About 60% of the buildings remain standing today, thanks largely in 1986 at the Centennial's 50th anniversary, with the founding of the Friends of Fair Park to preserve the structures. In fact, the Fair Park Texas Centennial Buildings were designated a National Historic Landmark in the same year. This year, eighty years after it's monumental success, let us all pay tribute to our state's ambitious forebears by visiting the historic Fair Park, and perhaps sharing the story of the Centennial Exposition with the younger generation of Texans. Let us also embody that inspiration as we head forward into the future, and raise a spirited cheer to the next one hundred years of Texas pride. **S**



1936 Texas Centennial poster



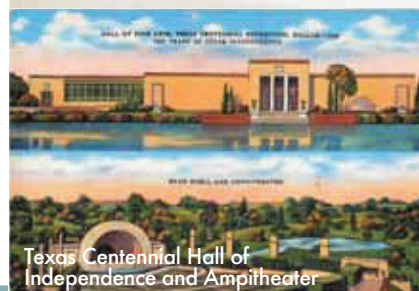
Hall of State pavillion, 1936



Neiman Marcus in Vogue celebrating the Texas Centennial, 1936



The Big Show, Republic Pictures, 1936



Texas Centennial Hall of Independence and Amphitheater

Texas Centennial's National Cash Register pavillion, 1936



Fair Park Midway, 1936



Texas Centennial exposition building

# SHELF INTEREST

Grace your coffee table with a gorgeous new tome to feast your eyes and dazzle the intellect. *Our savvy bibliophiles Jonathan Spindel and Kelsey Goldberg share a selection of this season's chicest books on art and style*



**GIORGIO ARMANI** BY GIUSI FERRE Dive into the world of Armani, who changed fashion by emphasizing the essence of strength in a woman's wardrobe. \$40. At Rizzoliusa.com

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**FORTUNY: HIS LIFE AND WORK** BY GUILLERMO DE OSMA "The Magician of Venice" Mariano Fortuny was a renaissance man of art and fashion. Get to know his life and work in this comprehensive monograph. \$85. At Rizzoliusa.com

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**A LIFE IN FASHION: THE WARDROBE OF CECIL BEATON** BY BENJAMIN WILD AND TIM WALKER Renowned for his flamboyant sartorial personality, Cecil Beaton left a colorful legacy of influence over the fashion world. \$50. At Thamesandhudsonusa.com

**DOMINIC WALSH: DANCE THEATER** BY DOMINIC WALSH AND GABRIELLA NISSEN The acclaimed dancer Dominic Walsh shares how he brought classical ballet style into the contemporary realm, accompanied by a stunning collection of photographs. Editions from \$105. At Gabriellanissen.com

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Mira Sorvino,  
Vienna Ball 2013

# HAVING A BALL... WISH YOU WERE HERE

When offered the opportunity to attend an international ball, especially now during ball season in Vienna, say yes, please. *Our ball-trotting Ms. Modern Manners Sharon Schweitzer, JD* shares tips on how to excel at international social relations when you are there



LOVE GLAMOROUS BALL GOWNS? WHO DOESN'T? The international balls in Vienna this time of year are divine if you enjoy the finest in life, know how to avoid stepping on your partner's feet and appreciate classical music. Of the 400 Viennese balls each season, each has its own unique flair, ceremony, theme and highlight. Plenty of opportunity to experience the richness of Austrian culture, while delighting in the splendor of these grand events. "There is such a dedication to tradition, it was really remarkable to witness," shares Austinite Andra Liemandt, who attended the Philharmonic Ball in Vienna last year with her husband, Joe. "From the formal introductions of guests to the arrival of the younger generation (who are clearly being groomed in this beautiful way to carry everything on), you can really sense the long history that's there."

Does this mean that we have to be expert dancers to attend? Not really, according to Austinite Carla McDonald, who also attended the Philharmonic Ball in Vienna last year, too. She says, "Don't worry about your waltz. Jack and I practiced our Viennese Waltz for weeks expecting that we'd be waltzing with everyone else in the traditional way - in one large circle around the dance floor where one mistake could throw off the entire circle. Actually, it wasn't like that at all. It

was a bit more like bumper-cars waltzing - crowded, lively and lots of fun with everyone doing their own thing." Speaking of crowds, when Austin resident Erin Driscoll attended with John Thornton, she learned the balls offer individual freedom, too. "I had wanted to dye my hair a bluish tint before the ball, yet changed my mind last minute thinking that I would look like some crazy American. When I entered the ball room, it was a sea of colored hair: mint, aubergine, fuchsia, candy apple red and topaz blue. So, really, it's an expressive, and impressive, evening to behold."

## What A Ball

A Viennese ball is a society dance event with live classical and contemporary music that requires elegant evening attire. That means high black tie (long gowns) and tuxedos for me. Only two balls are strictly white tie for men. Ball wear can vary from traditional gowns and white tie to Dirndl dresses and Lederhosen. Many of the balls are organized by professional guilds and associations, such as the Vienna Philharmonic and the Concordia Press Club.

The tradition dates back to the 1800s, when the nobility wore masks and costumes on private occasions. To compensate for this, Emperor



A Vienna Ball



Dancing in Vienna



A Vienna Ball

Josef II began hosting dance events for everyone in the *Redoute* Rooms of the Hofburg Palace or Grand Imperial Palace. Today, the Vienna ball season honors this tradition by opening the season with the Imperial Ball at the Imperial Palace on New Year's Eve. The season continues during Carnival with over 300,000 guests attending more than 400 balls each winter.

**Variety Is The Spice.** The availability of shortlists describing the variety of Vienna balls will provide a fabulous overview with the choicest locations, best music, and liveliest programs. For example, "Europe's most glamorous dance floor" is how the scene is described at the Vienna Opera Ball February 4, 2016; then there is a plethora of scrumptious sweets at the Bonbon Ball on February 5, 2016, and then the appearance of international fashion notables and politicians at the high profile Life Ball in May 2016.

**International Etiquette Primer.** So once you obtain that coveted ticket, book your lovely hotel room, and practice your ballroom dancing, how do you ensure your wardrobe and international etiquette are finessed? Having attended a number of international balls, I offer the following points on international ball etiquette:

**Appearances, Strict Dress Codes & What To Wear.** Appropriate attire is crucial, the dress codes are strict and entrance is denied if your wardrobe is not up to par. Cinderella wore a gorgeous gown and you should too. Just don't lose your shoe! Be sure to consult *The Right Dress Code for Every Ball* in *Ball Culture* magazine. Another fantastic resource is Vienna Unwrapped.com's List of Evening Dress Shops in Vienna.

**Not Having A Date Is No Excuse.** Do you need a man who loves to dance and waltz? In Vienna, there are gentlemen available to waltz for the ball season. For more information, visit Taxi-dancer.

**Opening Of The Ball.** Observe how the honored guests enter the ballroom and are seated, before the debutantes dressed in beautiful white ball gowns, long white gloves and tiaras arrive. The debutantes are accompanied by their "cavaliers," who are handsome young men wearing white gloves, coat and tails. As they enter the ballroom, typically *Fächer-Polonaise* from Carl Michael Ziehrer plays.

**Dancing Starts When For Everyone?** After the debutantes and their partners dance, the Master of Ceremony declares *Alles Walze* which translates to Everyone Waltz. The guests may then sweep onto the dance floor.

**Inviting A Lady To Dance:** *Darf ich bitten?* When seated with friends, family or colleagues that you are acquainted with at a table, etiquette requires that you ask every lady to dance by the end of the evening.

**Ladies Gift:** *Damenspende.* A gift for each lady as she enters the ballroom.

**Midnight:** *Mitternachtseinlage.* When the clock strikes midnight, this is *Mitternachtseinlage*, or a break in the ball for a surprise performance in the main ballroom by special guests. Watch this 'midnight interlude,' which may be a recognizable quadrille.

**Raffle Tickets / Tombola.** Raffle tickets are sold at balls and sell out quickly. At most balls, nearly every ticket will win a prize.

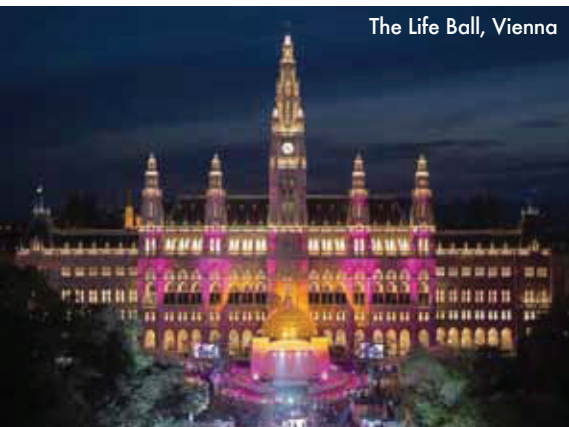
**See & Be Seen.** In a 2010 survey conducted by the *Vienna Economic Chamber*, ball guests answered a question about why they liked attending Vienna balls. The top three reasons may surprise you since dancing is not listed:

- 1) spend a nice evening with partners
- 2) enjoyment of the flair
- 3) meeting with friends

**When Is It Time To Depart?** The Viennese have a subtle way to say thank you for a lovely evening, goodnight and sweet dreams. When you hear *Brüderlein fein* from Ferdinand Raimund (1826), it will be the last song of the ball. It is a good idea to become very familiar with this music before you attend so you recognize the first few notes.

One final tip. According to Andra Liemandt, "I wish I knew that I would be wearing my shoes and outfit for almost 12 hours straight, more than double the amount of time I anticipated. Had I known that I could have planned my comfort level a little better."

So, now you're ready. Do let us know how the dance proceeds, darlings. **S**



The Life Ball, Vienna



A Vienna Ball



Annamarie Falvo, Sally Hill, Jessica Casillas and Ashley Longoria

# THE GOLD STANDARD

## Julian Gold's 70 Years Of Style Celebration Continues

By Shannon Miller Turner Photography by Greg Harrison

Julian Gold once again set the standard for fall 2015 at a style show at the San Antonio Country Club exclusively for its members. The eyes of over 200 guests were on the catwalk as models brought to life a show produced by Julian Gold's own Emily McMichael highlighting fashion trends through the decades in honor of the iconic store's year-long *70 Years of Style* celebration. Four of the models included daughters of club members. Carlisle Bentley, Katie Dehlinger, Paige Johnson and Christine Young each brought an extra bit of youthful attitude to the night as she took her supermodel turn on the catwalk.

The end of the evening brought prizes and appreciation for the clients in attendance who have, through the years, contributed to the unparalleled success of this much-loved Texas trendsetter. COO James Glover and the store's manager Melinda Young each drew for gifts and gift cards in celebration of the store's loyal clientele, a group that included special friend Jean Alexander whose efforts in coordinating the event served to create a seamless and spectacular evening.



Callie Price, Christy Little and Courtney Percy



Melinda Young and Tandy Bowers



Ada Osborn and Allegra Pitt



Joy Furhmann and Kim Winton

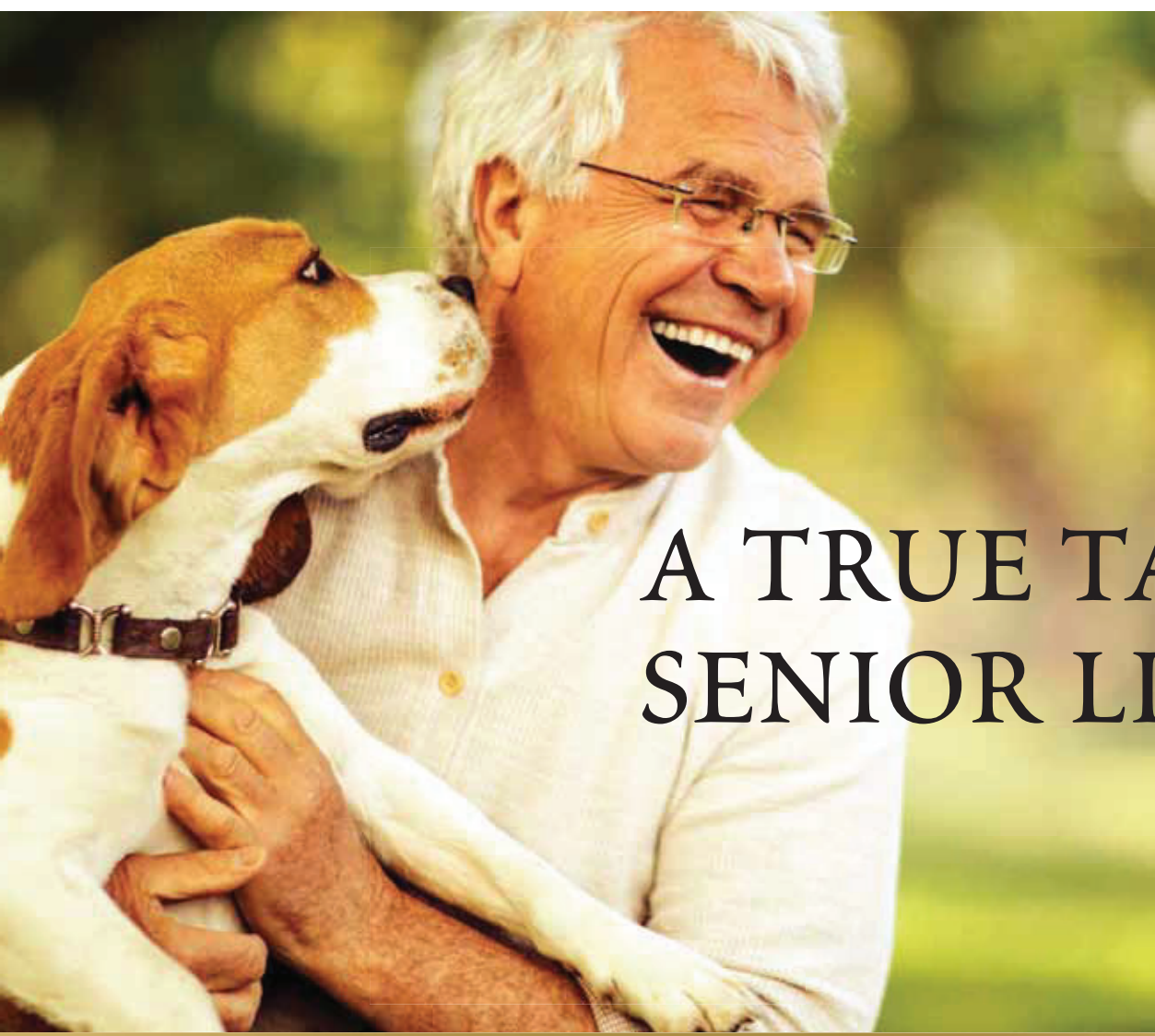


Lisa Wolff and Melissa Crea

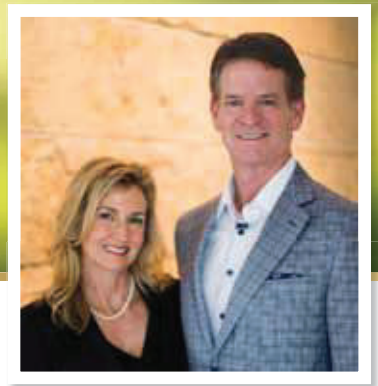


James Glover, Becky Canavan and Bob Gurwitz





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# DEDICATED & DIVINE

## Saks Fifth Avenue Hosts Diane von Furstenberg Fashions

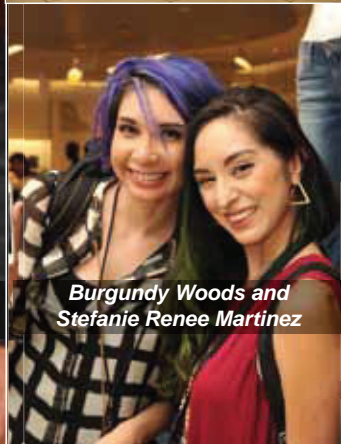
By *Shannon Miller Turner* Photography by *Greg Harrison*

We love that Oscar-winning actress Julianne Moore is this year's ambassador for Saks Fifth Avenue's Key to the Cure Campaign Against Cancer. It is a cause that, through the generosity of the store's partnership with Diane Von Furstenberg and the Entertainment Industry Foundation, was spectacularly launched with a runway show at Saks Fifth Avenue's San Antonio location. The dynamic DVF showcase was just the beginning of the 17th annual Key to the Cure Charity Shopping Weekend. This four-day shopping extravaganza was sponsored by Saks, the Cancer Therapy & Research (CTRC), and the Entertainment Industry Foundation.

The reception and runway show set the stage for Dr. Bill Henrich, President of the University of Texas Health Science Center and Dr. Ian Thompson, Director CTRC, to present the 2015 Key to the Cure Award to this year's three recipients: Virginia Kaklamani, M.D., Liz Conklyn, Ph.D. and Jesse Iracheta, R.N. Presenters from Saks Fifth Avenue were Dennis Trammell, Vice President and General Manager and Carla Smith Jones, Marketing Director. Representing the DVF brand were Lauren Brunwasser, Director of Wholesale Merchandising, DVF Studio LLC, as well as representatives from DVF.



*Dr. Bill Henrich and Dennis Trammell*



*Burgundy Woods and Stefanie Renee Martinez*



*Marty and Rene Wender, Patsy Williams and Dr. Ian Thompson*



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ENTRANCE: SAN ANTONIO



# WIND BENEATH THEIR WINGS

61st Annual Chrysanthemum Ball  
Delights Gala Attendees

By Shannon Miller Turner | Photography by Greg Harrison

## THE SCENE:

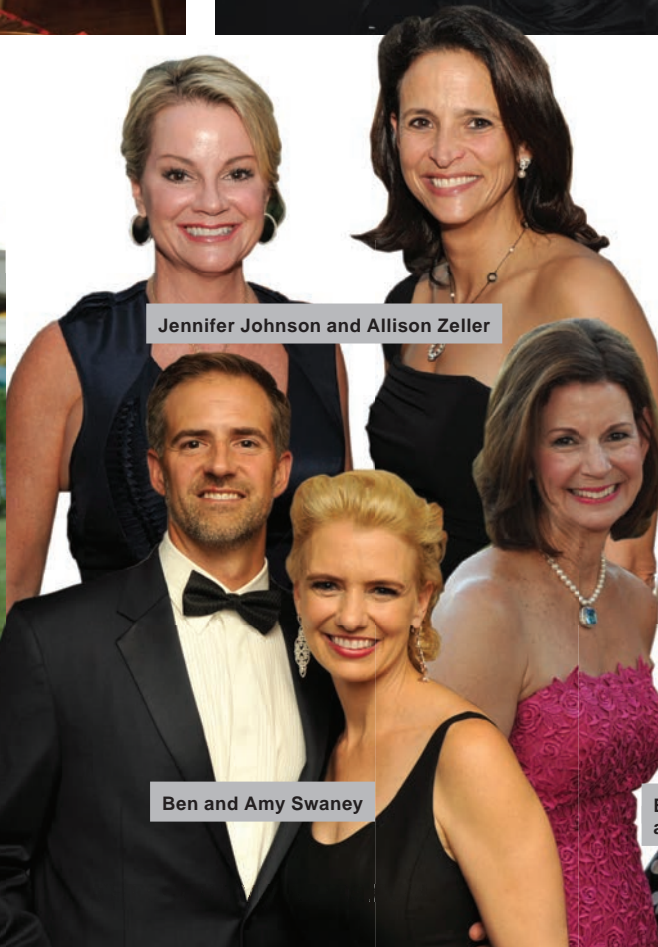
Guests of the 61st annual Chrysanthemum Ball found themselves in a Danny Cuellar-designed, rose-embellished wonderland as they made their way through the gallery of the San Antonio Country Club to an al fresco cocktail hour where the energy of an evening to remember was crisp and clear in the early evening air. Under soft ivory twinkle lights and a beautiful autumn sky, elegantly-bedecked ball patrons enjoyed drinks and hors oeuvres as they mixed and mingled in preparation for the night ahead.



Hop Fuhrmann and Marie Half



Marilyn Eldridge and Susan Hausser



Jennifer Johnson and Allison Zeller



Ben and Amy Swaney



Betty Venson, Kathleen LeFlore and Lisa Hanson





Mark and Ana Paula Watson & Jane and Rooney Gleason



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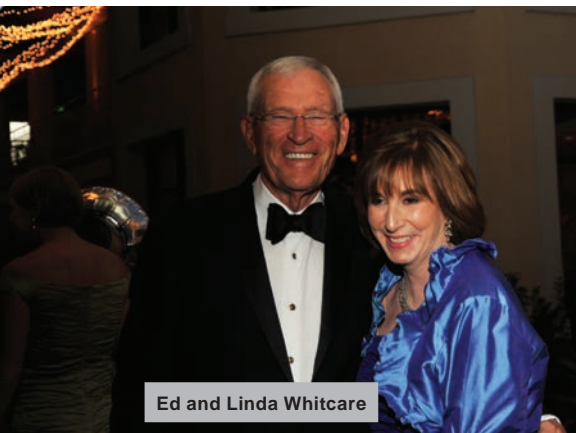
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Dalal Kanafani and Roy Terracina

### THE VIBE:

As chimes signaled the beginning of the dinner hour, guests were the picture of elegance as they approached the grand staircase leading to the country club ballroom. To guests delight, hundreds of delicately hand-crafted butterflies decorated this magical space, suspended from the ceiling signaling an evening to remember. In keeping with the evening's theme, "Give Them Wings," this divine detail was a perfect welcome to extend to a crowd celebrating a charity based on improving the lives of children in need. Tables were beautifully dressed in elegant orange citron shantung accented with golden Chiavari chairs and place settings which were offset by napkins in the same hue as the table coverings. Each bit of decor was provided by Illusions Rentals and Design, a division of the RK Group.

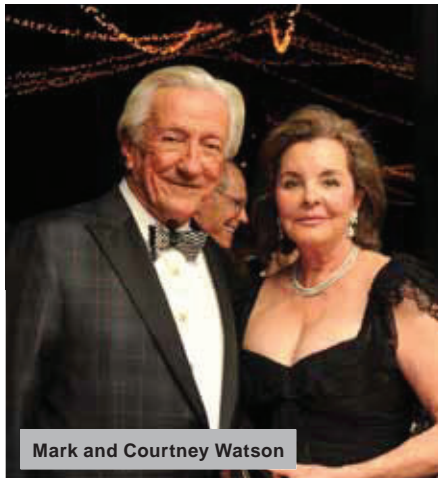




Susan and James Glover



Sharon Seal, Lee Anne Hendry and Caroline Schupbach



Mark and Courtney Watson



George and Annabell Ames & Valerie and Jack Guenther



Cheryl and Sid Greehey



Emily Cargile Catalani, Kelly Harris Catalani and Emily Hendry Cage

### THE CAUSE:

The grand total raised for 2015 amounted to over one million dollars to be distributed to 31 children's charities in Bexar County. In addition to annual grants, a Significant Impact Gift of \$750,000 was awarded to Roy Maas Youth Alternatives to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Charity Ball Association. The Charity Ball Association of San Antonio, Inc. is a non-profit organization that supports and enhances the quality of life for the children of Bexar County. The Chrysanthemum Ball has, for 61 years, funded "bricks and mortar" projects to create nurturing environments with permanent value benefitting the minds, bodies and spirits of children in need.



Christy Gulley and Suzanne Cavender



Sandi and Bob Kolitz



Francie Mannix and Beth Smith



Bob Buffkin, Rosemay Leon, Kathy Anderson & Betty and Bob Kelso



Alan Dreeben, Stephen and Bea Dutton & Barbara Dreeben



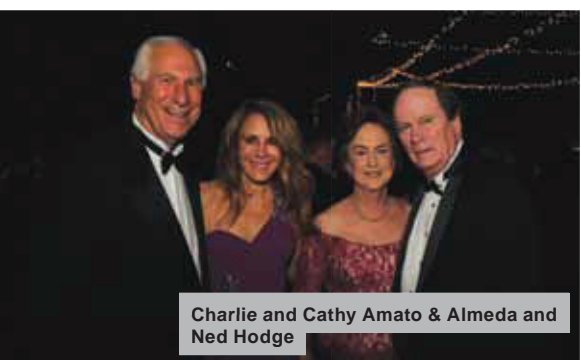
Vicki and John McLaughlin & Lisa and Tim Blonkvist



Steve and Susan Lewis



Delores and Danny Cueller



Charlie and Cathy Amato & Almeda and Ned Hodge



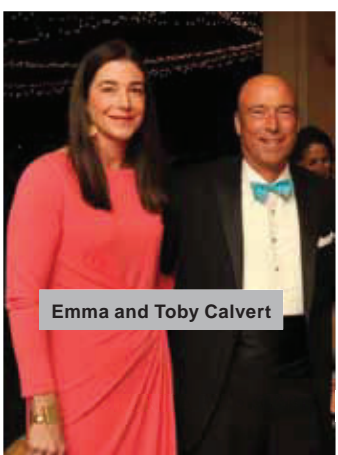
Liza Lewis, Jean Alexander and Diana Schmidt



Gayle and Walter Embrey



Bonnie and Gal Shweiki



Emma and Toby Calvert



Gene and Sonya Williams & Karen Lee and David Zachry

# PRINCESS DIARIES

## 61th Women's Symphony League Jewel Ball Presents Debutantes

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Becky Kettleman



Kaitlyn Arnold

### THE SCENE:

The annual tradition of presenting young men and women to local society always calls for a celebration. This year, the Austin Women's Symphony League hosted the 61st annual Jewel Ball at the Palmer Events Center. The dazzling evening featured a court of Texas high society, who arrived from across the state to usher in this social milestone for the newest generation of the League's royalty.

The Royal Court theme made for an evening majestically fit for a king and queen. The festivities began with a cocktail hour that coincided with a silent auction. Afterward, guests made their way to their tables where they were treated to a delicious meal while the debs and escorts were presented to "the subjects" in attendance. After the crowd became acquainted with the newest members of Austin's "Royal Court," the party continued as revelers danced and rolled the dice at the casino, which has become an event staple.



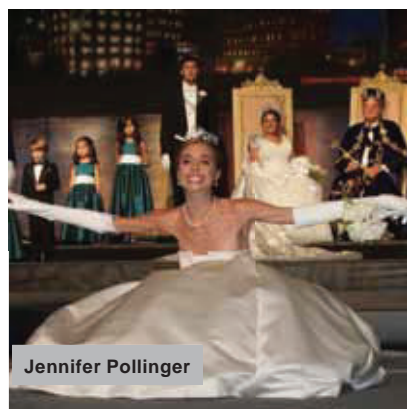
Alexis Garcia and King Brio L. Charles Joseph Roessein



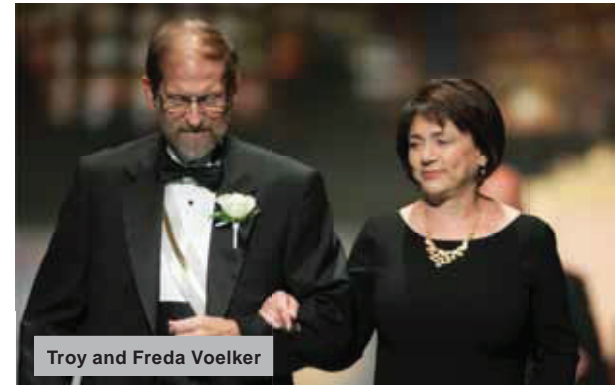
Jill and Bill Gernstein



Steven and Kim Widner



Jennifer Pollinger



Troy and Freda Voelker



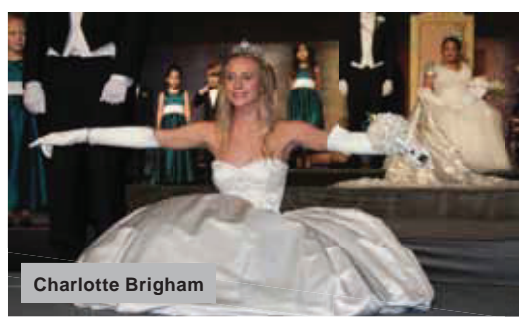
Claire Wilson Chlebowski and Charles Davis Golson, III



Jane Driscoll and Christine Hester



Nancy Garrison & Taylor and Elizabeth Sherwood



Charlotte Brigham



Becky Powell, Diane Falkenberg and Elizabeth Powell



April and Bennie Downing & Henry and Pamela Bell



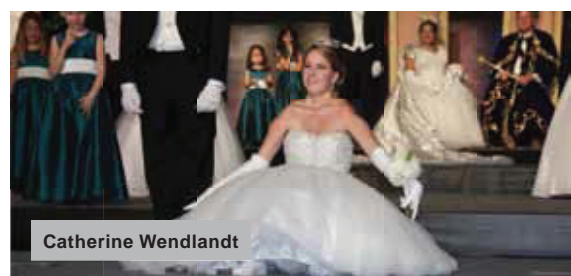
Arthur and Lilliana R. Garcia



Hayden Waugh



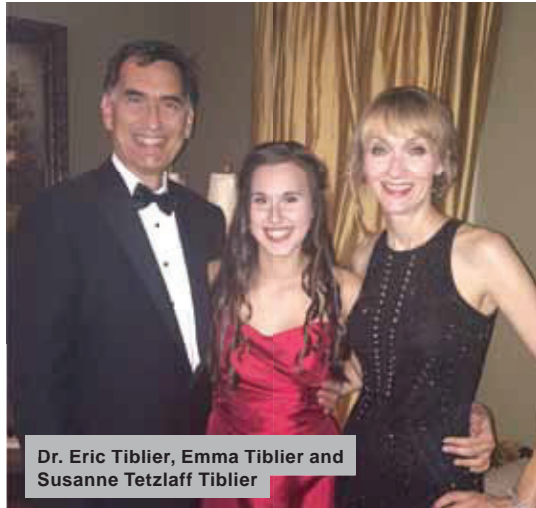
Tobie Fuente Flannery



Catherine Wendlandt



Grayson Cooke and Kathleen Cooke



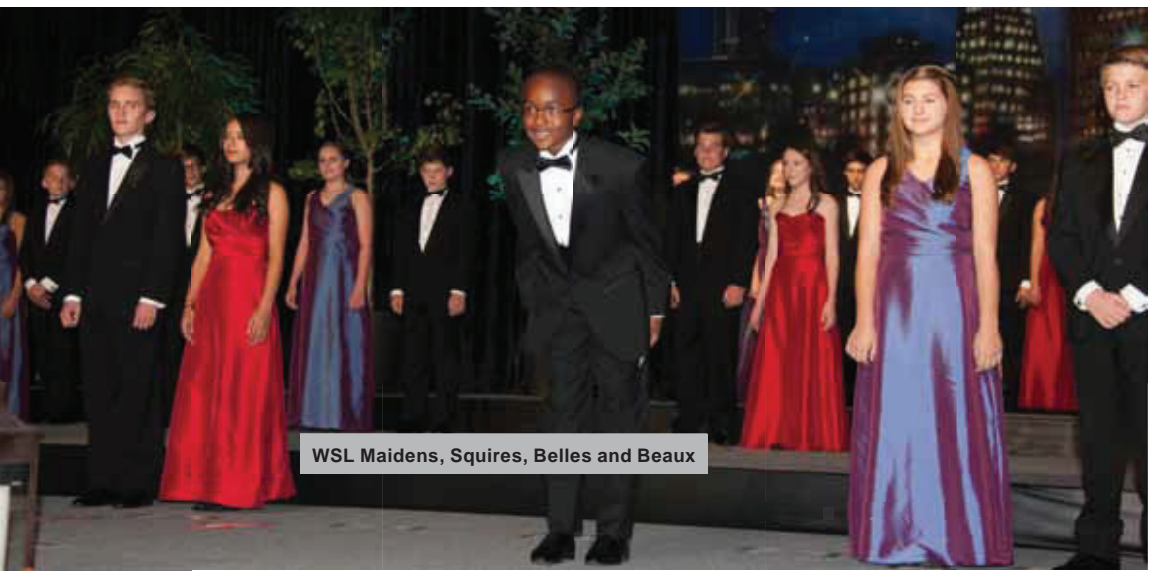
Dr. Eric Tiblier, Emma Tiblier and Susanne Tetzlaff Tiblier

### THE VIBE:

Upon entering the black tie affair the feeling of family was palpable. Many of this year's debs and escorts know the Jewel Ball as a familial rite of passage, and the pride in the eyes of their parents and grandparents, many of whom were previous debs, escorts or volunteers themselves was on full and glorious display. The ceremonial celebration is always an occasion to share experiences and memories passed down from one generation to the next.

### THE CAUSE:

Co-chairs Freda Voelker and Kim Widner chaired this evening of pageantry. The annual event raises funds to benefit the Austin Symphony Orchestra, an organization that serves over 90,000 children with its innovative educational programs year after year.



WSL Maidens, Squires, Belles and Beaux



Becca Cason Trash, Kevin Spacey and Anthony Kennedy Shriver

# THE BUDDY SYSTEM

## Best Buddies Bash At The Home Of Becca And John Thrash Dazzles

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Morris Malakoff and Collins Metu

### THE SCENE:

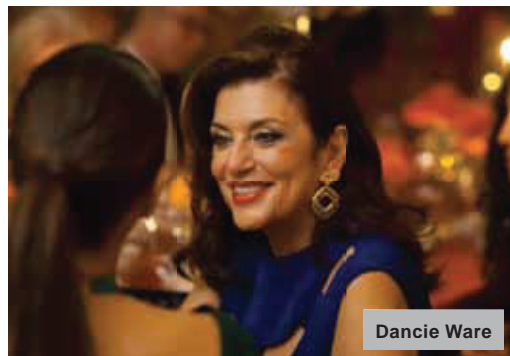
The residence of Dr. John and Becca Cason Thrash was the perfect setting for a spectacular evening for a truly special cause. The Best Buddies event was special not only for the Thrashes flawlessly executing another of their legendary parties, but also was made more special by two very special guests: Academy Award winner and Best Buddies Global Ambassador Kevin Spacey along with Anthony Kennedy Shriver, son of Eunice Kennedy Shriver, the founder of Special Olympics.

From the moment guests entered the Thrash residence, everyone knew a magical evening was eminent. Cocktail chatter flowed as effortlessly as the hostess herself as Becca personally escorted guests for a meet and greet photo opportunity with Spacey, all the while the silent auction goodies from such luxe brands as Van Cleef & Arpels, Tom Ford, and Valentino among others were beautifully displayed in the residence.

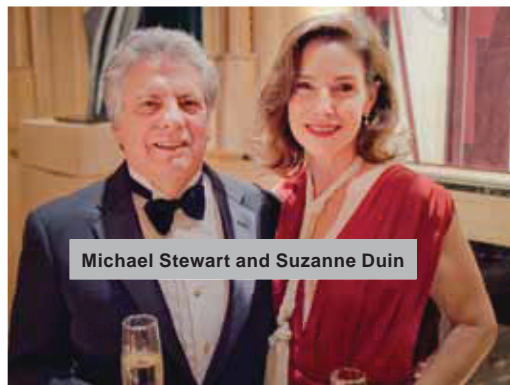
The festivities moved to the main entertaining space, where guests dined on a divine three-course dinner, after which Becca Cason Thrash, Kevin Spacey and Anthony Kennedy Shriver entertained the crowd with a lively Q&A, followed by a moving testimonial from a Best Buddies client. The program concluded with a live auction, where Thrash charmed the crowd as the bidding heated up and the party continued well into the evening.



Marnie Greenwood and Terence Liff



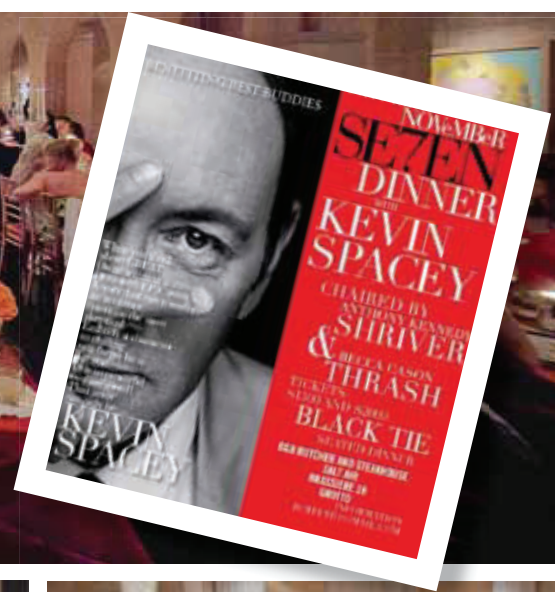
Dancie Ware



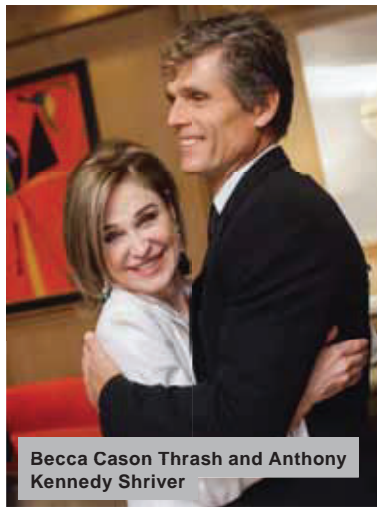
Michael Stewart and Suzanne Duin



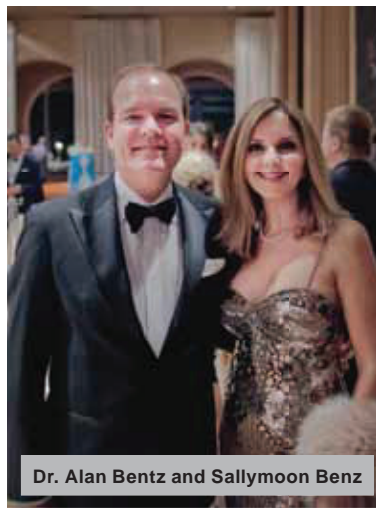
Pat Breen & Lester and Sue Smith



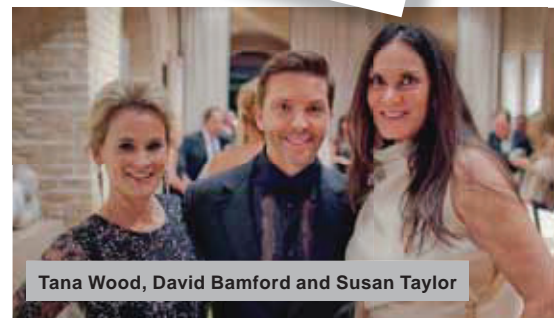
Kevin Spacey



Becca Cason Thrash and Anthony Kennedy Shriver



Dr. Alan Bentz and Sallymoon Benz



Tana Wood, David Bamford and Susan Taylor

### THE VIBE:

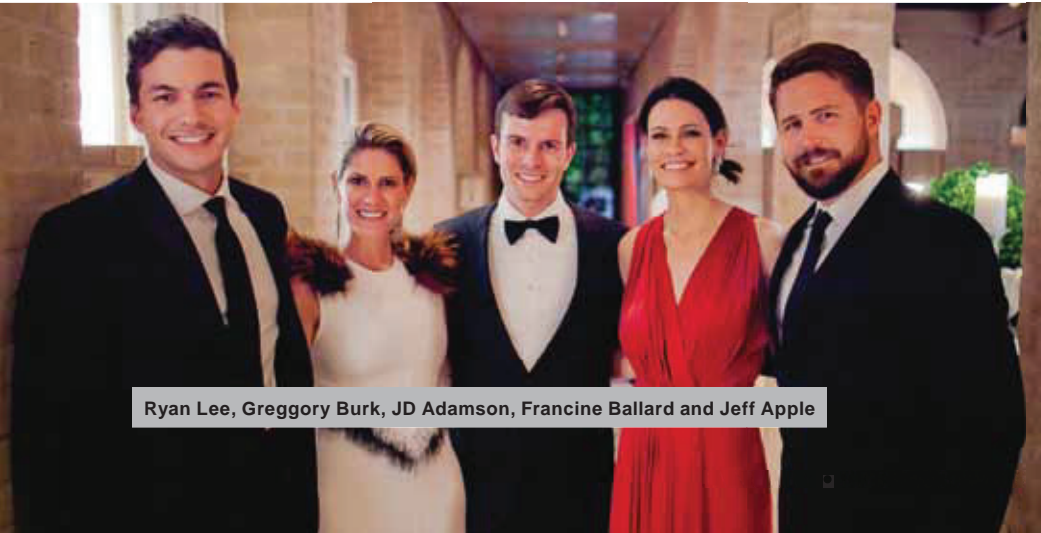
The black-tie crowd of 150 created an environment that was the perfect balance of high energy and intimacy, while sipping Dom Perignon through the evening. The aura of effortless sophistication reigned supreme as Houstonians hobnobbed with jet setters in from across the state and both coasts, in addition to Mr. Spacey who flew in directly from the Baltimore set of his hit series *House of Cards* to celebrate the success of the Best Buddies organization.



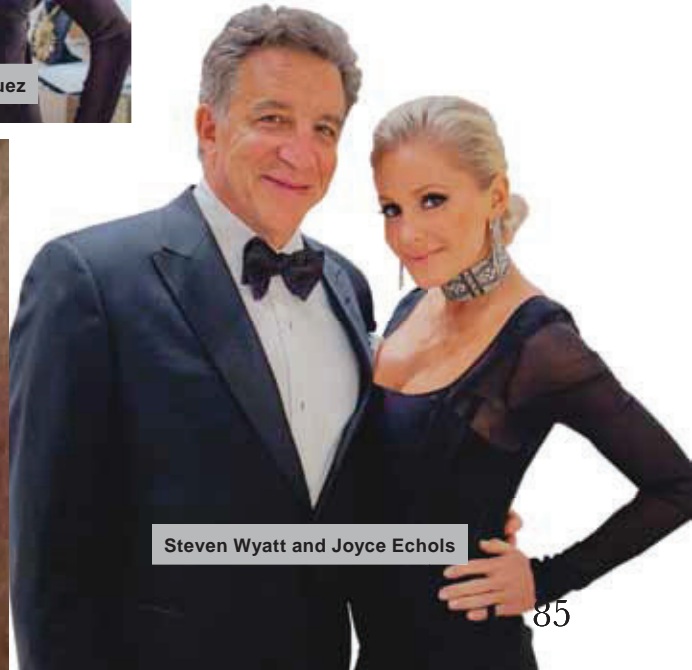
Kevin Spacey & Carla and Jack McDonald



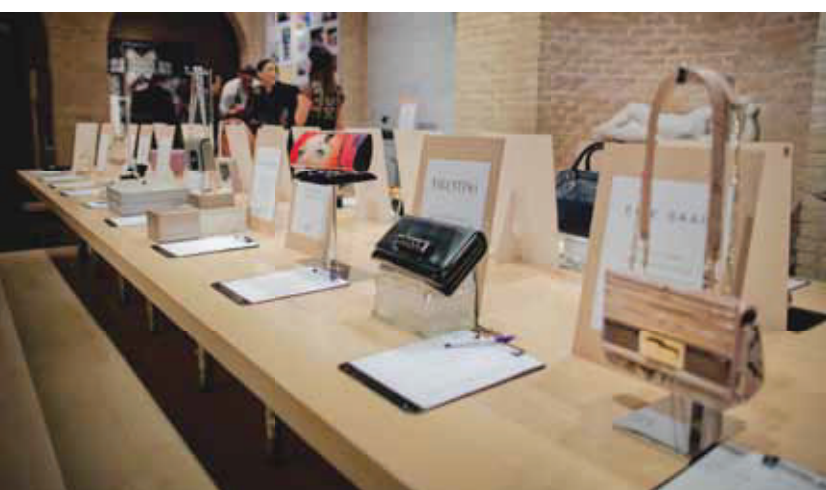
Rhonda McDonald and Raquel Vasquez



Ryan Lee, Gregory Burk, JD Adamson, Francine Ballard and Jeff Apple



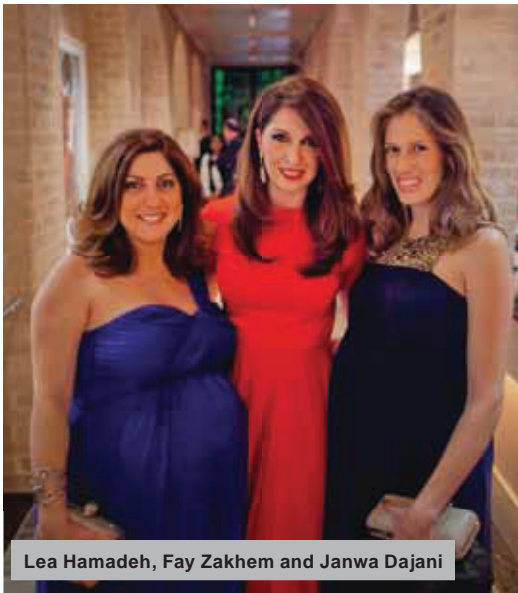
Steven Wyatt and Joyce Echols



Becca Cason Thrash, Kevin Spacey and Anthony Kennedy Shriver



Alain Bernard and Diane Lokey Farb



Lea Hamadeh, Fay Zakhem and Janwa Dajani



Neal Hamil

**THE CAUSE:**  
The event, chaired by Becca Cason Thrash, raised over \$500,000 for Best Buddies, an organization which creates one-on-one friendships, leadership development opportunities, and integrated employment for those with developmental and intellectual disabilities.



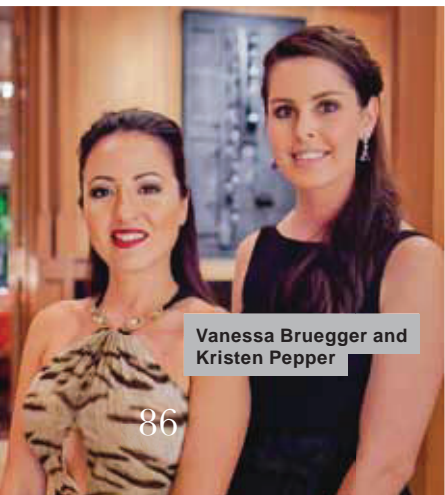
Randy Powers and Kelli Fein



Lucinda Loya and Monsour Taghdisi



Rob Giardinelli, Kevin Spacey and Lance Avery Morgan



Vanessa Bruegger and Kristen Pepper



Kevin Spacey and John Thrash





# Patty Eggleston



Keith Donley Real Estate  
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ENTRANCE: DALLAS



Prabal Gurung Spring 2016 collection



# RED CARPET READY

## Fashion Group International Night of Stars Gala Shines Brightly

By Cynthia Smoot | Photography by Rhi Lee

### THE SCENE:

Fashion Industry Gallery (better known as FIG) was the setting for an evening of glitz and high-glamour when the industry elite of Dallas fashion gathered to pay homage to those who have placed Dallas on the map of the world's fashion scene. Actress Morgan Fairchild, who hails from Dallas, was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award for her work in film and television. Nancy Nasher, owner of North-Park Center, was the recipient of the Career Achievement Award in Business. David Sutherland was the recipient of the Career Achievement Award in Interior Design, and Nancy Carlson was the recipient of the Art Patron of the Year award. The highlight of the evening was Prabal Gurung, recipient of the Career Achievement Award in Fashion, who presented his Spring 2016 Collection for guests' enjoyment.



Prabal Gurung, Nancy Nasher, Morgan Fairchild, David Sutherland and Nancy Carlson



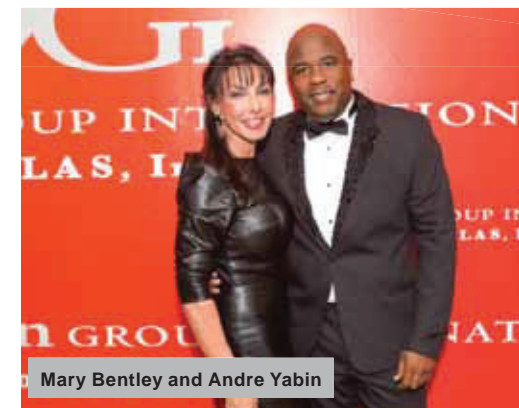
Morgan Fairchild and Chuck Steelman



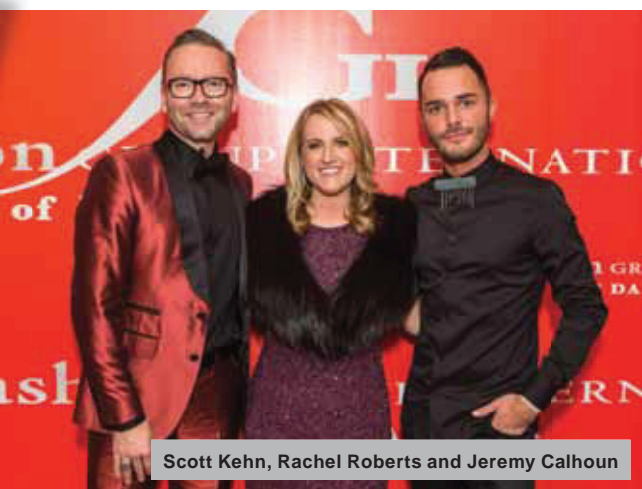
Ken Downing, Heidi and Bill Dillon & Dallas Dillon



Lynn McBee and Nancy Carlson



Mary Bentley and Andre Yabin



Scott Kehn, Rachel Roberts and Jeremy Calhoun



Kristen Blair Guerrero



Tiffany Hendra, Cynthia Smoot and Lee Anne Locken

**THE VIBE:**  
FGI Night of Stars might as well be the Academy Awards of Dallas fashion because of the occasion's opulence. Attendees entered the gala on a red carpet and walked straight onto a paparazzi atmosphere. A strategically placed silent auction was positioned in the center aisle of the gallery so that attendees wouldn't miss it. A menu of cauliflower soup, a gourmet chicken pot pie and a pumpkin spice cake delighted all the guests.



Brian Bolke, Maxine Trowbridge and Faisal Humul



Priya and Veeral Rathod



Prabal Gurung and Nancy C. Rogers



Jan Showers

### THE CAUSE:

The event hosts were Chuck Steelman, the FGI of Dallas regional director, along with chairs Maxine Towbridge and Rachel Roberts. The event is FGI Dallas' largest fundraiser of the year and proceeds from the event fund FGI Dallas' foundation scholarships. This year marks the 66th year of Fashion Group International of Dallas (FGI Dallas). FGI Dallas is part of Fashion Group International, Inc., a global, non-profit, professional organization with more than 6,000 members representing all areas of the fashion industry. Fashion Group International, Inc. provides a high-profile forum to promote the fashion business by hosting events that educate and facilitate the exchange of ideas by giving back to the community. For more information about FGI Dallas visit [Dallas.fgi.org](http://Dallas.fgi.org)



Roshawnda Foster and Robert Weatherly



Carmen Surgent and Gina Ginsburg



Chelsea Brogdon and Caitlyn Mullanix



Nabil Shayya and John Terlingo



Cameron Silver and Rhonda Sargent Chambers



Phyllis Comu and Shay Geyer



Cathy Hodges and David and Ann Sutherland

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## TRADITIONAL & COLLABORATIVE

Ikard Wynne believes there is a way to handle a family law case by taking the high road. Our approach minimizes collateral damage to all parties, creating a greater opportunity for success and happiness after a difficult life transition.

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512 275 7880 · [www.ikardwynne.com](http://www.ikardwynne.com)



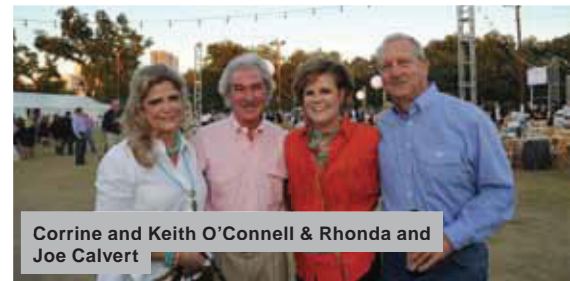
ENTRANCE: SAN ANTONIO



# GAME NIGHT

The 45th Annual Witte Game Dinner  
Serves Up Night Of Festivities

By Shannon Miller Turner | Photography by Greg Harrison



Corrine and Keith O'Connell & Rhonda and Joe Calvert



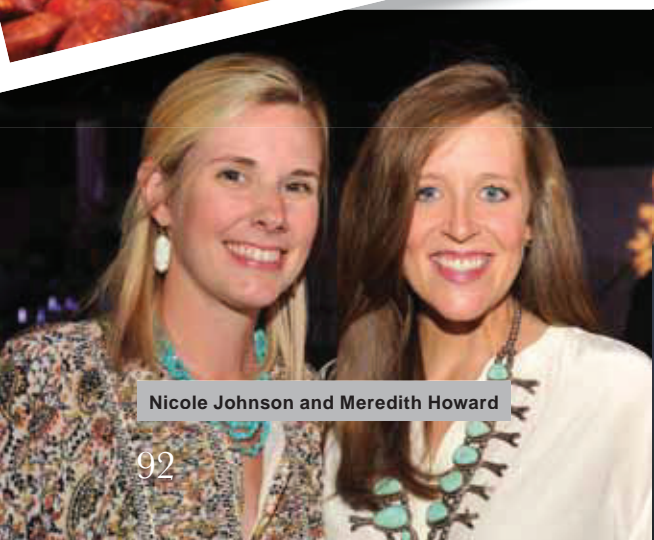
Rosemary's Catering



Jeff and Lori Goldblatt

## THE SCENE:

Under a wide-open Texas sky, the 45th annual Witte Game Dinner exceed all expectations, which were already high. In keeping with the evening's theme, guests from all over the state kept it wild as they dined and danced under the legendary big, bright stars of Texas. In fact, it was a night of fun as Texans come together to raise funds for one of San Antonio's most beloved historical treasure troves.

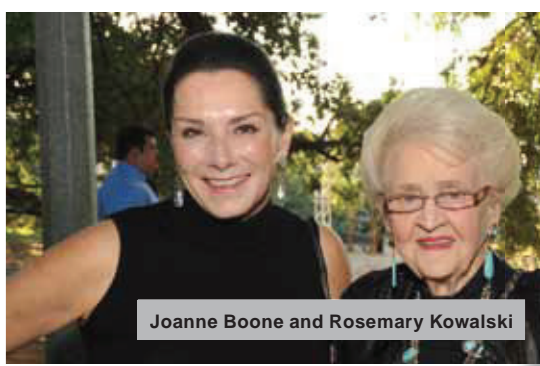


Nicole Johnson and Meredith Howard



Randy and Ginny Cadwallader

Michelle Mitchell and Cassandra Longoria



Joanne Boone and Rosemary Kowalski



Renee Bradley, Amy Maverick, Brooke Hagee and Whitney Schones



Sam and Margie O'Krent



Michelle Alexander, Pilar Starnes and Elaine Russell



Mariness Gonzalez, Shelley Summers and Melissa Campbell



Rob and Janet Holliday



Drs. Ricardo and Harriet Romo & Ronnie and Scott Chakales



Adrian Jordan and Nancy Turnbull



Michael and Michelle Robertson

**THE VIBE:**  
 Country music's legendary Bellamy Brothers set the tone in Brackenridge Park for the western-chic celebration. Held in the park during this year of transformation for the museum, the change of venue only added to the sense of adventure for this well-loved soirée. This year's honoree, the City of San Antonio itself, provided the perfect backdrop for chairs Ginny and Randy Cadwallader to welcome guests for a night of fabulous decor, entertainment and Lone Star cuisine provided by Rosemary's Catering and Illusions Rentals and Design, a division of the RK Group.

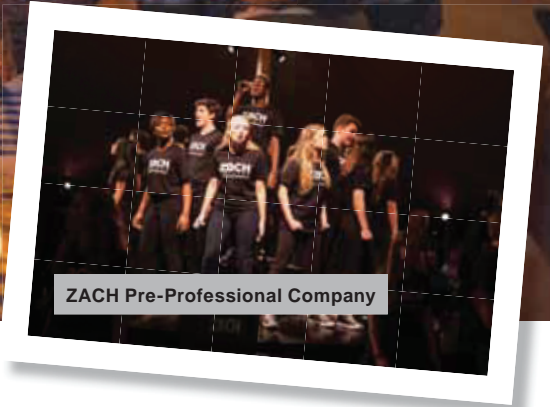


Christen Wommack, Brittany Winston and Courtney Percy



Bo and Caroline Badouh

**THE CAUSE:**  
 The Witte Game Dinner serves to benefit the educational programs, exhibitions and daily operations of the Witte Museum. It promotes life long learning through innovative exhibits, programs and collections in natural history, science and South Texas heritage.



ZACH Pre-Professional Company

# PERFORMANCES UNPLUGGED

## ZACH Scott Theatre's Unplugged Event Showcases Talented Ensemble

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Charles Quinn Photography

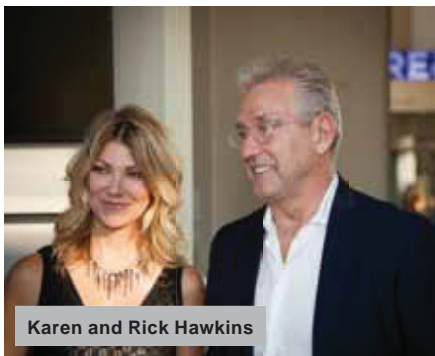
### THE SCENE:

Zachary Scott Theatre's annual *Unplugged* gala, held on a picture perfect evening in Austin, was the setting for an evening of delectable food, great company and featured dazzling performances for which ZACH has become known.

The evening began as guests entered the Topfer Theatre lobby where attendees mingled with the ZACH performers during a fun and lively cocktail hour. Guests then adjourned to the Bobbi Pavilion for "dinner and a show" where guests dined on cuisine catered by 34th Street Café, while listening to performances showcasing the range of ZACH's current roster of theatrical entertainment for the upcoming season. The evening culminated in a live auction where guests bid on various items including a pair of earrings donated by New York jeweler Peter Martino.



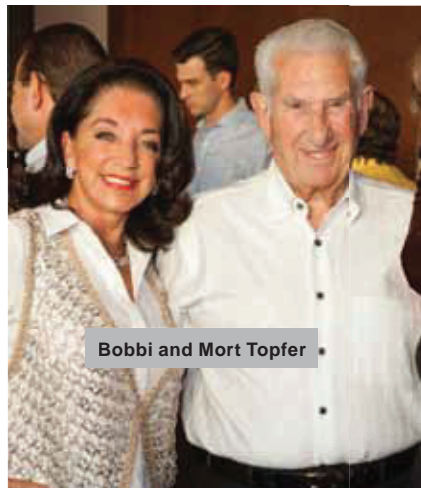
Martin Burke and Meredith McCall



Karen and Rick Hawkins



Mindy Ellmer



Bobbi and Mort Topfer



Kenny Williams performs



Mary Tally, Stephanie Gubasci Kincheloe and Maria Groten





Chris and Carol Adams



Elisabeth Challener



Roderick Sanford performs



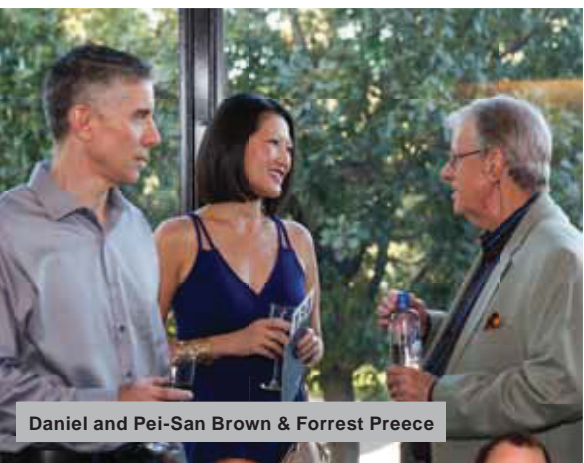
Jaime Barshop and Eddie Bernal



Hon. Jim Pitts



Dave Steakley



Daniel and Pei-San Brown & Forrest Preece



### THE VIBE:

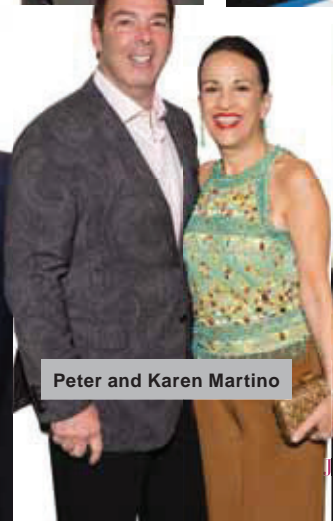
The hip crowd donned their best Austin Chic attire, which blended perfectly with the picnic-themed decor, creating a relaxing environment for guest to enjoy themselves. During the performances, which included an inspiring performance from the ZACH Pre-Professional company, the crowd rose to their feet adding to the feeling of community, family and inclusion synonymous with ZACH.

### THE CAUSE:

The event, co-chaired by Maria Groten, the Honorable Jim Pitts and Mary Tally, raised over \$180,000 for the artistic programs of ZACH Scott Theatre. These programs serve over 115,000 Central Texans each year, of which 60,000 are youth.



Alex and Adam Zeplain



Peter and Karen Martino



Samantha Slate and Kelly Hulse



Jill Skinner and John D'Acierno

## ENTRANCE: HOUSTON



Tessa Victoria,  
Colleen Mcknight & Lisa Eubanks



Max and Sarah Mischer, Ileana Trevino, Stacy and Jason Johnson

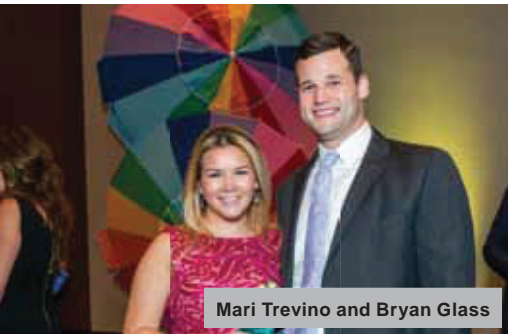
# BOARDWALK'S EMPIRE

### Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital Makes Splash

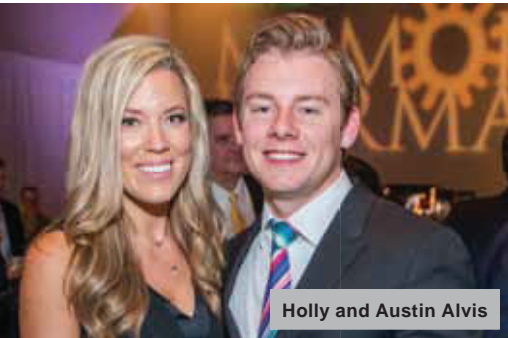
By *Jennifer Roosth* | Photography by *Catchlight Group*

#### THE SCENE:

It was all carnival fun and boardwalk games at the Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital (CMHH) third biennial *Under the Boardwalk* soiree. The festive event, hosted at The Royal Sonesta, honored CMHH's Maternal Fetal Medicine team and corporate honoree H-E-B. Craig Cordola, Senior Vice President and Regional President-Central/West Region, Memorial Hermann Health System led the evening as emcee.



Mari Trevino and Bryan Glass



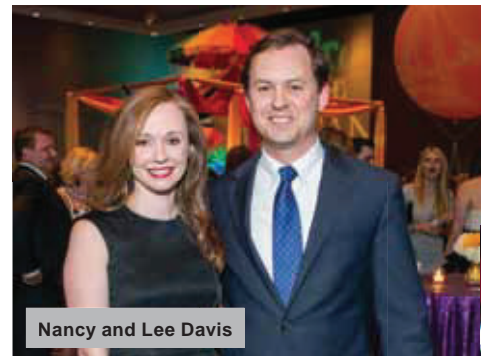
Holly and Austin Alvis



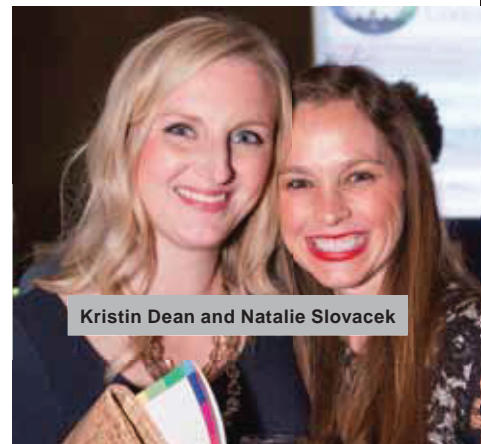
Yvonne Carmier and John and Karen Baerenstecher



Whitney and Leigh Martin



Nancy and Lee Davis



Kristin Dean and Natalie Slovacsek



Walt Mischer and Rischelle and Myles Scott



Bill Gutknecht and Christine Falgout



Tiffany Gist and Leila Mischer



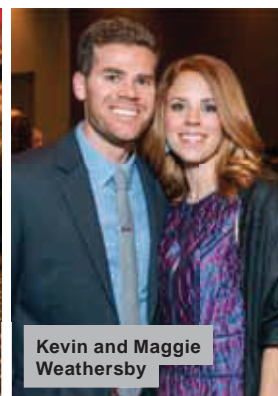
Collins and Allyson Kaper & Sarah and Chris Weekley



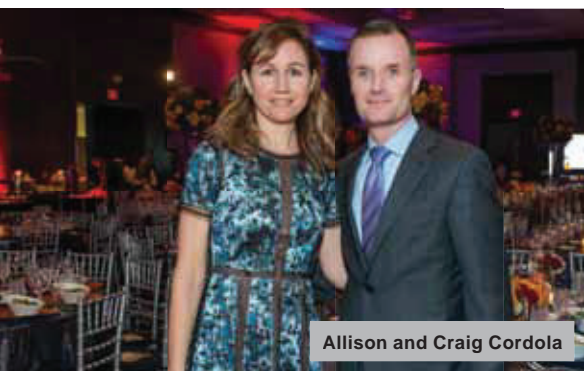
Iggy Distefano and Dr. Sean Blackwell



Casey and Will Hedges



Kevin and Maggie Weathersby



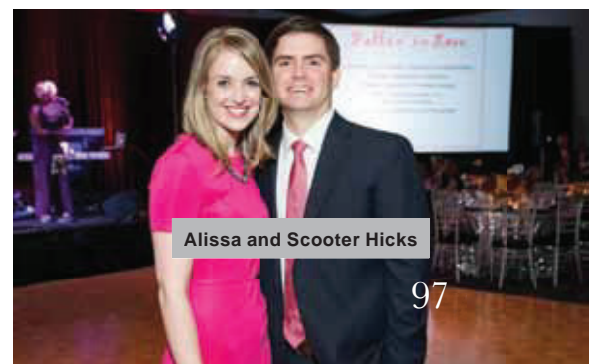
Allison and Craig Cordola



Robby and Katie Zorich



Zach and Elizabeth Fertitta & Kelli Kickerillo and Todd Forester



Alissa and Scooter Hicks

## THE VIBE:

This event catered to both young adults and the young at heart as games, games, and more games thrilled more than 500 guests, featuring a money grab machine, arcade favorite skee ball, and the very popular wine toss. The evening also included cocktails, food stations with gourmet boardwalk food fare, and dancing to the tunes of Password in a boardwalk-themed room decorated by A Memorable Event. A fun-filled big board action and signature raffle item donated by Thomas Markle Jewelers ensured that most left the event with a party favor to remember the evening.

## THE CAUSE:

Co-chairs Stacy and Jason Johnson, with Sarah and Max Mischer, choreographed the evening to make this year's event the most successful CMHH event to date, raising more than \$600,000. As advocates for the hospital, both couples serve on Memorial Hermann's young professional group, Heroes in Health. Part of the 13-hospital Memorial Hermann Health System, the Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital is dedicated to maternal fetal medicine specializing in the care of women with high-risk pregnancy conditions, as well as babies diagnosed with fetal anomalies or genetic abnormalities.

ENTRANCE: SAN ANTONIO



The Opening German Debutantes 2015



# DAZZLING DEBUT

The San Antonio German Club Presents Debutantes In Style

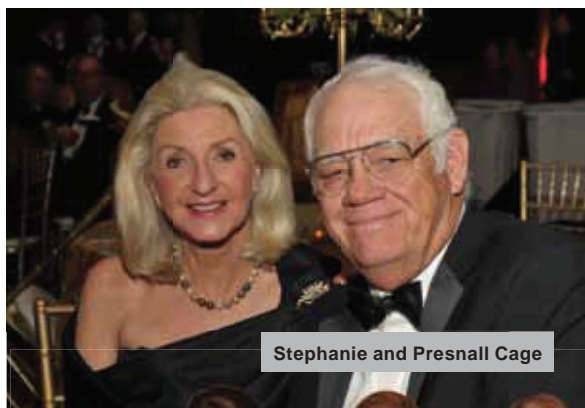
By Shannon Miller Turner | Photography by Greg Harrison

## THE SCENE:

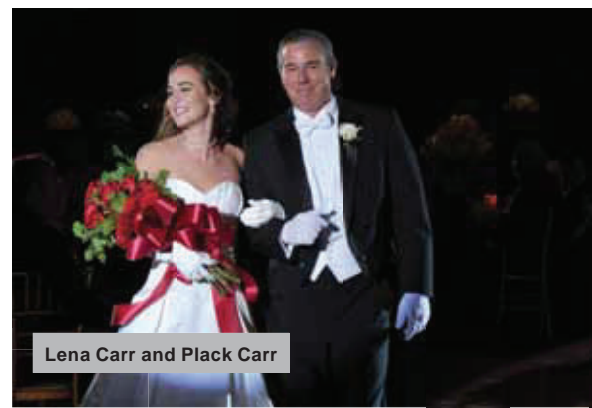
The 135-year old San Antonio German Club recently hosted its annual Opening German gala in honor of the season's debutantes. Held on a crisp, cool evening in the heart of San Antonio's historic downtown, the ball offered a glorious night of dining and dancing in celebration of the Club's radiant group of young ladies being presented to society.



Belinda Nixon, Mae Nixon and Will Nixon



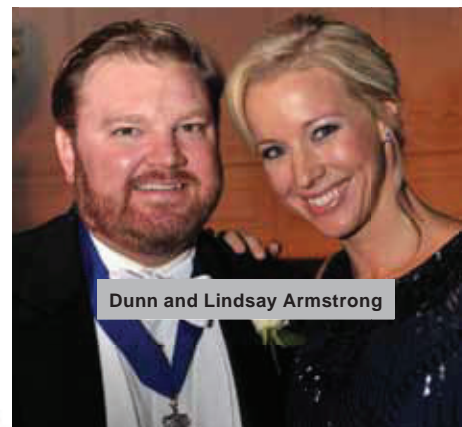
Stephanie and Presnall Cage



Lena Carr and Plack Carr



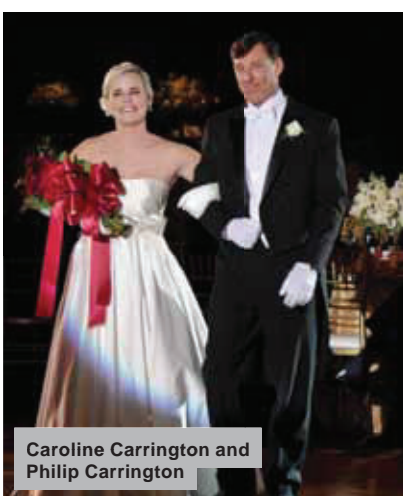
Brooke Yarborough, Sarah Ryder and Barrett Wolf



Dunn and Lindsay Armstrong



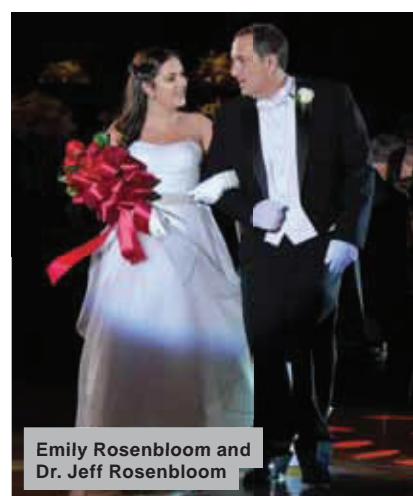
Margaret Massari and Greg Massari



Caroline Carrington and Philip Carrington



Charlotte Archer and Chip Archer



Emily Rosenbloom and Dr. Jeff Rosenbloom



The Opening German Debutantes 2015



Allie Donnell and James Donnell

**THE VIBE:**  
Resplendent in gorgeous white gowns, the debts dazzled as they were presented by their fathers as they were then led to their bows by their escorts. Following the presentation, the celebration continued as guests and debts alike danced late into the night to the various musical stylings of The Ramiro Cervera Orchestra, The Oh So Good Band, and The Tip Tops. Catering for the event was provided by San Antonio's Rosemary catering. Elegant floral designs and décor for the evening were created by Richard Flowers of The Events Company of Houston.



Sophie Beckendorf and Scott Beckendorf



Abbey Strunk



Asha Zacarias and Sergio Zacarias



Lily Cartwright and Loncito Cartwright



Paige Andabaker, Lacie Lee, Madeline Conrad and Danielle Dawon



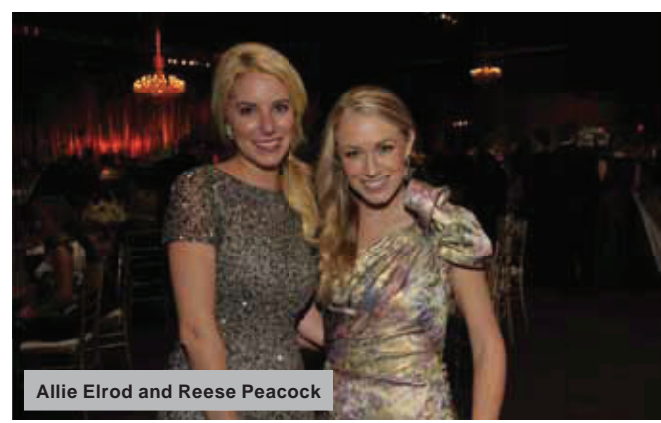
Hannah Bakke, Elizabeth Ryder, and Emily Carrington



Melysa Bartha and Morgan Navevski



Abby Cavender, Rob Cavender, C.C. Cavender and Bobby Cavender



Allie Elrod and Reese Peacock



Eliza Rosenbloom, Bill and Louree Greehey and Lisa Rosenbloom



Ben Eshleman, Barbara Askamit, Nancy Eshleman and Ben Brewer

### THE CAUSE:

The 2015-16 German Club President is Dunn Houston Armstrong. Chairman of the Opening German was Jamie Boothe "J.B." Musselman, Jr. The San Antonio German Club, formed in 1880, has presented its debutantes during San Antonio's social season each year since its inception. Originally known as The Ascension Club, a new name was chosen by club members in 1890 and changed to that of a popular ballroom dance of the day: The German.



Alexandra Strange



Anali Barrera and Ellen Sealy

Diane Shaw and Lorrie Uhl



Lisa Carrington and Caroline Carrington

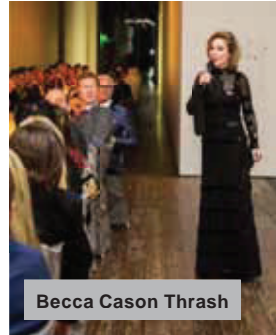
## ENTRANCE: HOUSTON



# JET-SET DINING

## Tom Ford Opening Dinner At The Menil Collection Hosts Fashionable Set

By *Jennifer Roosth* | Photography by *Kirsten Gilliam and Jay Tovar*



Becca Cason Thrash



Becca Cason Thrash



Domenico De Sole



Marc Nguyen and Duyen Huyuh



Tom Ford Store at River Oaks District

### THE SCENE:

The newly-opened Tom Ford store in Houston's new elite shopping destination, River Oaks District, was recently the scene for an evening that not only celebrated the Texas-born fashion icon's stand alone boutique, but also where the art of giving back was on full display for one of Houston's most cherished and respected institutions, the Menil Collection.

Guests dined at one long table for 130, a first for the vaulted museum, on a delicious three-course meal provided by three of Houston's top culinary destinations – PAX Americana, Helen Greek Food and Wine and Bistro Menil. Each donated a course that was expertly paired with a wine suitable for even the most distinguished palate.

### THE VIBE:

Guests from across the world and Houston's social elite elegantly mixed wearing high cocktail and black-tie attire, which created an aura of sophistication that was both glam and chic. Guests who jetted in included Chairman of Tom Ford International Domenico De Sole and his wife Eleonore, Bradley Radoff from New York, Luca Somoza from Paris, Stephane Gurschel from Rome and River Oaks District developer Deane Oliver of San Diego.

### THE CAUSE:

This spectacular evening, chaired by Becca Cason Thrash, raised over \$125,000 for the Menil Collection, the internationally renowned art museum in Houston that houses both special and permanent collection of highly acclaimed and esteemed artists.



Gina Bhatia and Phoebe Tudor

# A ROYAL GATHERING

DKR Alzheimer's Gala Celebrates Edith Royal's 90th Birthday

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by David Brendan Hall



Karen and Rusty Allen



Matthew McConaughey and Edith Royal



Ava and Steve Late



Julie Crenshaw, Edith Royal and Ben Crenshaw



Robert Wells, Debbie Hanna, Christian Wells and Bo Price

## THE SCENE:

The goals of raising and a cause that touches so many and honoring the 90th birthday of one of Texas most beloved residents, a touchdown was scored with the Darrell K. Royal Research Fund for Alzheimer's Disease' Links and Lyrics/Ben Crenshaw - Willie Nelson - Darrell Royal - inspired gala, held at the newly-opened Hotel Granduca. As guests mingled in the Granduca Ballroom Foyer, they were able to wish a happy 90th birthday to Edith Royal, where a birthday cake for her was prominently on display along with an opportunity to add to a hand-written note of birthday wishes.

The action then turned to the venue's ballroom, where guests dined during a program that read as a Who's Who of those providing various tributes to Mrs. Royal - which included declaring an official Edith Royal Day, as well as tributes from Willie and Amy Nelson and the Gatlin Brothers, and a musical performance by Con Huntley. What brought down the house was actor Matthew McConaughey, who led a birthday chorus for the guests who were treated to an evening honoring the legacy of the legendary Coach Royal.







Renata Marsilli and Jeff Ashbitz



Robin Fenlaw & Carolyn and Dale Horrenstine



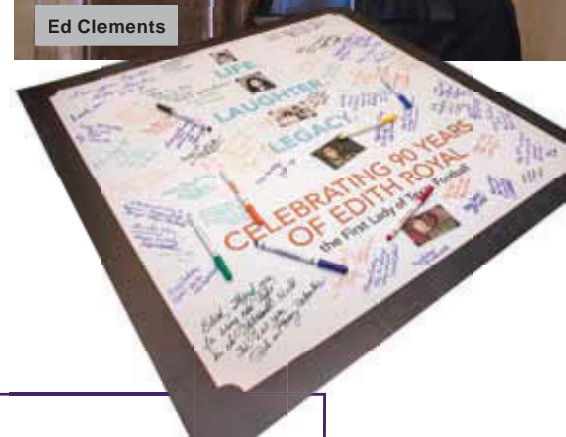
Sherri Gallo



Rita Hortenstine and Dr. Kan Ding



Ed Clements



Dr. Chandramallika Bask, Edith Royal and Dr. Matthias Odisio

### THE VIBE:

Polo shirts by day at the Barton Creek golf tournament, Prada by night for the gala meant there was style for everyone, creating a warm and welcoming environment for which Texans are world-renowned. The gala featured a mix of chic cocktail dresses for the ladies, while many of the men got into the country music spirit – boots, hats, and all.

### THE CAUSE:

The event, co-chaired by Late European’s Ava Late and Debbie Hanna, raised over \$750,000 for the Darrell K. Royal Research Fund for Alzheimer’s disease, which enables preventive care and treatment strategies in fighting Alzheimer’s disease in Texas, the nation and the world.



**THE WINTER GUEST**

Dress by OTT, \$2500 at  
Byott.com. Rabbit fur jacket  
by Shahchi Fur, \$395 at  
Shahchifur.com Shoes by  
Tresmode at Tresmode.com



# The Ambassador's Daughter

The scion of a notable family dutifully represents her country, both in diplomatic and familiar spheres. Being beautiful and smart never hurts, but so much more is required. For a breathlessly demanding schedule of balls and official affairs, she has to look her most proper, yet with her own style soigné. Here we present the perfect example of our own fictional ambassadorial prodigy in the finest winter fashions of the season.

**Photography by Mark Oberlin**

**Styling by Franzy Staedter**

**Makeup:** Tammy Yi using Hour Glass, Cle de Peau, Anastasia of Beverly Hills, and Dior  
**Hair:** Zoraida Saray using Redken and R+Co **Model:** Simone Holtznagel, Two Management  
**Sittings Editor:** Lance Avery Morgan





This page:  
**CUSTOM OF THE COUNTRY**  
Dress by MIAU by Clara Rotescu, \$900  
at Miaubutique.com. Goat fur jacket by  
Shahchi Fur, \$5000 at Shahchifur.com.  
Shoes by Tresmode at Tresmonde.com.  
Earrings and Ring by Erica Courtney at  
Ericacourtney.com. Price upon request.

Opposite page:  
**THE STOLEN HOURS**  
Skirt by OTT, \$900 at Byoff.com. Top by ABS  
by Allen Schwartz at Absstyle.com. Jacket  
by Escale, \$82 at Escaledesigns.com



This page:  
**ONE MORE TOMORROW**  
Dress by Jean Louis Sabaji, at [JeanLouisSabaji.com](http://JeanLouisSabaji.com). Price upon request  
Two-tone rabbit coat by Shahchi Fur, \$900 at [Shahchifur.com](http://Shahchifur.com). Shahchifur.com, \$900.00. Necklace and earrings by Erica Courtney, [ericacourtney.com](http://ericacourtney.com), price available upon request.

Opposite page:  
**LOVE IN THE AFTERNOON**  
Dress by Julea Domani, \$680 at [Juleadomani.ae](http://Juleadomani.ae). Mink and fox fur jacket by Shahchi Fur, \$3000 at [Shahchifur.com](http://Shahchifur.com). Necklace and earrings by Erica Courtney at [Ericacourtney.com](http://Ericacourtney.com). Price upon request.









**AN INTERNATIONAL EPISODE**  
Dress by Jean Louis Sabaji, at  
[Jeanlouissabaji.co](http://Jeanlouissabaji.co), Price upon request  
Headband by Tasha, \$88 at [Nordstrom.com](http://Nordstrom.com)



This page:  
**A FINE FIGURE**

Dress by Hotel Particulier, \$530 at Hotel-particulier.eu. Shoes by J. Maurice Shoes, \$450. At Shopjmaurice.com. Earrings by Erica Courtney at Ericacourtney.com. Price upon request.

Opposite page:  
**THE POINT OF VIEW**

Dress by Julea Domani, \$400 at Juleadomani.com. Fox & Rex Jacket by Shahchi Fur, \$1500 at Shahcifur.com. Shoes by Tresmode at Tresmode.com. Earrings by Erica Courtney at Ericacourtney.com. Price upon request.





*She was Miss Doctor Pepper, 1950*



*Dollie Cole with husband Edward Cole 1960s*



*Dollie Cole and Henry Kissinger, Washington, 1970s*



*Dollie and Ed Cole & Anne Cole Pierce, early 1970s*



*Dollie Cole, 1970s*



*Dollie Cole posing for her General Motors portrait in the 1970s*



*Dollie Cole's Briarpatch Ranch, Lockhart, TX*

# A LIFE, UNEXPECTED

Anne Cole Pierce recalls her mother, the late Dollie Ann Cole, a legendary Fort Worth-bred persona who lived her life as a mother, wife and matriarch with grace and wit. She conquered the social world with her verve and beauty...here's one more memory for Dollie's Memory Jar

*Photography courtesy of Walter Daran, General Motors Photographic, J. M. Dentler, Edward Noble, Dominic J. Palazzolo, Louis Schaumacher, Bob Scott, Tony Spina and Will Van Overbeek*

**M**y mother, Dollie Ann Cole, was the real deal – an outspoken, stylish, “kick-ass” Texas woman – who, in the 1960s and 1970s, shattered the image in the American auto industry, of the quiet, “stay-in-the-background” corporate executive wife. On Mother’s Day in 2011, I gave her a “Jar of Memories” with a story to commemorate each year with her. Her marriage to Edward Cole, the highly respected engineer and president of General Motors, is well known. Her family life was every bit as interesting. Here I share some of my favorite personal memories of her. One more memory for Dollie’s “Memory Jar.”

## **Memories Are Made Of This**

Mom was a stunningly beautiful woman. Along with her considerable intellect, drive and determination, she used her talents and gifts to succeed in the world, as well as to give back in gratitude for the amazing life with

which she had been blessed. Born in Fort Worth in 1930, her parents divorced when she was an infant, and as a result, she was shuttled between relatives’ homes. Because of that, she decided early on that she was going to work hard and lead a life that made a difference. She resolved to give back by getting involved in organizations that protected the helpless, mostly children and animals, and she accomplished her goals, becoming Vice-Chairman of the Smithsonian’s Air and Space Museum, Chairman of the National Corvette Museum, a Member of the Boards of PBS, Project Hope (World Health Organization), The National Captioning Institute for the Hearing Impaired, The 100 Club of Central Texas, and a Senior Editor of Curtis Publishing’s *Saturday Evening Post*. So deep were her commitments and humanitarian efforts, she was nominated in 1974 by *Ladies Home Journal* as one of the ten most important women of the year. She lived a very full life before passing away in 2014 at the age of 84.

My mother's interests were varied and she wasn't afraid to "reach for the stars and drive the cars." She loved automobiles and in 1972 became the first woman to ride in the Pace Car at the Indianapolis 500 and was also the first woman to drive the Pace Car at Talladega and Daytona. She married Edward N. Cole, after being seated with him at a dinner in Washington, D.C. Dad later became the President of General Motors Corporation. Fate would work in Dollie's favor throughout her charmed life. She often said that "smart was the most attractive quality in a man" and that dad was the most attractive man she had ever met. He was recognized as one of the automotive greats, holding more important patents at G.M. than any other person when he retired in 1974. He was called the "father" of the small block Chevy V8, was the moving force behind the Corvair and, along with Harley Earl, Zora Arkus-Duntov and Bill Mitchell, was an essential architect of the Corvette. My parents made a dynamic team.

Dollie was equally at home with heads of corporate America, political leaders, blue jeaned ranchers, and the glittering Jet Set of the era. She was a regular at the jewelry auctions held by Gaston and Sheehan for the U.S. Marshall's Service all over the country, and she was also well known at the heavy equipment auctions which she regularly attended throughout Texas. One of her favorites, Anton's Auctions in Lockhart, "retired" her No.1 paddle upon her death. Mom loved a bargain. She loved all types of auctions, garage sales, resale shops and sales. She often quipped, "Any fool can pay retail." Once, after quietly outbidding a couple of big Texas ranchers

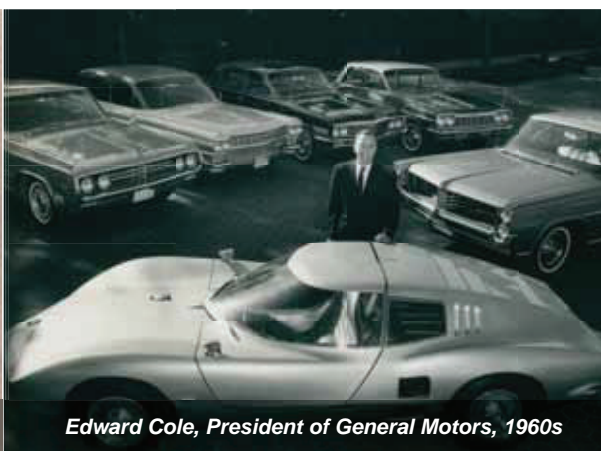
in Dad later debating Ralph Nader on the Donahue show, a debate most believe Dad won. Dollie admitted, "The strongest muscle in my body is my mouth. My way is not the way of corporate president's wives. Silence is not golden. Silence is when one doesn't care enough to speak out. That's what's wrong with the world." That call and its aftermath also resulted in Mom being invited to guest on such shows as *Lou Gordon*, *ShowTime*, *Stand Up and Cheer*, *Firing Line*, *The Today Show* with Barbara Walters, *The Morning Show*, and *AM Detroit*. Sometimes dubbed the "Detroit local version of Martha Mitchell," she inspired charity and no small amount of controversy.

Yet those whose lives she changed viewed her as a fairy godmother. She would humbly demur, saying her role was just to "light fires." As Kent Hanert, then Assistant Principal of Franklin School, a Detroit inner city elementary school that Dollie "adopted" in the 1970s, stated, "I've never met anybody like Mrs. Cole before. She came in here like a dynamo and things have been happening ever since." This tradition continued in Texas when she donated 110 acres to The Pegasus School for Boys, and expanded the school with donations from herself and her friends; like Barron Hilton of Hilton Hotels; the late Rick Bowen of East Aurora, New York; Carolyn and Tav Lupton of Coca Cola bottling fame; and Caroline Hunt of Dallas.

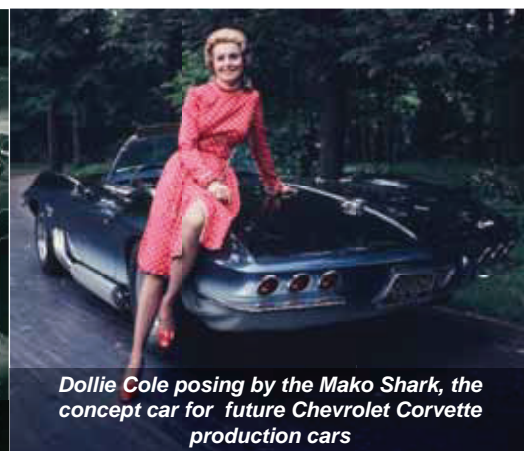
Dollie was indeed quite outspoken; and she wasn't afraid to put it in writing, too. She wrote Ted Koppel in June of 1991 when he did a segment about the auto industry leaders she thought was unfairly slanted. She said that she



*Dollie Cole, 1940s*



*Edward Cole, President of General Motors, 1960s*



*Dollie Cole posing by the Mako Shark, the concept car for future Chevrolet Corvette production cars*

on some heavy equipment, one asked about the diminutive older woman in her black jeans and boots. "Who is that woman?" The other auction regular simply replied, "That's Miss Dollie. You don't mess with Miss Dollie."

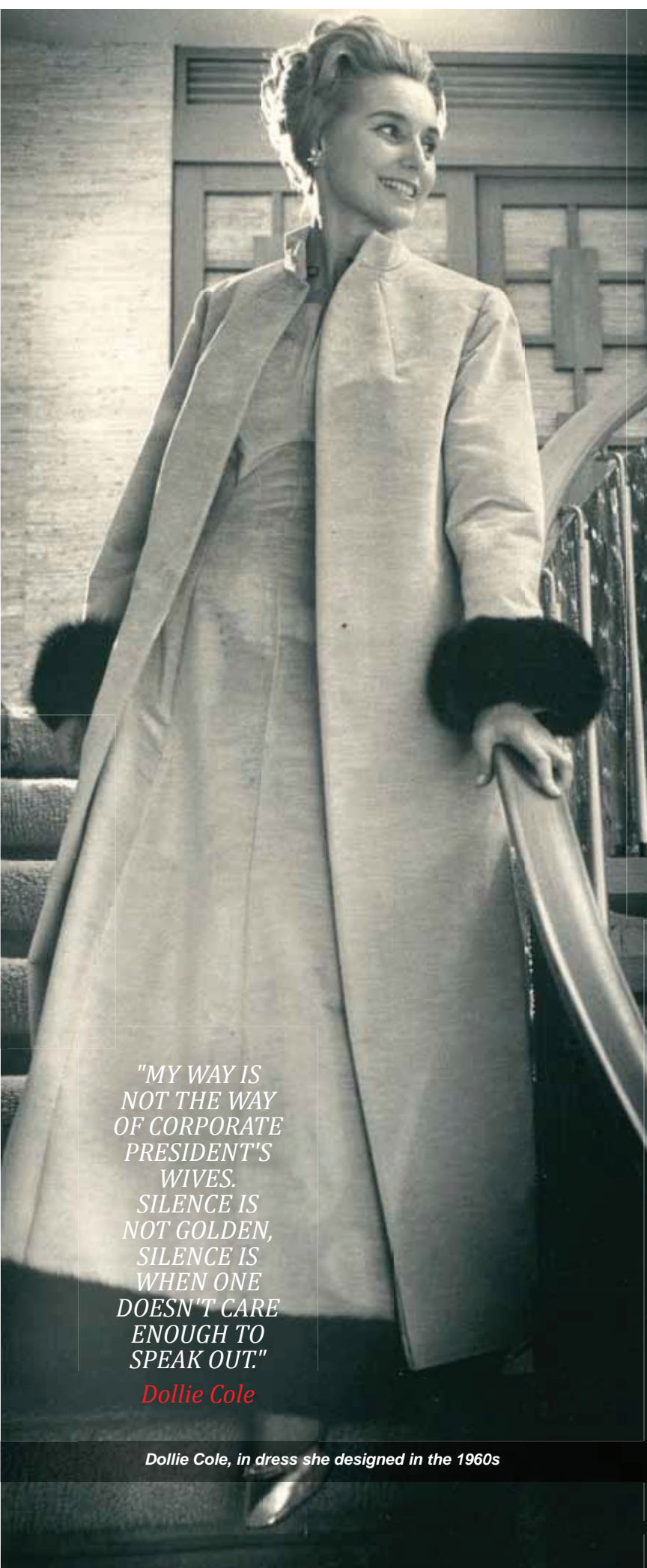
She left a sprawling estate in Lockhart, the 1,100 acre Briarpatch Ranch, filled with treasures from all over the world. My three siblings, Jeff, Joe, Nick and I, remember a lifetime of memories on the ranch and beyond, of an amazing, elegant, startlingly lovely woman with unlimited energy, natural charisma, a deep compassion for others, and a "black belt" in shopping. As stated by one reporter friend, "Dollie was totally committed to the business of living."

### **Outspoken Optimist**

In the 1970s when one of Ralph Nader's strong supporters was on the Phil Donahue Show criticizing General Motors, Mom cold called the live show and carved up the critic on the air. When Dad got home that night, he simply said; "Heard you had a busy day Dollie." That phone call resulted

though it was a "blatant, unfair attack on the U.S. auto industry" and "was without honesty, value or merit" and that they, referring to those leaders, "are such fine gentlemen that they didn't tell you to go to hell." Lee Iacocca wrote her when he saw it saying "No one can ever accuse you of not telling it like it is." Mr. Poling of Ford also stated to her in a letter, "I would have loved to have been in the same room as Mr. Koppel as he read your letter, although I'm not sure he would have enjoyed it as much as I did." As one of Dollie's friends once said, "This talkative, talked-about woman casts a spell over you. This is a woman who could charm a fish out of water." She did things most people would shy away from doing with guts and style.

Before Edward Cole was killed flying his private plane to work on May 2, 1977, near Kalamazoo, Michigan, he had become the Chairman of Checker Motors Corporation after retiring from General Motors. Mom was devastated; they had been an especially close couple. She called him "the president of the house as well as in the office." Upon his death, Former President Richard Nixon wrote stating that, "of the many business and



"MY WAY IS NOT THE WAY OF CORPORATE PRESIDENT'S WIVES. SILENCE IS NOT GOLDEN, SILENCE IS WHEN ONE DOESN'T CARE ENOUGH TO SPEAK OUT."

*Dollie Cole*

*Dollie Cole, in dress she designed in the 1960s*



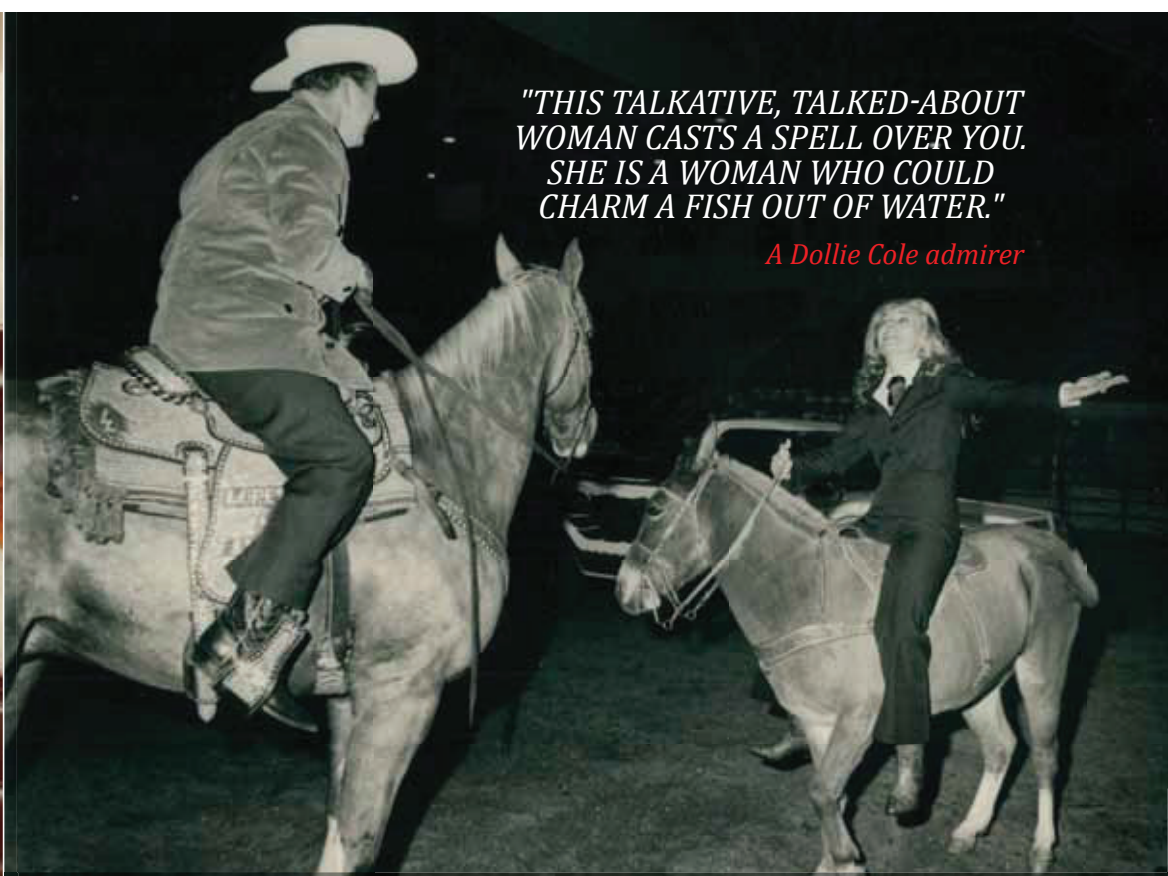
*Dollie Cole 1967*



*Edward and Dollie Cole, 1960s. Mrs. Cole designed and made the heavily beaded dress, a process that took over a year*



Dollie Cole at Bwana Don Hunt's home in Kenya petting a big cat who had leaped through the nearby window, 1980s



"THIS TALKATIVE, TALKED-ABOUT WOMAN CASTS A SPELL OVER YOU. SHE IS A WOMAN WHO COULD CHARM A FISH OUT OF WATER."

*A Dollie Cole admirer*

Dollie Cole surprised husband Edward Cole for his birthday, renting the Michigan State Fair Coliseum and throwing a rodeo party, 1972. Photo by Tony Spina.



Dollie Cole enjoying an evening while attending a party on the island of Bimini



Dollie Cole portrait 1960s



Former Governor John Connally and Dollie Cole 1970s



Dollie Cole and an unknown admirer, 1970s



Dollie Cole with son Jeff McVey who had just skydivided into a party at the Briarpatch Ranch



political leaders I have met over the past 30 years, he was one of the finest in every way. You can take comfort in the fact that he was always so proud of your devotion to him.” Likewise, President Gerald R. Ford wrote, “Ed was a truly great person, one of the outstanding industrialists in our nation but also one of the most dedicated patriots for all that is good about America.”

We worried about how she would go on after his death. Mom, in the face of such loss, made it a mission to keep his memory alive, by speaking at many automotive-related events, and creating a rich, new life for herself in Texas, raising horses and cattle, and by getting involved in both local and national charities, giving back, in gratitude for her many blessings and in Dad’s memory.

### **That’s Entertainment**

Mom loved to entertain on a grand scale and was famous for her parties, attended by close friends who were luminaries then and now such as Jim Nabors, Ruth Buzzi, Florence Henderson, Johnny Rutherford, A.J. Foyt, Ruta Lee, and Andy Griffith. She once rented the Michigan State Fair Coliseum and threw a rodeo bash surprise birthday party for Dad that went

In 1977 when I was 23 and in law school, Mom asked me if I would donate a day and work at Beau Jacks, a restaurant in Michigan, helping to serve meals to inner city children for a charity event hosted by football giant Dick “Night Train” Lane. That day while I worked doing dishes in back, and Mom, along with other Detroit celebrities, served the kids, Joe Pftzer, a Cadillac executive, came into the restaurant, saw Mom and invited us both to attend a party he and his wife were hosting. I declined, but that night Mom met Karlton W. Pierce, Jr. and told him, “have I got the girl for you.” Mom came home that night, and despite the fact I was asleep, a rarity for anyone in law school, woke me up and announced, “I have met the man of your dreams.” Although he was divorced with custody of three kids – I told her then, *that* was not the man of *my* dreams – like usual, she turned out to be right. I married Karlton on July 21, 1979 and a bunch of kids later, we just celebrated our 36th anniversary. It’s been a lifetime of valentines for me, and many times it was thanks to my mother.

Since she passed away last year, our family has been trying to come to terms with the loss of the person who was the center of our lives, the center of attention, the center of any room into which she walked. Trying to dismantle



*Dollie Cole at the Ranch posing for an article on auto exec wives, past and present, 1999*



*Dollie Cole with her children Nick Cole, Joe Cole, Jeff McVey and Anne Cole Pierce*



*Dollie Cole and daughter Anne Cole Pierce*

down in Detroit history as “The Party.” Dollie said, “I have never laughed so hard, or had as much fun, as I did at that party.” She gave a launch party for Apollo 15 on July 25, 1971 in Cape Canaveral, Florida and later received a card from astronaut Al Worden who had flown on that mission to the moon, “Thanks for the best send-off of the year.”

Dollie’s parties at the Briarpatch Ranch were also of legend. Guests were often greeted by costumed riders on horseback lining the long drive, all carrying flags, who would spin the horses in circles in unison. She owned several fire engines, which spouted cross geysers of water in the backyard as skydivers landed in the backyard. Guests arrived in their own planes and helicopters. In fact, Dollie’s invitations came with cards indicating the length of the private runways nearby and jet service company numbers. They dined on Chisholm Trail’s world famous barbecue from Lockhart and enjoyed the beauty of Texas sunsets to the sound of the Fossils. At one party, Debbie Reynolds even jumped out of a wooden cake Ruth Buzzi had made, to sing Happy Birthday to Jim Nabors, Dollie’s best friend and long time pal. Said Nabors, “There was no one like Dollie. Never was. Never will be again.”

her collection of things resulted in one of the largest estate sales in Central Texas, taking almost a year to organize and stretching over three months. It covered thousands of items from all over the world. Through it all, Mom remained at the “center” for each of us, as well as so many of her friends who never failed to regale the family with some new story.

Friends of the family flew to Texas from as far away as the Netherlands to help with the sales. One last time, the Briarpatch Ranch was bedecked as a testament to Dollie’s shopping talents and the legacy of two amazing people. Artifacts from their storied lives were sold and dispersed to the four winds. Shortly, papers and memorabilia will also be sent to the Bentley Museum at the University of Michigan. Among friends from far and wide who came and helped at the sale were judges, a former Michigan Supreme Court Justice, heads of businesses and foundations, volunteers from the Settlement Home for Children and The 100 Club of Central Texas. That these people came from all over the world to help the family at a time that was so hard was a true tribute to an incredible woman and the legacy she left behind. It was one more memory for Dollie’s Memory Jar. And it was one she would have really loved because they don’t make them like Dollie Cole anymore. **S**



# CULTURA

120



ALL

CAPITAL

Mexico City, a feast for the eyes, contains a rich variety of visual art museums. Join our *aesthetic adventurer Jonathan Spindel* as he provides an insider's look at all there is to see in the bustling arts scene



# MEXICO'S GREATEST MUSEUMS

We all know that Mexico is world-renowned for beautiful beaches, intriguing interior, and colorful culture. Did you know it also boasts some of the best art collections in the world? The capital city's museums display scores of European masterworks as well as iconic pieces from Latin America. It's never been easier to visit Mexico City. Just hop on a jet and disembark in the economic and cultural heart of Mexico, with a bustling social scene and a wealth of artwork to match.

Mexico's philanthropic tycoons have sought out world-class art from across the globe and created incredible museums that compete with Europe's best, so aesthetes on this side of the Atlantic may experience the highest caliber of historic and contemporary art. Besides having become one of the world's most recent centers of global fine art, Mexico has rich artistic traditions of its own. So whether you're looking for Pre-Hispanic Mesoamerican artifacts, Spanish colonial opulence, or the political art of the Mexican Revolution and early 20th century, you can find it all in El Distrito Federal.

## **MEXICO'S NEWEST BIG MUSEUMS**

Start your aesthetic tour with the museums that put Mexico City on the map as a global art center: Museo Soumaya and Museo Jumex. These collections are each housed in their own iconically striking building in the Plaza Carso luxury development in the Nuevo Polanco neighborhood. Museo Soumaya and Museo Jumex were founded by Carlos Slim and Eugenio López Alonso, respectively, two of Mexico's biggest business magnates and cultural philanthropists.

The Soumaya, founded by Slim, contains over 66,000 works from 30 centuries of art including Pre-Hispanic Mesoamerican sculpture, 19th- and 20th-century Mexican art, and an extensive collection by European masters and modern western artists. In fact, the Soumaya has the largest collection of sculptures by Auguste Rodin outside of France. Named after Soumaya Domit, the late wife of





## CHAPULTEPEC

*This area borders Chapultepec Park, a grand open space dotted with gardens, open plazas, ponds, and shady groves for peaceful introspection. Tuck into a quiet bench to plan your next museum experience.*

founder Carlos Slim, the museum is considered one of the most complete collections of its kind.

Nearby on the Plaza Carso, the Museo Jumex boasts one of the largest collections of contemporary art in Latin America with emphasis on Mexican contemporary artists. Founded by Eugenio López Alonso, head of Jumex Group, this museum features influential conceptual art including works by the prolific Mexican artist Gabriel Orozco, as well as a broad selection of popular artists from around the world. The Museo Jumex features several exhibitions per year and rotates its works on display continually, so there's always something new to see.

### PARQUE DE CHAPULTEPEC

After feasting your eyes on the Soumaya and Jumex collections, take an intermission in the verdant, woody neighborhood of Polanco. This area borders Chapultepec Park, a grand open space dotted with gardens, open

plazas, ponds, and shady groves for peaceful introspection. Tuck into a quiet bench to plan your next museum experience. Or if you prefer to see and be seen, Chapultepec Park rivals New York City's Central Park in terms of metropolitan charm and people-watching. So don your chicest outfit with a pair of shoes made for walking, because you'll love taking a stroll through the gently twisting garden paths beneath the shade of ancient oaks. When you're ready to continue your artistic adventure, there are many choice destinations nearby.

The Museo Tamayo, named for the famous Mexican artist Rufino Tamayo, houses a singular collection of Latin American contemporary art now displayed in a completely renovated building. Dedicated to the former collection of its namesake, the Museo Tamayo offers a curated cross-section of the 20th century Latin American art boom, as well as Tamayo's own collection of contemporary art from across the globe. For a change of pace, take a step back in time

to the National Museum of Anthropology. This architecturally stunning museum holds an incredible collection of priceless artifacts that tell the story of pre-Columbian Mexico. Featuring carved stone Aztec goddesses, gargantuan Olmec heads from deep in the jungle, and sacred treasures from the Maya civilization, this collection represents a broad-scale view of the themes and motifs that underpin Mexico's artistic traditions.

Now take a look at the height of Mexico's imperial past in the stately Chapultepec Castle. This impressive estate, perched atop a hill in Chapultepec Park, once served as the residence of the Emperor Maximilian and his wife Empress Carlota. The castle is now officially known as the Museum of National History. Take a stroll through the marble halls and galleries, resplendently appointed with stunning furniture and fine accoutrements. Don't miss the vivid murals depicting famous scenes of the War of Independence. End your castle visit in the roof-top gardens, which make for a refreshing stroll. The panoramic





# HISTORICALLY CENTERED

city views from the top of the hill are unbeatable.

## EL ZÓCALO

You could stay in Parque de Chapultepec all day, but you wouldn't want to miss the exceptional sights in the vicinity of El Zócalo, Mexico City's main central plaza. The Paseo de la Reforma will lead you to the city center; this broad avenue, built in the 1860s and modeled after the great boulevards of Europe, is punctuated by sculptural monuments to Mexico's greatest historical moments. In addition to its own grandeur and charm, the Zócalo is home to two of Mexico City's major cultural centers.

The Palace of Fine Arts is the most important cultural center in the country of Mexico. Located next to the Alameda Central Park, this incredibly opulent monument to the arts is every bit as beautiful as the pieces and events housed within. The building is best known for its murals by the famous Diego Rivera and David Alfaro Siqueiros, as well as the myriad

exhibitions and performances it hosts, including the Ballet Folklórico de México.

For a fun detour, pop into the nearby Postal Palace, whose opulent art-deco details capture the artistic flair of the early 20th century. In this digital age, we hardly ever think to write a letter; but this surprisingly beautiful post office will make you want to write a postcard just for the fun of dropping it through the gilded mail slot.

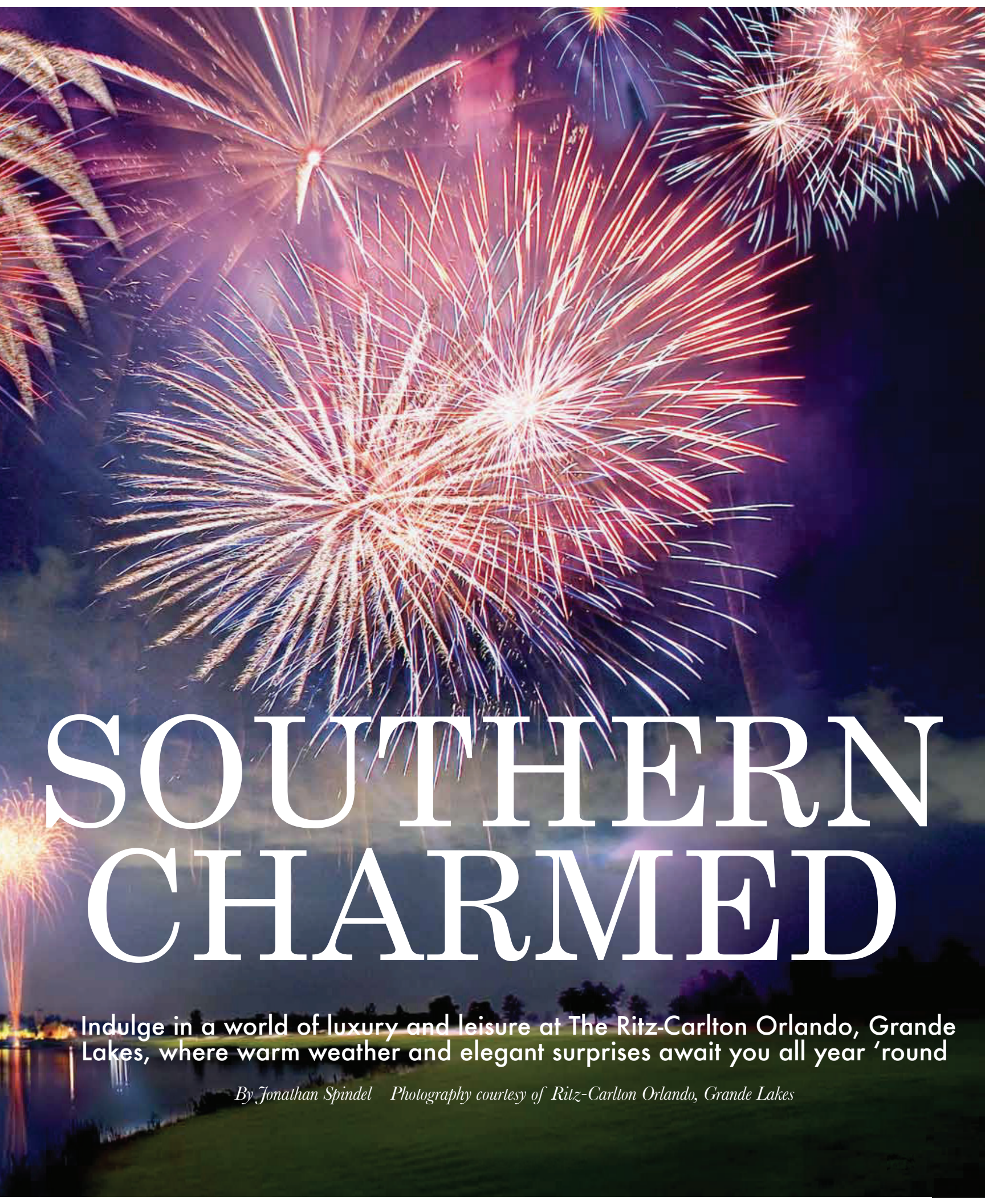
Finally, don't miss the Museum of Popular Art, home of the world's best collection of traditional Mexican folk art. The museum includes textiles, pottery, piñatas, furniture and much more. The biggest attraction and the museum's most beloved feature is the yearly Noche de Alebrijes, a parade in which fantastical creatures are created on a monumental scale, then paraded from El Zócalo down the Paseo de Reforma.

Now you may think you've seen it all, but Mexico City's art scene is continually thriving and growing. Cutting-edge contemporary galleries pop up every season, and if you are serious about collecting and wish to acquire some pieces for yourself, you won't want to miss the Zona Maco, an annual four-day fete for curators and gallerists. On your next visit to Mexico City you'll see there's so much more than first meets the eye; take a look and you'll always find more to discover. **S**



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# SOUTHERN CHARMED

Indulge in a world of luxury and leisure at The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes, where warm weather and elegant surprises await you all year 'round

*By Jonathan Spindel Photography courtesy of Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes*



Kayak Eco-Tour



The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes



Kayak Eco-tour



Highball and Harvest



Lazy River at J.W. Marriot



Stone Massage at the Spa



Private Chef's Table



Whisper Creek Farm's The Kitchen



Rooftop Hammock Massage

## WARM RECEPTION

The moment you first see the rolling emerald lawns and palms that soar upward into a clear blue sky, you'll know you can unwind and enjoy relaxation in this gorgeous environment just a few hours away on a quick hop from Texas. Tropical flowers burst exuberantly year round, and the lush green paradise beckons you to explore its beauty and relax in its splendor. Whether you're travelling with family to visit the theme parks, organizing an important business summit, or simply seeking a relaxing retreat, The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes has impressive facilities, impeccable service, and all the luxury amenities you can imagine. Situated among the headwaters of the Florida Everglades, the 500-acre estate gives visitors a unique opportunity to enjoy the gold standard of luxury and comfort, while enjoying an eco-conscious environment where nature is not just incorporated, but embraced.

Minutes away from all the major Orlando attractions, Grande Lakes is an elegant oasis that offers a serene, sophisticated alternative to the bustling activity of the theme park resorts. Of course, if you wish to enjoy the thrills and special events at the theme parks, you can simply hop on a hotel shuttle and arrive in minutes. But you'll soon discover that The Ritz-Carlton Orlando has myriad attractions of its own. In addition to the palatial 40,000 square foot spa, 18-hole golf course designed by the legendary Greg Norman, and extensive fine dining selections, the Grande Lakes estate's Adventure Experiences program includes kayak and canoe eco-tours and a fishing school, reflecting the resort's natural surroundings with experiences you simply can't find anywhere else at this level.

The Ritz-Carlton is one of two hotels in the Grande Lakes estate, along with the adjacent J.W. Marriott. Guests of the Ritz-Carlton can enjoy all the amenities of the J.W. Marriott: float on the relaxing lazy river pool, take a rejuvenating soak in the hydrotherapy facility, or play a rousing game of tennis on three spacious courts. Additionally, Ritz-Carlton guests enjoy exclusive opportunities of their own, most notably the Ritz-Carlton Club Level. For guests seeking a heightened level of luxury and privacy, the Club Level features personalized service and 24-hour access to the Club Lounge, where an attentive staff provides five daily meal presentations. "As Orlando's luxury leader, Grande Lakes delivers an unparalleled level of service to our guests," says Jim Burns, the Vice President and Managing Director at Grande Lakes Orlando. "Service is at the core of what makes the Grande Lakes experience so special." The Club Lounge is a perfect place to recharge at any time of day, from the generous breakfast buffet and refreshing lunch options to the evening cocktail bar and sumptuous hors d'oeuvres, such as lobster crostini and bite size tiramisu.

## ADVENTUROUS AMENITIES

The Grande Lakes estate is so seamlessly integrated with its natural setting that simply walking along the outdoor paths feels like an adventure. Birds-of-paradise and palmettos burst open everywhere, and birds of every color dot the landscape. For a taste of the outdoors, take an eco-tour of Shingle Creek by kayak, where you can paddle in the shade of the towering Ball Cypress trees growing on the shore. The creek shelters birds such as belted kingfishers, ibis, snowy egrets, and yes, alligators – 120 species in all. Guide Carlos Maldonado shares his vast knowledge of ecology, and his contagious excitement for nature. "You would never guess we were seven miles from downtown Orlando," he says. Maldonado leads the engaging eco-tours, pointing out rare and beautiful flora and fauna along the way.

If you're up for a round of golf, the 18-hole golf course, which was recently renovated, has pristine fairways, manicured greens and gleaming white bunkers. You can take a lesson with a pro instructor, or enjoy the sport as a spectator while enjoying lunch in the Club House, if that's more your style.



Whisper Creek Farm

After you've experienced your outdoor adventures, ensconce yourself in pure indulgence at the Ritz-Carlton Spa, where you'll be secluded by lush gardens, a peaceful lake and Spanish-Moorish architecture. Featuring a philosophy of *santitas per agua*, "health through water," guests are transported back in time through treatments honoring water therapies famous throughout the world since ancient times. Reflecting its Florida location, the Spa highlights citrus-inspired health and beauty treatments as well as spa rituals from the most exotic Ritz-Carlton locations. Full salon hair, nail, and beauty treatments, as well as a fitness center and lap pool, are also available.



Whisper Creek Farm

After the spa, you may want to venture into the sunshine, where you can lounge poolside in a private cabana, where the poolside restaurant Bleu offers fresh seafood, healthy salads, and refreshing beverages.

## DINE, THEN UNWIND

Whether you want to dine in a fine establishment, or something more rustic or cozy, Grande Lakes has a range of excellent options, each restaurant with its own unique charm. For robust flavors of classical dishes from Italy, France and Spain, visit Primo at the J.W. Marriott, where Chef Melissa Kelly's farm-to-table concept comes to life for a dazzling fine dining experience. The Highball and Harvest offers elevated takes on southern cuisine, as well as an innovative cocktail bar and live music. Whisper Creek Farm: The Kitchen serves rustic style dishes inspired by the onsite Whisper Creek Farms, a fruit and vegetable garden with an adjoining event space, barn, apiary and chicken coop. The farm supplies ingredients to several restaurants within Grande Lakes, and also offers its own farm-to-fork experience, where guests can experience an intimate Chef's Table under the shade of a great oak tree. No matter where you choose to dine, you'll be surprised and entertained by the delectable cuisine.

A vacation at The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes leaves a lasting impression, and your adventure experiences will give you memories for a lifetime. If you're looking for a destination where you can leave your worries behind and enjoy the finest luxury service, with amenities the whole family can enjoy, The Ritz-Carlton Orlando is a perfect destination. To learn more, visit [Grandlakes.com](http://Grandlakes.com). **S**

# ROSES & REGALS

## Ladies Luncheon Features Real Life Downtown Abbey Aristocracy

By Libby Tilley | Photography by James French Photography



Cathy Bertram and Patsy Arnett



Alexander McCullough and Lady Carnarvon



Sunni Brookshire and Suzanne Curtis



Mary K Peltier and Kelly Uzell



Lady Carnarvon and Ginger Young



Michelle Brookshire



Cherie Flores



Highclere Castle



Luncheon centerpieces

### THE SCENE:

The most elegant British invasion of the 82nd Texas Rose Festival 2015 presided as the featured speaker at Tyler's Ladies Luncheon. Lady Fiona, the 8th Countess of Carnarvon, traveled to East Texas to regally charm over a thousand of Tyler's and East Texas' most philanthropic citizens. Lady Carnarvon manages the affairs of Highclere Castle, including overseeing its grounds and gardens. One of England's most beautiful Victorian castles, Highclere is most commonly recognized as the stately home in PBS smash hit *Downton Abbey*, airing its final season now. Drawing on her business savvy in running a successful estate, Lady Carnarvon's speech at the Ladies Luncheon enraptured attendees with her gracious and grounded demeanor.

Other stops during her visit to Tyler included the VIP/Sponsor High Tea at the home of Michelle and Tim Brookshire where a select group of the Tyler Rose Festival Association's Ladies Luncheon sponsors were invited to mix and mingle. Lady Carnarvon also attended the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Texas Rose Museum, kicking off the full schedule of Texas Rose Festival activities.

### THE VIBE:

Taking the English tea garden party theme to heart, luncheon co-chairs Ginger Young and Cathy Bertram scoured estate sales across the area, together gathering over 500 British porcelain plates and tea saucers for the events' statement centerpieces. Making this a family affair, Bob Young created the three-tier stands cascading with locally grown roses.

### THE CAUSE:

Recognized by many as one of the state's most elegant and beautiful community event, the Texas Rose Festival annually draws thousands of visitors to East Texas, emphasizing how Tyler became known as the Rose Capital of the World. Proceeds from the Ladies Luncheon benefits the Texas Rose Festival and its museum along with the Association's educational mission which provides an annual college scholarship to a local well-deserving scholar.



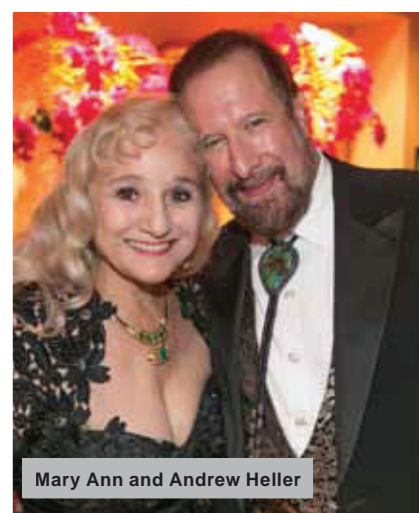
# AUSTIN

## FASHION WEEK

April 15 - 23 | [afw.fashionxaustin.com](http://afw.fashionxaustin.com)



Tracey Bury and Sister Gertrude Levy



Mary Ann and Andrew Heller

# OH, WHAT A NIGHT

## Seton Development Board Gala Gets Back To Its Seventies Roots

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by David Brendan Hall

### THE SCENE:

Recently, several hundred of Austin's social elite descended upon the Four Seasons for a night of fundraising and a theme synonymous with fun. *Tonight's the Night!* was the theme for the 38th Annual Seton Development Board Gala, complete with a 70s-inspired vibe that honored the historic legacy of one of Austin's iconic fall events.

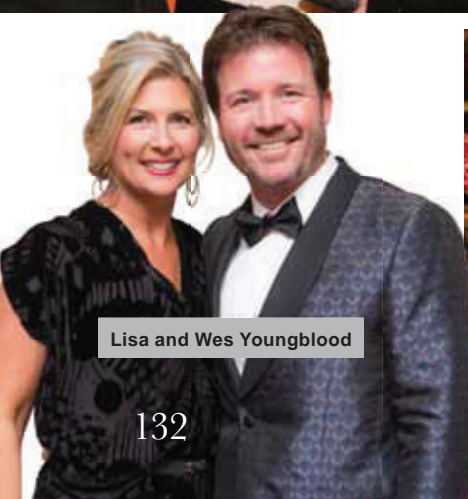
The evening began with a cocktail hour in the hotel's foyer where chatter flowed as freely as the crowd mingled and jingled about. The festivities then turned to the ballroom where guests dined on the four-course cuisine catered by Four Seasons' Chef Elmar Pramb. The festivities then continued as Sister Gertrude Levy, Laurens Fish and Tim Taylor entertained the audience by leading the "Heads or Tails" live auction. After the auction, guests then danced the night away to 70's tunes courtesy of the Yacht Rock Revue band.



Adam and Jenn Goldman & Yunieth and Jennings Steen



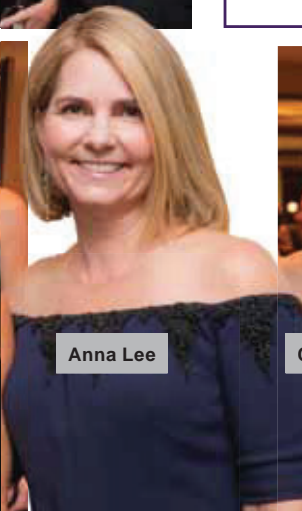
Laurens and Melanie Fish & Jacy and John Donovan



Lisa and Wes Youngblood



Mary Lou Morrison, Sandra Wilson, Mary Frances Schneider and Lisa Magids



Anna Lee



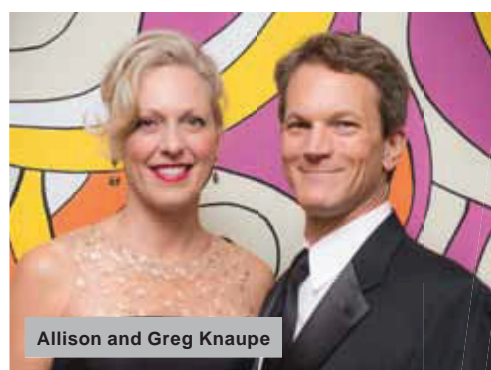
Carol Crowley and Reenie Collins



Sabrina and Jay Brown



Ty and Kate Henderson



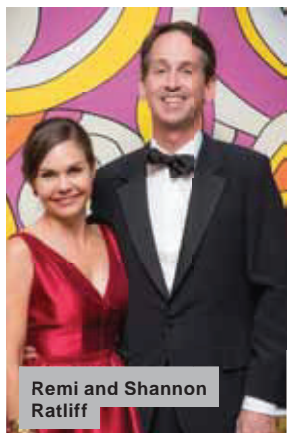
Allison and Greg Knaupe



Jennifer and Jack Carsner & Leslie and Bill Davenport



Kathy and Tim Taylor



Remi and Shannon Ratliff



Lucy and Phil Weber



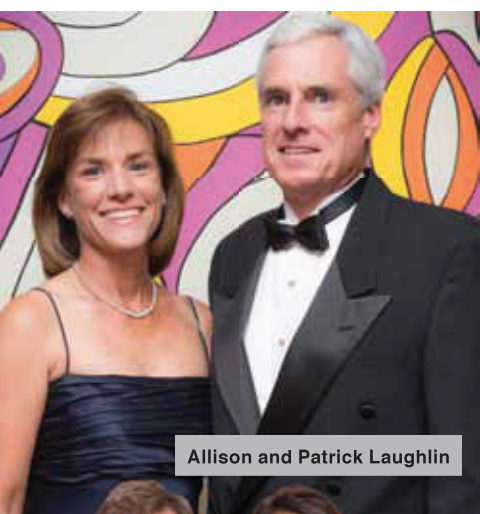
Dr. Stephen and Deborah Yurco

### THE VIBE:

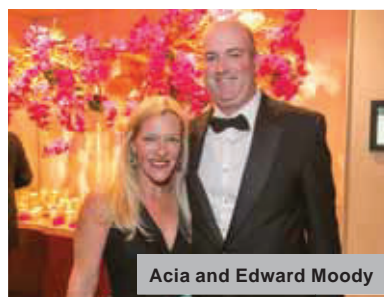
The High 70's attire was on full display as the men sported a mix of tradition and creative black tie, while the ladies wore vintage and 70's inspired gowns, creating a disco vibe reminiscent of their 70s heyday. Halston and YSL would have been proud.

### THE CAUSE:

The event, co-chaired by Anna Lee and Lisa Youngblood, raised over \$300,000 for the Marialice Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit renovations and fetal monitors at Seton Medical Center Austin. The Seton Fund supports University Medical Center Brackenridge, Seton Edgar B. Davis, Seton Highland Lakes, Seton Medical Center Austin, Seton Northwest Hospital, Seton Shoal Creek, Seton Southwest Hospital, Seton Kozemetsky Community Health Center, Seton McCarthy Community Health Center, Seton Topfer Community Health Center, and Seton Cove.



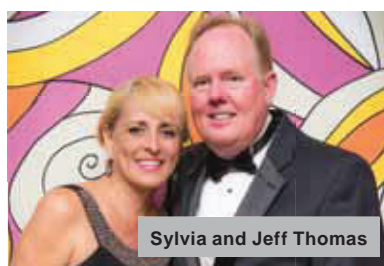
Allison and Patrick Laughlin



Acia and Edward Moody



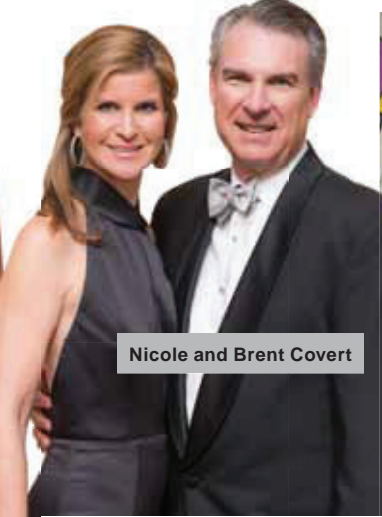
Erin Day and Dr. John Loyd



Sylvia and Jeff Thomas



Dr. Pierre and Angela Filardi



Nicole and Brent Covert



Betty Stuart and Dr. Todd Scharnberg



Jesus and Quen Garza

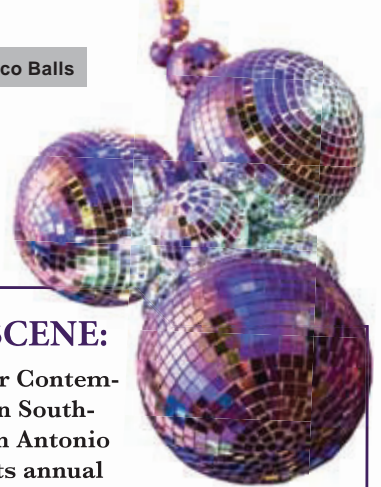


# BOOGIE FEVER

Fundraiser Keeps Blue Star Contemporary *Stayin' Alive*

By *Ellie Leeper* | Photography by *Adrian Espinoza and Jeffrey Burton*

Disco Balls



## THE SCENE:

Blue Star Contemporary in Southtown San Antonio hosted its annual bingo night fundraiser in support of the museum's exhibitions, the MOSAIC Student Artists Program, and the Berlin Residency Program. This year's fundraiser, themed Blue Star Disco Bingo, saw the galleries transformed into funkadelic festive rooms filled with 70s-inspired elements such as vinyl record walls, tinsel tapestries, and sultry lounges. Guests donned their most daring disco attire, and arrived ready to have an out-of-sight night.



Mary Heathcott and Ellie Leeper

Carlos Garcia and Pierre Emond

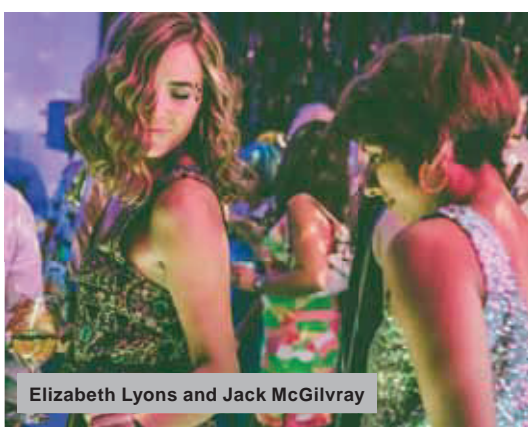


Carie Calderon, Xitlalt Herrera-Salazar, Silvia Garza-Hogue, and Melissa Alvarez



Meredith and David Alvarez





Elizabeth Lyons and Jack McGilvray



Chris Sauter



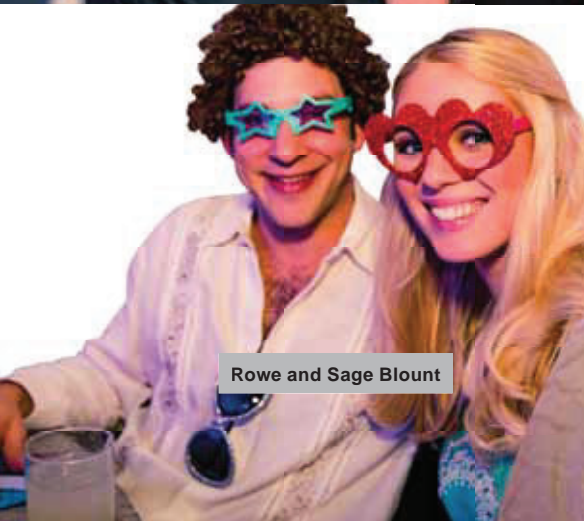
Dani Becknell



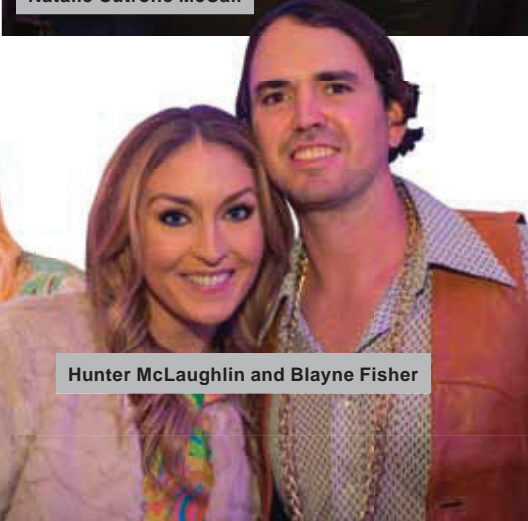
Michele & Richard Mogas



Natalie Cutrone McCall



Rowe and Sage Blount



Hunter McLaughlin and Blayne Fisher

### THE VIBE:

In true Studio 54 style, local San Antonio artist luminaries called the bingo rounds, and the prize winners went home with original works of art by the callers. Supporters of the museum loved the entertainment provided by the fabulous Autumn Summer and her troupe of disco drag queens that lip-synched superfly hits between bingo rounds, and the party stayed alive well into the wee hours in the late night lounge.

Patrons boogied the night away to the sounds of DJ NETO in a special disco room with an LED-lit dance floor. Guests took fab photos in the Flipbook photo booth, and ladies enjoyed a lip-makeover bar by Neiman Marcus. The attendees bid on amazing and adventurous silent auction packages, enjoyed themed cocktails provided by The Last Word, and devoured beefy bites by the museum's newest savory Southtown neighbor, Frank.

### THE CAUSE:

Co-Chaired by Ellie Leeper and Mike Casey, the bingo event is part of Blue Star Contemporary, San Antonio's first and longest-running venue for contemporary art. The organization's robust calendar includes nearly 20 onsite and satellite exhibitions each year, with complementary public programs extending the creative dialogue. The MO-SAIC Student Artists Program actively engages area youth in the creation and business of art—from art-making techniques to networking with patrons and accepting commissions. Blue Star annually awards four San Antonio artists three-month residencies at the renowned Künstlerhaus Bethanien in Berlin. The impact of their experiences is shared through Blue Star exhibitions and the artists' contributions as creative leaders in our community. The proceeds from this event support these programs, ensuring Blue Star fulfills its mission of inspiring, nurturing, and innovating through contemporary art.

ARRIVAL: DALLAS



Carrie and Steven Becker & Merry and Chad Vose



Eveline Kuchmak, Josette Golatt and Katharina Marino

# LIGHT UP THE NIGHT

## Perot Museum of Nature And Science's Illuminating Annual Gala

By Jonathan Spindel | Photography by Jason Janik/Perot Museum of Nature and Science

### THE SCENE:

The Perot Museum of Nature and Science was all aglow for its annual fundraising gala, *Night at the Museum: Illuminate*, on Nov. 14. Over a thousand guests embarked on the sparkly soiree, where they were greeted by outdoor fire performers in the plaza. Meanwhile, giant jellyfish hung from the ceilings of the atrium, creating a sea of magical light. Party hosts wearing futuristic fiber-optic dresses beckoned partygoers into the shimmery affair filled with celestial light.



Rusty and Deedie Rose



Ross Perot and Margot Perot



Robert Curbeam and Theresa Huerta

Annie Trotter, Robert Lewis, Robert Garvey and Layne Rissolo



Professor D performs



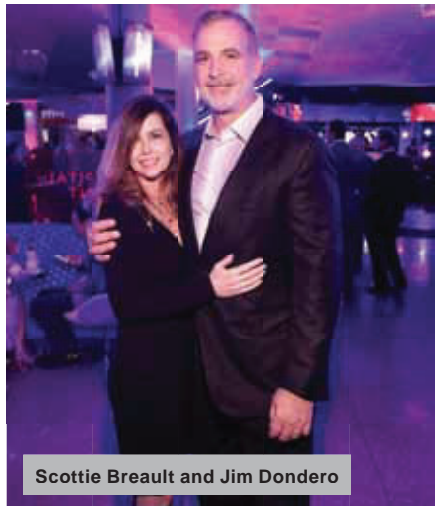
Carmen and Thomas Surgent



Nicole Small and Jennifer Sampson



Ariel Saldivar and Aja Martin



Scottie Breault and Jim Dondero



Shari and Eric Krueger



Evi Sung Yi, Thom Mayne and Edward Kwong



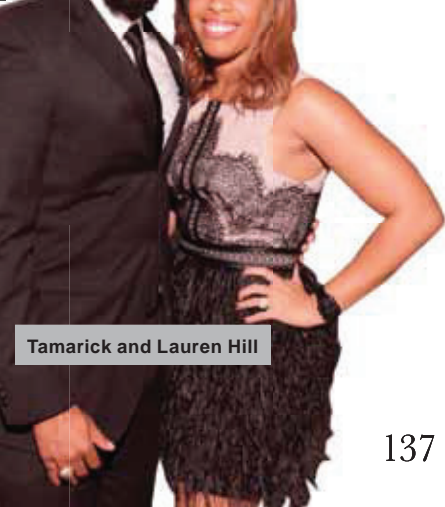
Gail and Jim Spann and Lauren Witt



Reese Threadgill and Jennifer Hartmen



Hon. Mike Rawlings and Colleen Walker



Tamarick and Lauren Hill

### THE VIBE:

At the VIP pre-party, guests mingled with local luminaries while indulging in savory bites and cocktails, enjoyed face- and body- black light painting, and made memories in the light-inspired photo booth. Colleen Walker, the Eugene McDermott CEO of the Perot Museum, and John Jagers, Perot Museum board chairman, made a few remarks, then invited guests into the museum to marvel at the unveiling of incredible exhibitions, which included a preserved Columbian mammoth, stories of space exploration, bio lab experiments, lasers, and 3D printing demonstrations. As the night sparkled on, the after party ramped up as Professor D lured guests onto the dance floor. Ladies exchanged their high heels for comfy ballet flats at the shoe check and partygoers donned glowing accessories and tripped the light fantastic into the night.



Sally and Forrest Hoglund



Carolyn and Karl Rathjen



Hernan Saenz and Sylvia Cespedes



Katherine and Eric Reeves, Besty Urschel and Bill Roberts

### THE CAUSE:

The chairs of this illuminating evening were Carrie and Steven Becker and Merry and Chad Vose, with honorary co-chairs Deedie and Rusty Rose. Proceeds from the gala will support the Museum's mission to inspire minds through nature and science, from on-site and outreach programs for pre-K through 12th graders, to financial assistance that allows widespread students to visit the Museum.



Lyda Hill, John Jagers and Dr. Tony Fiorillo



David and Emily Corrigan, Sharron Hunt and Marlene Fogarty Shugrue



Ross Mulford and Tori Richard



Megan O'Sullivan, Maggie Hood and Haley Frymire



Mary Katherine Lott and Ross Bolin



Tiffini Young and Sharon Gilmore



JORGE L. MENENDEZ  
Certified by The American Board of Plastic Surgery  
Fellow of The American College of Surgeons  
Member of The American Society of Plastic Surgeons  
Member of The American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery

  
JORGE L. MENENDEZ, M.D., F.A.C.S.

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Tel: 212.744.8787



# ACROSS THE GOAL LINE

## Touchdown For TEACH Scores Big

By *Jennifer Roosth* | Photography by *Kim Coffman, Dave Rossman, and Michelle Watson/Catchlight Group*

### THE SCENE:

A football fan's fantasy evening with over 510 guests packed into the sold out ballroom at River Oaks Country Club? You bet, if it's supporting "Touchdown" for TEACH (To Educate All Children). Special guest TV host and former football star Michael Strahan, interviewed by Spencer Tillman, had supporters applauding and laughing as he remarked on his career, his many jobs including co-hosting top-rated shows *LIVE with Kelly and Michael*, *Good Morning America*, and *Fox NFL Sunday*.



Mike and Carol Linn and DeeDee and Wallis Marsh



Michael Strahan



Margaret Alek William and Ileana Trevino



Judith Oudt and Lacy Baird

Kelly Krohn and Susan D. Sarofim



Chita Johnson and Lane Craft



Alan Stein, Beth Madison and Michael Strahan



Belinda and Corky Hillhouse



Laurie and Tracy Krohn



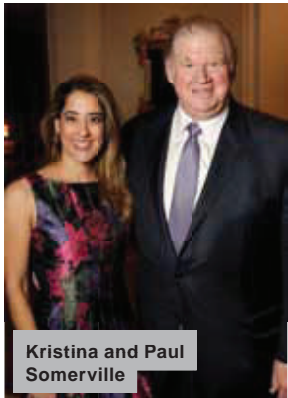
Keith Mosing, Chuck Jenness and Shel Erikson



Bruce Derrick and Rusty Hardin



Scott and Soraya McClelland



Kristina and Paul Somerville



Hallie Vanderhider and Fady Armanious



Donna and Tony Vallone



Stuart and Gaye Lynn Zarrow



Susan and Faye Sarofim

## THE VIBE:

There was sporting energy in the capacity-filled room for fans of both football and education. Guests enjoyed a three-course meal and champagne, while enjoying a range of topics from the importance of education and good teaching, to how Strahan finds the time to keep his busy Executive Director Kelly Krohn said, “We want to thank everyone for making Touchdown for TEACH such a success. Our supporters recognize the importance of Houston’s educators and the impact on our children.”

## THE CAUSE:

Co-founders of TEACH Susan D. Sarofim and Mary Yenik, as well as the event’s chairs for the second year in a row Carol and Mike Linn, and honorary chairs DeeDee and Wallis Marsh, were thrilled with the evening’s record-breaking \$600,000 raised for the program that works to give educators strategies to more effectively work with their most challenging students in often difficult environments. The organization will net the entire amount raised to the benefit HISD schools, thanks to Faye Sarofim who underwrote the entire event.

# Encores

A wedding couple is captured in a romantic moment within a circular gazebo. The groom, wearing a tan suit, is dipping the bride, who is in a white lace wedding dress. She is holding a bouquet of colorful flowers. The gazebo has a decorative wrought-iron top and white columns. The background shows a lush green landscape under a blue sky with light clouds.

GREG HARRISON PHOTOGRAPHER  
Premier San Antonio Events  
210-325-0740



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**AUSTIN**

**January 10**  
100th Anniversary Celebration  
featuring Jewel  
The Settlement Home for Children  
settlementhome.org

**January 23**  
Dell Children's Dream Gala  
Dell Children's Medical Center of  
Central Texas  
supportdellchildrens.org

**January 30**  
HRC Austin Gala  
Human Rights Campaign  
hrcaustin.org

**February 6**  
Rodeo Austin Gala  
rodeoaustin.com

**February 6**  
CASAblanca Gala  
CASA of Travis County  
casatravis.org

**February 14**  
Feed the Peace Awards  
The Nobility Project  
nobility.org

**February 20**  
Art on the Edge  
Blanton Museum of Art  
blantonmuseum.org

**February 20**  
Serenata Wine Dinner & Auction  
Austin Opera  
austinopera.org

**February 25**  
65th Anniversary Celebration  
Austin Child Guidance Center  
austinchildguidance.org

**February 26**  
Five x Seven  
The Contemporary Austin  
thecontemporaryaustin.org

**DALLAS**

**January 29**  
Silver Supper  
The Dallas Museum of Art  
dma.org

**February 1**  
Maestros Dinner of the Stage  
The Dallas Opera  
dallasopera.org

**February 4**  
Dallas Go Red for Women  
Luncheon  
American Heart Association  
dallasgored.ahaevents.org

**February 20**  
30th Annual Presentation Ball  
Dallas Symphony Orchestra  
League  
dallasymphonyleague.com

**February 20**  
54th Annual Ball  
Junior League of Dallas  
jld.net

**February 26**  
19th Annual Luncheon and  
Fashion Show  
Attitudes & Attire  
attitudesandattire.org

**HOUSTON**

**January 21**  
Margarita Madness!  
Houston Center for Contemporary  
Craft  
crafthouston.org

**January 26**  
2016 Rienzi Society's Annual  
Dinner  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston  
mfah.org

**January 28**  
Cooking Up a Cure  
Texas Children's Hospital  
cookingupacure.squarespace.com

**January 29**  
Eye Ball  
Prevent Blindness Texas  
preventblindnesstexas.org

**January 29**  
10th Annual Passport to a Cure  
Gala  
Muscular Dystrophy Association of  
Houston  
mda.org/office/Houston

**February 4**  
Green Gala  
Memorial Park Conservancy  
memorialparkconservancy.org

**February 13**  
2016 Hearts in Havana Heart Ball  
The American Heart Association  
heart.org/Houston

**February 13**  
Champagne & Chocolat  
Scholarship Gala  
Gaston LeNôtre Scholarship  
Foundation  
gastonlenotrescholarship.org  
February 20

Empty Bowls Project  
John Cooper School  
johncooper.org

**February 26**  
Savor the Hope Gala  
Devereux  
devereuxtcommunity.org

**SAN ANTONIO**

**January 14 - 17**  
San Antonio Cocktail Conference  
2016  
sanantoniococktailconference.com

**January 16**  
Let's Rodeo Ball  
San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo  
sarodeo.com

**January 16**  
"Taste the Dream" Gala  
San Antonio for Growth on the  
Eastside  
sagesanantonio.org/dream-gala

**January 23**  
Khaki & Plaid Party 2016  
Hope for the Future  
hopeforfuture.org

**January 29**  
Lit n' Lunch  
Assistance League of San Antonio  
assistanceleaguesa.org

**February 4**  
3rd Annual Mardi Gras Ball  
Prevent Blindness Texas  
texas.preventblindness.org

**February 13**  
Valetine Luncheon, Style Show  
and Auction  
Friends of Hospice San Antonio  
friendsofhospicesa.org

**February 20**  
Oysters and Pearls Scholarship  
Gala  
St. Mary's Alumni Association  
stmarytx.edu/gala  
For more information, visit  
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