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MARKET . RAG & BONE

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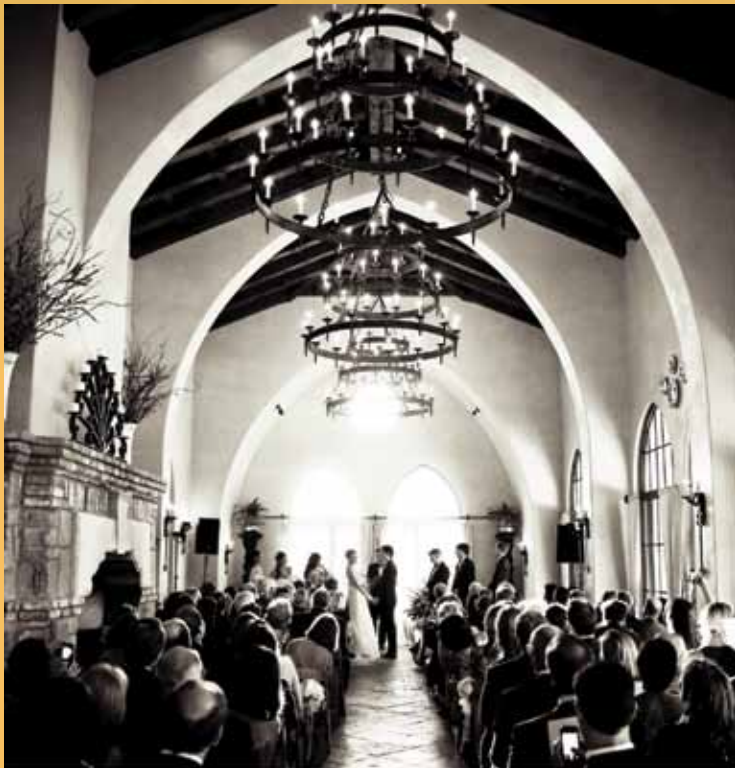


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110. THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT

Every woman loves the environment in which she is the most comfortable. For some, it's the boardroom. For others, that includes the ballroom. This holiday season we present our favorite gowns by our favorite designers who seem to celebrate *The Society Diaries* woman like never before with *sleeker* sophistication per square inch.

Photography by Mark Oberlin
Styling by Dion Bleu

120. THE MORE THE MERRIER

It's that time of year again. Have you been a good girl and boy? If so, then we have some beautiful gift items to inspire you. If not, we still have some gorgeous things you'll love. Since the season is full of good cheer, enjoy the best of the best to celebrate your favorite loved ones.

By Jake Gaines, Jason Grosgrain,
Alexandra del Lago, Lance Avery Morgan
and Jonathan Spindel

128. CAPTIVATING CARTAGENA

Colombia is the new hot spot, literally, for the Jet Set. Nestled on the Caribbean coast, this chic new *destination du jour* has a charm, uniqueness and style all to its own. So what are you waiting for? Grab a swimsuit and join us.

By Dee Covey Photography courtesy of
Dee Covey and Shutterstock

SITTING PRETTY
Gown by Jean
Fares Couture at
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Shoes by Saint Laurent at
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Super Socialite Babe Paley, 1946

42

40. 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 make it happen.

42. EDIT

Editor-in-Chief and Creative Director Lance Avery Morgan is more than ready for the holiday season ahead...and what a fun autumn it will be.

46. CURATE

Looking for more culture? Who isn't? 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.

48. BEAUTIFY

We love the scent of the holidays, especially on a sexy neck. Join us as we select our favorites for you to love.

50. BEHAVE

Our Ms. Modern Manners Sharon Schweitzer, JD is at the rescue for all your good behavior conundrums during the holiday season. The main point? Enjoy yourself.

52. HOST

A guy walks into a party... we've heard that one before. Here, share in some of our favorite hosting tips that will serve you year 'round, too, according to Jonathan Spindel.

54. RAISE

Dr. Miranda Fernande Walichowski, our family expert, weighs in on how to savor the holidays more with family and friends. Because really, that's what it's all about.

68

48

FlowerBomb Glitter By Viktor & Rolf



56. EVOLVE

There are so many ways we can express our creativity, according to the insightful Austin-based Resonance Repatterning practitioner Mary Schneider.

58. LEAD

Without the boards that lead both non-profits and corporate entities, the world might be a much less organized place to live. How to join one? Authors John T. Montford and Joseph Daniel McCool share insight from their new tome, *Board Games*.

62. DISCOVER

Dallas is synonymous with holiday glam this winter and our style setter Cynthia Smoot chronicles the best of it.

64. REVEAL

Texas style icon, author and all-around stunner Kimberly Schlegel Whitman shares an unprecedented look at her favorite people, places and things with Lance Avery Morgan.

66. REGALE

We present some of the world's most legendary hostesses and how they became so revered for their entertaining talents, according to perennial host Lance Avery Morgan.

68. SPARKLE

The future is in our stars. And, apparently in our jewelry connected to them, shares professional astrologer Weiss Kelly, PMAFA.

70. PROMOTE

A fresh look at the events, people places and things happening across the state this month.



Kimberly Schlegel Whitman

64



Cirque Dreams

46



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**ENTRANCE
ARRIVAL**



86. AUSTIN, Mort Topfer's Birthday Celebration



88. SAN ANTONIO, Charlie and Cathy Amato, Bev Golden & Ken Trevett



92. DALLAS, Model wearing Bizarro Couture



98. SAN ANTONIO, Michelle Muslin Lipari and Terry Weilbacher



106. HOUSTON, Leslie Mogil, Martha Rivera, Jenny Thompson, Penny Khuri and Lisa Graham Garza

**THE VERY BEST EVENTS
ACROSS TEXAS & BEYOND**

SPECTATE

86. AUSTIN
Mort Topfer's birthday celebration

ENTRANCE

88. SAN ANTONIO
The University of Texas Health Sciences gala

90. AUSTIN
The Ballet Austin gala

92. DALLAS
The Fashion X Dallas events

96. HOUSTON
The Legacy Health Center luncheon

98. SAN ANTONIO
The American Cancer Society event

102. AUSTIN
The Darrell K. Royal Research Fund gala and fashion show

106. HOUSTON
The Autism Rescue Angels luncheon

ARRIVAL

134. AUSTIN
The Big Brothers Big Sisters gala

136. DALLAS
The SPCA gala

138. HOUSTON
The Pet Set gala

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 this season.



90. AUSTIN, Alejandro and Ana Ruelas



136. DALLAS, Heidi and Bill Dillon



138. HOUSTON, Neil Hamil and Fred Smith



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JessicaElliot.com. Bracelet by Erickson Beamon a Erikson-
Beamon.com. Shoes Giuseppe Zanotti at Neiman Marcus.



NANCY GONZALEZ

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ERIN BUSBEE

After years of working as an award-winning journalist at CBS in New York, a marriage and move to Texas, along with an inherent passion for fashion, prompted Erin to start her own consulting company in 2009, specializing in styling ‘real’ women. In an effort to reach women worldwide, Erin is now focusing most of her attention on her blog, BusbeeStyle.com, and YouTube channel, BusbeeStyle TV. Busbee’s goal is to share her styling expertise with her contemporaries... 40+ year-old women.

TORI JOHNSON

Our new *The Society Diaries TV* host and Digital Producer Tori Johnson is the owner of sTORIbook Public Relations and is a fashion and lifestyle blogger of The sTORIbook.com. She is also a successful commercial and editorial stylist. In 2015, Johnson was voted San Antonio Fashion Blogger of the Year and has worked with a bevy of top names including Neiman Marcus, Nordstrom, Lancôme, Armani Exchange, and many more.



DEE COVEY

Dee Covey is a *The Society Diaries* features contributor for fun and also serves as one of Texas’s top multi-generational marketing and branding trend experts, and author of the upcoming *Dinosaurs and Brats: How To Get What You Want From Other Generations*. As the head of PR/ER studios (Prernow.com), she teaches New York and Austin clients exactly how to shine in TED talks, on *The Today Show*, investor presentations, book tours and other high-stakes situations when she isn’t writing about global cultural trends as in this month’s *Captivating Cartagena*.



WEISS KELLY

Weiss Kelly, pmafa is a Certified Professional Astrologer and syndicated columnist. She is on the Board Of Directors of the American Federation Of Astrologers and also serves as their Secretary. Kelly is best known for her work in business astrology, advising business owners and professionals throughout the U.S. She is one of the few astrologers to have her own segments with TV’s PM Magazine and later her own weekly cable show that ran over six years and can be reached for readings at weissastro@aol.com.



DION “BLEU” DRAKE

Dion Bleu is a fashion stylist with almost a decade of experience working in celebrity, editorial, advertising and personal styling. Over the years he has honed his skill by working with celebrities, athletes, and with publications such as *Elle* and *Italian Vogue*. Originally from Detroit, moving to the East Coast afforded Bleu to be infused with fashion and culture from a very young age. He proclaims his inspiration for his keen style aesthetic is anything edgy and glam, allowing Bleu to create dynamic images that will forever be cemented in editorial history...as in this month’s fashion feature, *The Age Of Enlightenment*.

JOHN T. MONTFORD & JOSEPH MCCOOL

Authors John T. Monford and Joseph Daniel McCool have contributed this issue’s book excerpt from their tome, *Board Games*. Montford is a chief executive officer of JTM Consulting, L.L.C, a government relations firm he founded in 2010. McCool is principal of The McCool Group, a global advisory firm.



ROB GIARDINELLI

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



MARK OBERLIN

Our feature photographer for this issue’s *The Age Of Enlightenment* fashion editorial cover story 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



LAURA VILLAGRAN-JOHNSON AND KEVIN SMOTHERS

If there is an event or gala to attend in Texas, 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.

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.”



DL

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MARY SCHNEIDER

Do you believe that intelligence is fixed? Mary Schneider, who helms our *Evoke* column, does not and 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 SCHWEITZER

Our Ms. Modern Manners etiquette expert Sharon Schweitzer, 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 Corey Howell Photography.



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 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 hip happenings around the capital city. He reports on all that makes us proud to be part of Texas society and is inspired by the unique individuals and organizations he engages as an Associate Editor, highlighting the happenings that bring the best to, and make the most of, our great state.



SHANNON MILLER TURNER

Our South Texas Associate Editor 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 15th 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, Ph.D. is a certified professional life coach and docent at Texas A&M University in the Department of Educational Psychology, helping her clients achieve measurable results when it comes to professional and personal growth in her role as coach and principal of MiraNous Coaching & Consulting, LLC (MiraNous.com). Dr. Miranda has developed a coaching process based on how the brain works to help individuals develop self-awareness, self-mastery, and self-actualization. She has co-founded a once-in-a-lifetime, transformational experience, the New You Journey (NewYouJourney.com), an intensive six-month coaching program that culminates in a 1,200-year-old pilgrimage from the foothills of the Pyrenees mountains in France to Santiago de Compostela, Spain.



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THE AGE OF ACCESS

IT HAD TO START SOMEWHERE. THE JOURNEY FROM THE Age of Excess to The Age of Access has been a fascinating one for all of us to participate in recently. With the election about to come and go with the longest news cycle, and more media outlets, devoted to it than ever before, I'm wagering that I'm not alone wanting to get on with it all. What's really struck me is the fascination in both tantamount issues, as well as the mundane, that we see by the minute in pop culture. Welcome to the new reality, literally?

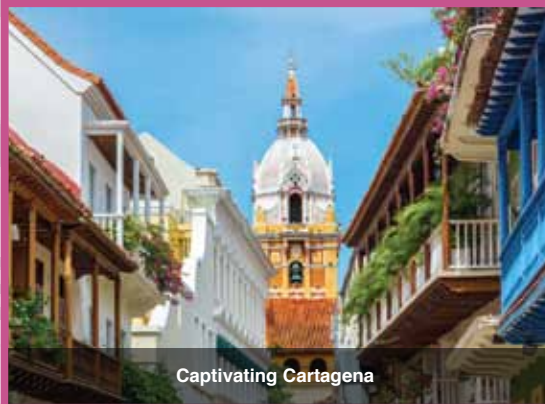
In the new documentary, *Absolutely Fashion*, about the inner workings of another magazine, *British Vogue*, Alexandra Shulman, amongst the chaotic happenings at her publication, gave pause as she quoted Ralph Lauren. The master designer said, "You can't be too hot and you can't be too cold. You always have to be a part of the conversation." To me it applies to the relevance of magazines and all media that still occurs today. One thing I've learned in the media business is that a reader's relationship with a magazine they bring into their home and place on their coffee table is as reverential as inviting a new guest inside.

We well understand that relationship, which is why we've created *The Society Diaries TV*, a multi-media video platform that you can access from your computer or phone. Just like that, instant glamour. Our *Society Girl* on the Go, Tori Johnson is on the scene at the most glamorous events across the state, as well as our fashion shoots, with style tips galore for living a more beautiful life.

You want glamour? Look no further than our latest cover story photographed by Mark Oberlin and Dion "Bleu" Drake who captured all the up-to-the-minute fashion to inspire your own fashionable pursuits in our feature, *The Age of Enlightenment*. Exotic, yet approachable, we always have you in mind with how you can push the envelope a little further when dressing for a dinner party, gala, or jaunt across the pond. And since the holiday season is full of parties, parties and more parties, we loved creating a view of some of the most vibrant hostesses in history, as well as tips for a gathering you might be hosting this very evening.

The greatest party of all? Ones that raise awareness and funds for so many wonderful philanthropies that we support in so many ways. It's inspiring to be in a

room of a thousand or so like-minded folks who want to do good for their favorite cause. We love covering the details of how much was raised and all the effort it takes, as well as who was there and how they wore it; the lighter side of the heavyweight causes.



Captivating Cartagena



An outtake for this month's shoot. Photography by Mark Oberlin



Super Socialite Babe Paley, 1946



Tori Johnson, *The Society Diaries TV Society Girl*



The More The Merrier feature's Waterford London Crystal Bar

In addition to giving back year 'round, we love to give, give, give during the holidays, too. Our *The More The Merrier* annual gift guide, helmed by Associate Editor Jonathan Spindel, will have you reaching for a glass of champagne and a list to make your choices and for whom. It's that cool. Of course, if you're at home and not in enticing Cartagena, Colombia, where writer Dee Covey reports on her fascinating time there, you may want to book a flight while you're making your list of things to buy and do in the New Year. In addition to our other wonderful features, you'll learn more about the ins and outs of joining a board in your community in an exclusive excerpt of the new book, *Board Games* by experts John T. Montford and Joseph Daniel McCool. It may just inspire your potential escalated board participation in the near future.

Speaking of next annum, we're already making our list of resolutions, updating the ones from this year as we go, to create more great issues for you to enjoy and to represent the finer side of being a Texan, both here and where all Texans may reside. It's what we do and we're excited to be a part of your fun happenings. We're glad you invited us in. Happy Holidays and cheers for more abundance ahead. **S**

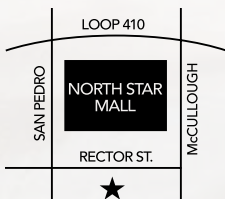
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Editor-In-Chief
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FINE ART FINALE

As we bid adieu to 2016, the arts make one last curtain call before the calendar turns. Our arts aficionado *Jonathan Spindel* selects the season's spectacles to close out another fine, culturally curated year.

AUSTIN



Photo courtesy of Ballet Austin

I COULD HAVE DANCED ALL NIGHT

The Nutcracker, a perennial holiday classic, is celebrating its 54th annual year at The Long Center. No matter how often you've seen it, visions of Sugar Plum Fairy will dance into your heart. December 3-23. At BalletAustin.org



Bullock

POLITICS OF PROPAGANDA

In the Bob Bullock State History Museum of Texas exhibit, *State of Deception: The Power of Nazi Propaganda*, a

look is given at another challenging political era, WWII. It takes center stage to tell the story with rare artifacts, historic film footage and first-person interviews. Through January 8, 2017. At StoryOfTexas.com



Monika Sosnowska at Laguna Gloria

GRAND RE-OPENING

Rediscover The Contemporary Austin Jones Center, now open after extensive renovations to the museum. Monika Sosnowska's installation *Habitat* takes center stage. The artist is also featured at Laguna Gloria. November 22-February 26.

DALLAS/FORT WORTH



Photo courtesy of Dallas Symphony

LET'S PLAY IT BY EAR

Ring in the New Year with your favorite Strauss Waltzes and Viennese-inspired revelry. Make a champagne toast as the majestic Meyerson Symphony Center comes alive with the sound of the symphony. December 31. At MyDSO.org



Nicholas Party

OFF THE WALL

Swiss artist Nicholas Party started as a graffiti artist, then directed his creativity toward galleries,

where he creates playful pastel murals with surrealist style. As a special commission, he will transform the DMA's central corridor with a mural all over the walls and ceiling. Through February 5, 2017. At DMA.org



Oscar Domínguez

SKETCHES OF SPAIN

Modern artists in Spain made a big impact on global artists throughout the 20th century. See an amazing collection of modern Spanish masterpieces, many of which are on display for the first time in the U.S. Through January 29, 2017. At MeadowsMuseumDallas.org

HOUSTON



Julian Onderdonk

LONE STAR IMPRESSION

If Claude Monet visited Texas, he might paint something like the gorgeous works of Julian Onderdonk, a talented Texan impressionist from the early 20th century. His luminous depictions of Texas landscapes are inspiring, especially his signature fields of bluebonnets. Through January 2, 2017. At MFAH.org



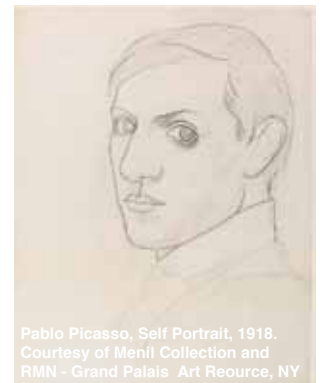
Cirque Dreams

YULE BE DAZZLED


Celebrate the holidays in style with the whole family, a cirque spectacle and Christmas extravaganza with charm and talent by the sleigh load. Featuring hundreds of costumes, 20 different acts, and dozens of artists from all over the world. November 18-20. At SPAHouston.org

SKETCH ARTIST

The master Pablo Picasso was a genius talent across all mediums, including his drawings, as seen in the new exhibit of 90 of his works, *Picasso The Line*. Through January 8, 2017. At Menil.org



Pablo Picasso, Self Portrait, 1918. Courtesy of Menil Collection and RMN - Grand Palais Art Resource, NY

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a long-sleeved, floor-length lace dress, stands in a field of tall, golden-brown grass. She has her hands on her hips and is looking down. In the foreground, a shaggy, light-colored dog is sitting and looking towards the woman. The background shows a hazy landscape with some bare trees and a building in the distance.

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HERE SHE COMES AGAIN

Join the city's premier music and performance venue as it welcomes the inimitable Dolly Parton for the 3rd Annual Tobin Benefit Concert. December 8. At TobinCenter.org



Photo courtesy of Tobin Center



Mark Sprague
Featured Speaker



Marisa Bushee



The Brigham Real Estate Team



Sherry Elliot
Paula Kothmann Preston



Charlotte Brigham



Kim Poper
Camille Chambers



Kamila Szczesna

MODERN, MEET MAJESTIC

See artistic concepts come to life at ArtPace's Hudson Showroom, now featuring three Texan artists Kamila Szczesna, Ryder Richards and Jessica Halonen. Through December 31. At ArtPace.org



MARVELOUS MUSICALS

In the mood for some of Broadway's favorite musicals? Catch *Sweeney Todd* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at the Woodlawn Theatre for classic theatre with a community feel. In November and December. At WoodlawnTheatre.org



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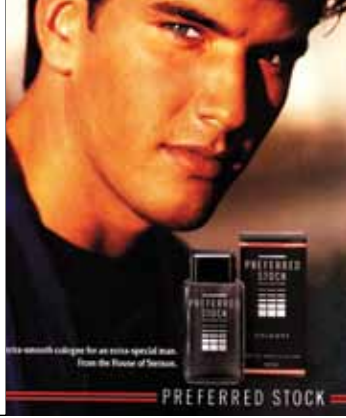
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SCENT-IMENTAL JOURNEY

Looking to the future of fragrance choices for the holidays, we glance behind us to see how a scent becomes a new classic, much like these vintage ads, as our aromatic avatar *Lance Avery Morgan* shares.



SWEET TREAT
Just like its name, Bon Bon is a delightful scent that inspires you to unwrap your effervescent femininity with this special holiday edition. \$120 for 1.7 oz. At Bloomingdales.com.

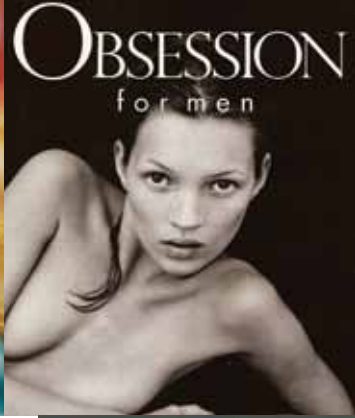
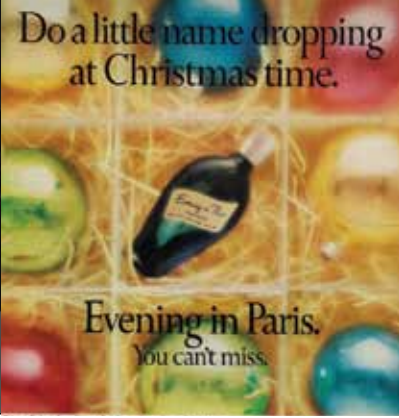
FLOWER'S NEW POWER
Leave it to Viktor & Rolf to create serious eye candy with this limited edition sparkling bottle that equates with a whimsical scent. \$120 for 1.7 oz. At Nordstrom.com.

PERFECTLY PASSIONATE
Reinvent yourself for a more magnetic impact with this limited edition Prada Amber Pour Homme gift set. The sleek bottle design will dazzle your cologne tray, to be sure. \$274.99. At Fragrance.com and Neiman Marcus.com.



ASK HIM, HE'S THE BOSS
Warm and spicy ginger make BOSS by Hugo Boss a favorite from boardroom to ballroom this season. \$85 for 100 ml. At Macy's.com and Saks.com Fifth Avenue.





**ADVENTUROUS?
AVENTUS.**

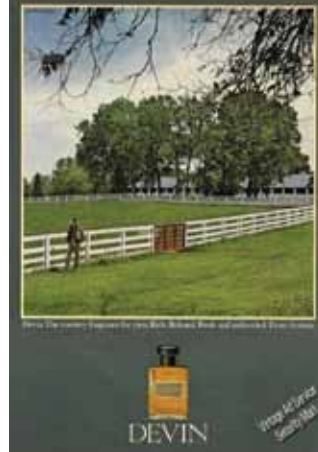
This irresistibly impressive fragrance, named for the historic emperor, is power in a bottle and leaves a lingering impression. \$350 for 2.5oz. At Neiman Marcus.



GUILTY AS CHARGED
Gucci Guilty Platinum Pour Femme complements every woman's urban and romantic essence for this season's festive mood. \$88 for 3.2oz. At Gucci.com

BOLD & SPIRITED

In Kenneth Cole's new Black Bold scent for men, the use of mandarin, ginger and musks all help create this powerful redolence. \$76 for 3.4oz At Macy's.



CHARMING CAPRI
Just like you'd let the Mediterranean breeze captivate you, dive into this scintillating Capri by Vince Camuto, with notes of grapefruit, musk and vanilla. \$82 for 3.4 oz. At VinceCamuto.com



POP GOES THE PERFUME
Leave it to Stella McCartney's new POP fragrance to add a pop of sandalwood and cedar in this decidedly feminine scent inspired by female friendship and independence. \$92 for 3.3 oz. At Sephora.



DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES

What to say, what to wear and how to act are always top of mind, especially around the holidays, and *our impeccably perceptive Ms. Modern Manners Sharon Schweitzer, JD, is to the rescue with the best insight.*

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

I RECEIVED AND ACCEPTED AN INVITATION TO ATTEND A reception honoring an ambassador from Mexico who is visiting the United States. How do I address him in conversation and when I introduce others to him?

Diligent Diplomat

Dear Dutifully Diplomatic,

When engaging the ambassador in conversation, refer to him as *Mr. Ambassador, Your Excellency* or *Sir*. If the ambassador is a female, address her as *Madame Ambassador* or *Your Excellency*. When making introductions of another person to the ambassador, state: *Mr. / Madame Ambassador, may I present Ms. Sally Smith from the Governor's office? Ms. Smith, his/her Excellency is the Ambassador of Mexico.*

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

My husband is considering hosting international business guests during the November and December holidays this year. How do we seat the guests of honor for these holiday dinners?

Holiday Hostess

Dear Hostness With The Mostest,

The seats of honor are those to the right of the host and hostess. The second most important seats are to their left. At a family dinner, traditionally, the eldest relative is given the seat of honor; a grandmother, grandfather, mother, father, or an elderly aunt or uncle. When both parents and the in-laws are seated at the same table, the mother of the hostess sits to the right of the host, and his mother sits to his left. The father of the host sits to the right of the hostess and her father sits to her left.

If the event is not a family dinner, the seat of honor is assigned to a visiting international guest, a houseguest, or a first time guest in the home. Depending on the country, at dinner, a high-ranking individual (head of state, president, prime minister, royalty) may be seated at the head of the table. The hostess is seated to his or her left, which honors the dignitary and acknowledges their prestige by seating them to the hostess' right.

Current and former government officials and their spouses are accorded the seats of honor. Both husbands and wives are granted the status of their spouses. For example, if a woman is prime minister, her husband is seated according to his wife's rank. The same protocol applies to local dignitaries and clergy. The seating may differ by country. For example, Japanese and

Korean etiquette places the honored guest in the middle of the table, facing the door. So research the customs of your international guests.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

I am trying to teach my children the finer things in life, so please help. When a lady walks into a room, who stands and who stays seated, and why?

Gentleman Jim

Dear Sir James,

Manners and etiquette evolve to meet the times. Today modern business manners dictate that when someone (male or female) walks into a room, it is appropriate for both men and women to stand as a sign of respect and sophistication. In the workplace, manners and etiquette are gender neutral. Standing is a sign of respect, and not just reserved for women. Standing is especially important when meeting and greeting someone older than you, senior to you in business, an elected official or diplomat, a priest or member of the clergy, a new acquaintance, or an authority figure because it brings you to the same level or 'eye level' with that individual. In social circles, when a lady walks into a room only the gentlemen stand.

In social circles, and when teaching your children, stress that standing brings them up to the same level and is an act of respect. When you remain seated you remain 'lower.' It makes a positive first impression both in social and business settings. Have them follow your stellar example.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

Our holiday travels are taking us on a European river cruise where we will delight in culture and devour goodies while wandering through holiday markets. What is the best way to politely barter while attending these markets?

Dear Packed & Ready,

Ensure you do your research on the specific cultural norms in each of the countries where you travel on your cruise. Learn if bartering is indeed culturally appropriate in particular provinces. If so, incorporate the three P's into your bartering strategy: personable, polite and private. Don't give away too much about how much you can spend, be friendly and always utilize kindness. Respect is universally understood. **S**

BOARD GAMES

STRAIGHT TALK
FOR NEW DIRECTORS AND
GOOD GOVERNANCE



John T. Montford and Joseph Daniel McCool

Foreword by Herb Kelleher

FOREWORD
BY
HERB
KELLEHER

FEATURES

- SUPPLIES FRANK ADVICE AND STRAIGHT TALK FOR CURRENT BOARD DIRECTORS AND FUTURE DIRECTORS THAN WARN OF THE VARIOUS KINDS OF TROUBLING DEVELOPMENTS THAT CAN ARISE IN AND OUTSIDE THE BOARDROOM.
- BREAKS DOWN THE CORE REQUIREMENTS, EXPECTATIONS, AND COMMITMENTS DIRECTORS MUST MAKE TO PROTECT SHAREHOLDERS BASED ON THE COAUTHORS' DEEP AND VARIED BOARD AND EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE.



(LEFT) JOSEPH DANIEL McCOOL, IS PRINCIPAL OF THE McCOOL GROUP, A GLOBAL ADVISORY FIRM.

(RIGHT) JOHN T. MONTFORD IS PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF JTM CONSULTING, LLC., AND CHANCELLOR EMERITUS OF THE TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.

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-TOM GILLIGAN, DIRECTOR,
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DID SOMEONE SAY SOIRÉE? SENSATIONAL.

Hosting a holiday party this season? Not to boast, but we know how to host with the most. Want to make a big impression? *Our master of merriment Jonathan Spindel* shares his favorite and essential party pointers.

Details, Details

WHETHER YOU'RE MAKING YOUR HOLIDAY PARTY debut, or throwing your famed seasonal soiree, you *must* be sure to treat your guests to your best hospitality. Whether you're entertaining dear friends, colleagues, or VIPs, the perfect host will impress, but not stress. Determine the details in advance, so you may be free to dazzle with your wit and gracious presence. If you pull it off just right, your parties shall become legends larger than life.

Think Big

There's no limit to what you can achieve. Whether you've selected a special venue for your party, or you're hosting in your own home, let your imagination be your guide. Then, work with professionals to pull off the extraordinary effects. Need a referral? Just look through the pages of the magazine you're currently holding, and see the amazing feats by your favorite local decorators, floral designers, lighting specialists, and more.

Mix It Up

Hand-pick your favorite Sociables for your affair, and reach out to friends in plenty of social circles beyond them. The joy of a big bash comes from the mingling of exceptional personages from all walks of life. Once you receive your RSVPs, plan your table settings and course of events with an eye toward dynamic conversation, introducing new friends, and even a bit of good-natured battles of wit. If you mix up the right group of party guests, the cavorting and carousing will take care of itself, as you likely know.

Hire A Hand (Or Two, Or Ten)

On the night of your party, you'll have plenty of people to entertain. You don't want to have your hands full, preparing canapes and mixing

cocktails, do you? That's why you should leave it to the pros. Hire a bartender or two, as well as a food service staff to keep everyone topped off, so you can be free to mingle about. And don't forget rule #1 – Think Big – so go ahead and hire some performers for the evening's entertainment. Like a chic Bossa Nova band. Their spectacular stagecraft will keep the energy flowing.



Gracious, Meet Grateful

It's not a party until someone breaks something. Or spills red wine, or commits one of countless awkward faux pas. When something unfortunate occurs at a party, guests will often look toward the host's reaction first. So, take it in stride. Calmly call for hired help to clean up that mess. That stain will come out of your sofa tomorrow. Make sure everyone is safe and secure, then

let the party continue. Your positive energy will be the beacon that lets your guests keep enjoying themselves, too. Plus, as a cool host, you'll likely be invited to all sorts of events as a kind thank you for your efforts.

Make A Lasting Impression

The most spectacular soirees are remembered fondly long after the event comes to an end. Help your guests remember you by sending them off with a parting gift. Perhaps a selection of fancy cookies or candies in the same theme or color as your party, so your guests may recall sweet memories in the next few days. Or, you may opt to dash off a greeting card, expressing your gratitude for their attendance. You and your guests should share an appreciation for celebration – this ensures that your hospitality will be remembered, and encourages guests to look forward to your future invitations. *Bon soiree mes amis!* **S**

May Your Season Be Bright



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HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The holiday season is a perfect time to embrace families and familial events. Yet, the holidays can seem stressful. Here our dynamic parenting and relationship expert, Dr. Miranda Fernande Walichowski shares insight on the differences between expectations and agreements to make for happier experiences.

FOR MANY INDIVIDUALS, THE UTOPIAN VISION OF a family gathered around the table in a convivial way, giving thanks for each other, or the vision of holidays filled with merriment and gifts of love and joy, are far from their reality. In fact, the American Psychological Association has conducted several studies centered on holidays and stress. One of the latest studies reports that levels of stress around the holidays increase by as much as 41%. There is an irony that we long to come together with loved ones, only to lose our loving feelings due to rising anxiety and frustrations. But it doesn't need to be this way; if you anticipate stressful challenges, you can approach the holiday season prepared with a positive outlook.

CHANCE FOR CHOICE

You have choices when dealing with complicated relationships. Assuming that changing the circumstances, like not seeing your family, is not an option, you have three choices to consider. (1) You can try to change your family members to reflect more of whom you expect them to be, (2) you can endure the situation and accept the stress and drama, or (3) you can show up differently and adjust your own perspective. Obviously, the third choice is the most energetically and emotionally compelling.

It is not easy to show up differently. It takes courage to let go of the desire to be right. It takes courage to let go of our vision for how people should be. It takes courage to meet people where they are and accept them. In other words, we need to let go of expectations

Whether you realize it or not, your mind creates *expectations*: ideas of how people should be, what people should do, and how situations should unfold. The expectations that we create about the behavior and actions or inactions of others tend to be the greatest point of contention between our peace, joy and frustration, stress. Not only do we create expectations, but we spend much time and energy collecting evidence to support our observation that individuals are falling short.

MANAGING EXPECTATIONS

In contrast, *agreements* transform expectations into something concrete and



something that can create consensus. Agreements dissipate the ambiguity between what you want and what it is that you can realistically expect. Individuals respond to agreements and will usually be inclined to adhere to those. On the other hand, individuals tend to rebel against expectations. In essence, an agreement is an accord. Someone gives you their word that they will or will not do something. The easiest way to comprehend the distinction is to bring to mind a teenager. Most parents have the expectation that their teenager will develop responsibility skills and keep his room in order and tend to his school work appropriately. More often than not, the teenager rebels against these expectations. However, if the teen is permitted to co-create agreements, establishing what both parties will and will not do, everyone is more inclined to honor that. Moreover, when things need course-correction, a conversation around agreements not being kept is no longer seemingly a judgment or an attack on the person. It becomes much less personal, and the discussion can center around what both parties can do to help each other honor the agreement.

Think about it. Many of us have many expectations in our relationships. In terms of agreements, we have very few of those. Moreover, many times the expectations that we have for others, are different from the expectations others have for themselves. It makes sense why we feel frustrated when our expectations are not met.

We are all a product of the people we have met, the books we have read, the experiences that we have had. So what is the meaning that you can create around individuals who trigger you most? Exploring that with a growth-mindset, you would reframe your expectations and instead look for ways that you can grow and be of service to others. Might challenging interactions be an opportunity to grow in patience, empathy, listening skills, or love of your neighbor?

So at all the holiday celebrations this year, let go of your expectations. Have the understanding that every person has a deeply seated need for being understood, heard, acknowledged, and loved. Arrive at each gathering with you being the gift, one that is empty of expectations and replete with a desire to love and serve others in what they need. I think you will be pleasantly surprised that the biggest gift is waiting for you. Be prepared to see transformation. As you show up differently, people around you will begin to change. Your transformation provides an auspicious start to your New Year and all the potential it has to be your best year ever. **S**

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EMBRACING THE CREATIVE SPIRIT

We are all innately creative, yet just how do we embrace and nurture that for continued growth? Our intuitive Austin-based Resonance Repatterning Practitioner, Mary Schneider shares ideas that help us thrive.

UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVITY

CREATIVITY IS INHERENT IN THE HUMAN SYSTEM. IT IS LIFE. Look around our creation. Creativity abounds. Everyone is creative and there are a million different ways people can express their creativity. Being creative enables us to express our emotions which for many of us can be difficult. Self-expression can offer our systems blessed relief and release from negative emotions, thoughts and beliefs that cause limitation and suffering in our lives. At other times creative expression offers a window into the sub-conscious. It can be both a catalyst for working through difficult situations or an immense expression of joy.

One issue that hinders the quest for creative expression is perfectionism. Perfectionism may be the enemy of creativity. Children raised in family systems devoid of praise and encouragement or infused with abuse come to believe the only way to be loved is to be perfect. Their creativity is entangled in the pursuit of how to achieve perfection in themselves and in everything they produce. They think, “Maybe if I get perfect grades, look perfect, act perfect – just maybe I will be loved.” As a result, the ability to trust themselves is compromised. Self-doubt and second-guessing cloud the mind and the freedom inherent in creativity becomes stifled. Mistakes can be the bane of perfectionism. And, mistakes are the hallmark of creativity. Thomas Edison performed thousands of experiments before perfecting a working light bulb. We are all allowed to do the same thing.

I had a brilliant business coach who said, “If you are not making mistakes, you are not doing anything.” Successful people – in business or the arts – often make big, expensive mistakes and think, “Oh, well, I guess I am going in the wrong direction. I need to make a course correction here.” They change direction and move on. It would be an interesting study to look at different great works of art and determine which part was the result of some large, obvious error turning out well. How did Jackson Pollock figure out throwing paint on a canvas could look so compelling? It certainly was not considered perfect at the time. Yet, his art now fetches some of the highest prices ever paid for paintings.

SELF-EXPRESSION LESSON

We are not all Jackson Pollocks. That is probably a good thing – he was a tortured artist who struggled with many personal issues. But the idea that we need to be someone like Pollock to be creative is a myth whose time needs to come to an end. Being unable to self-express has its origins in control issues. Control in a human system manifests as constriction. The need to control everything is unhealthy. But control is the natural outcome of difficult, dysfunctional families and upbringing. A child raised in a family where everything seemed out-of-control, if they have any smarts at all, decides to try to control everything they can as adults. And, why not? They do not want to experience that dynamic again. It makes total sense.

So what is the opposite of control? Allowing. That’s right, allowing - say the word slowly and spell it out phonetically. When you say it like this you can feel expansion stir in your being. Spaciousness, the opposite of rigidity, is the result of creative expression. It does not have to be done for anyone. It can be done in secret. It can be done just for yourself. Elizabeth Gilbert wrote the successful book *Eat, Pray, Love* for herself, for her eyes only. She never intended for anyone to even read it and it became a best-seller with a film starring Julia Roberts.

Constriction in a human system is not conducive to well-being and is a deterrent to creative expression. Constriction creates tension in the muscles and tightens the organs so they do not function optimally. It restricts the energy flow in the body. Acupuncture, chiropractic and other complimentary healing modalities are based upon re-establishing this flow of energy in the body. The basic premise is where there is energy blockage there is the potential for disease.

Unblock the energy and let it flow and homeostasis shall return. Expressing your creativity can contribute to this beneficial flow. It opens us up. When there is opening there is space for new possibility in all areas of our life. In this bright, shiny holiday season, I invite you to let your creativity loose. This is the time of year when there is an abundance of support for this type of activity which can lead to a fulfilled and prosperous New Year. So, have fun and enjoy. This is what we are all meant to do. **S**



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ALL ABOARD

How can you get appointed to a board if you're not a household name? The simple answer is to bring something the board wants but doesn't have, according to authors John T. Montford and Joseph Daniel McCool in their new book, *Board Games*.

"HOW CAN I GET APPOINTED TO A BOARD?" IT IS A question we are asked frequently by up-and-coming, high-performing professional men and women and just as often by established, long-tenured leaders and chief executives who view an appointment to a corporate board of directors as the pinnacle, defining achievement of their careers.

Getting the call to the boardroom is a testament to a successful career. It is a special recognition of hard work, experience, and expertise, and one typically reserved for individuals who have conducted themselves as consummate professionals while building their credentials—and, just as important, their peer relationships and professional networks.

Being asked to serve on a corporate or not-for-profit board or even an organization's advisory board is clearly an invitation to participate in the American dream. It represents an open door and a world of possibilities and learning. It demands an increasing amount of due diligence to determine which board is right for you and whether you're up to the expectations of a board that asks you to join.

KNOW WHAT YOU ARE SIGNING UP FOR

A call to the boardroom should be received as both a special opportunity and a personal calling—a calling to service and to stewardship of institutional and shareholder concerns. It now demands a willingness to learn what it takes to be an effective director in an age of continued globalization, activism, and growing calls for the kind of servant leadership that puts others first.

It would be easy, given some human tendencies, to use a board appointment as a reason to gloat, to inflate an already healthy ego, and to trumpet the latest in your string of achievements. If you are so inclined, you'd better find some other place to channel your energy.

What is interesting—and telling about your success as a director sitting in a paid, corporate board seat or in a volunteer role with a not-for-profit, charitable, or advisory board—is that everything that brought you to this pinnacle moment is now set aside so you can focus on the company and work with other directors and management.

Part of the allure of a boardroom appointment is the public acknowledgment of your business savvy, experience, and expertise—and, perhaps most of all, its exclusive nature. Many are qualified, yet few are asked to serve, for reasons we will explain later in this chapter.

But the real key to your success in the boardroom will be to remind yourself, at the start of every single board meeting, that the call to the boardroom is a call to serve. It is an invitation to work hard, do your homework, show up, and contribute to the board's business in a way that leverages what you know and need to know, as well as your willingness to put in the time to do the job well.

So revel in getting the call. Celebrate with family and friends. Feel good about yourself, then set to work immediately putting others' interests at the fore.

PRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS ABOUT THE BOARDROOM

While many highly accomplished men and women hope and expect to get that call to the boardroom some day, the truth is that few are asked to serve organizations in such a critical governance role.

Unless you have the wide name recognition of a former secretary of state, cabinet secretary, or U.S. senator; or you have celebrity status as a high-profile chief executive officer, you're not going to be openly solicited for board service. Individuals like Condoleezza Rice and Bill Gates are going to get calls about serving (continued...)

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on boards. People with incredibly high name recognition will get those calls. And when you consider that shares of Weight Watchers soared in October 2015 upon the news that Oprah Winfrey would be joining its board of directors and taking a 10 percent stake with options to acquire another 5 percent stake, you can expect the big names to get even more of those calls.

However, for most people without household name appeal, the pathway is clear—we have to earn it. There simply is no big “easy” button to push for appointment to the boardroom. It is for this reason we committed to put together this roadmap for getting to the board appointment you want and which you may also deserve.

Many accomplished executives would like to serve on a board of directors. Appointment to a major corporate board may bring significant compensation. Appointments to the board of a smaller, private company or the governing or advisory board of a start-up company, a not-for profit, charitable, philanthropic, and/or community or institutional board all stoke executive-level interest.

Yet if we consider the actual number of annual appointments to paid corporate board positions each year, we see that only a small fraction of those who would like to serve in such a stewardship role will receive the call.

So what separates those who actually get appointed from all those who would simply like to get appointed?

These factors are particularly important qualifiers for securing a board appointment:

1. Your reputation, experience, and credentials for a board appointment
2. The expert knowledge and insight you bring and how it will extend and deepen board competency in the right areas, at the right time
3. The networking relationships and advocates you can engage to rise above other successful leaders
4. The clarity, consistency, and conviction of your own efforts to engage with influential people

So how do *you* get on a board? The answer is, a lifetime of hard work creates what, more now than ever before, represents only an opportunity to do more hard work in today's corporate boardroom under an intensifying glare of public opinion, shareholder advocates, activists, lawyers, labor unions, the media, and more.

But to get there, you have to have a plan and stick with it. Of course, luck also factors into the board appointment equation. Be at the right place, at the right time, with the right people. You can control two of those variables. As for timing, well, let us just say we hope luck is on your side.

If you bring more than one of the above-listed attributes to a board, there is still no guarantee that you will get the board appointment you desire. You still have to make it happen.

As a practical matter, you have to set your sights on getting a board appointment and go after it if you want it. Interest in serving is not enough to get to the boardroom. That is true for paid corporate board directorships, although your willingness to volunteer may indeed qualify you for any number of not-for-profit, charitable, or community boards or advisory boards.

When it comes to securing a paid corporate board seat, do not expect your own fairy board-mother to flitter her wings heralding a major board appointment while you sip a martini on your back porch. That is, unless you are cavorting with some of the best-known names in business, government, civic affairs, or perhaps the worlds of media or sports. Those relationships may help you to get where you want to go.

But the right path is the path that will work.

How to get appointed to a board is simple: you are going to have to earn it. You are going to have to work for it if this is what you really want. You are going to have to set your sights on it and go after it.

The truth is, you are going to have to plan for it—and put that plan into action over time.

Yet before you can build your own plan, let us consider what boards are looking for; the different paths that would position you as a highly qualified potential candidate for a board seat, and some other timeless lessons on getting to the boardroom and making a difference once you get there.



KNOW WHAT BOARDS ARE LOOKING FOR

It is hard to serve a need until you understand that need.

In order to get to the boardroom, you must understand what boards want, what they need, and what is motivating their directors to seek new competencies that will improve governance and, in some cases, cover their rear ends if something goes wrong.

As has been the case for decades, today's boards of directors do not want to be taken by surprise or be caught unaware. The last thing anyone wants is to see his or her name associated with damaging headlines splashed one morning all over the front page of the *Wall Street Journal* or the *Financial Times*.

Contemporary board directors want to be regularly briefed on emerging threats to and opportunities for the business. They want to engage with board peers they like and respect. They want to safeguard shareholder interests, contribute meaningfully to corporate strategy, plan for the eventual succession of the chief executive (if they are doing their jobs), and ensure the growth of total returns to shareholders over time.

To achieve these goals, they need smart people assembled around the boardroom table who are open-minded and dedicated to put in the hours it now requires to be a good board director: **S**

For more information, visit BoardGamesBook.com

HELLO, PRETTY CITY

During the holidays, Dallas is especially festive. Here, our gal-on-the-go Cynthia Smoot is on the scene to share the best of the best.

BIGGER? ALWAYS BETTER

Brad Oldham and Christy Coltrin bring art, humor and beauty to life through sculptures and stories. The duo has collaborated on public art installations and private commissions for more than eight years as business partners, and longer as a husband-wife team. Named the (first-ever) Artist of the Year by the Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau, Brad Oldham Sculpture represents much of what's great about Dallas: innovation and personality.

There are many public installations by Brad Oldham Sculpture in the Dallas area that readers can visit: *The Traveling Man* (3 locations in Deep Ellum), *SkaterBIRD* at Field & Ross, and *The Birth of a City* at Encore Park (in downtown between City Hall and Farmers Market) just to name a few. You can also visit their sculpture studio in downtown Dallas. Look for the 22-foot sculpture on top of the building, because you can't miss it. They create monumental, place-making sculpture, pocket sculptures and all size sculptures in between. For more information, visit BradOldham.com



Christy Coltrin and Brad Oldham at The Traveling Man Waiting on a Train Cadillac. Photo courtesy of Channel 8



Combination in Midlothian by Brad Oldham and Christy Coltrin



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Boston-based MiniLuxe is a luxury nail studio that is quickly winning over glamorous Dallasites at their locations in West Village, the Shops at Legacy, and Uptown Plaza. MiniLuxe offers manicures, pedicures, waxing and brow services for women and men using sterile single-use (when possible) tools and products free of carcinogenic chemicals, all provided by employees who receive exceptional benefits. It's a clean business with clean ethics methodologies, which makes it all feel even more luxurious. Look for new locations at NorthPark Center, The Shops at Highland Park, and Preston Center soon,

providing even more opportunities to experience #MiniMoments of luxury in our busy lives. For more information, visit MiniLuxe.com 



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HAVING A WONDERFUL TIME

Dallas resident *Kimberly Schlegel Whitman, wife, mother, author and entertaining expert extraordinaire* shares her chic insight on the good life with great friend Lance Avery Morgan.



Kimberly Schlegel Whitman

My style icon is...

Texas women, because they are bold and elegant at the same time. They simply aren't afraid to try a new look, or to style a designer's vision in their own way.

If I had to limit my shopping to one neighborhood in one city...

NorthPark Center in Dallas would certainly do the trick!



My favorite coffee table style book... is actually my latest book *Monograms for the Home: The Art of Making Your Mark.*



Pasta, courtesy of Terrazza Danieli, Venice

The last meal that truly impressed me was... every single pasta dish I ate in Italy last week - each one was better than the last.



Elsa Schiaparelli designs, 1930s-1950s

A classic designer I wish was still designing today is...

Elsa Schiaparelli, because of her dramatic and chic, yet cheeky designs.

An unforgettable place I've travelled to recently is... magical Venice. I just returned from celebrating my birthday with my husband, Justin.



The best souvenir I ever brought home is...

since my parents started a gold charm bracelet for my travels as a young girl, I've added a charm from every city we visited and I continue adding to it to this day.



When it comes to one must-have clothing item... I almost always have an oversized Hermes cashmere scarf with me - it's so versatile and a fun way to add color to any basic look.



Abstract painting by Texas artist Chas. Fleischer, 1966

An artist whose work I would collect is... I love all of the Abstract Expressionists. I have a very small collection, yet always have my eye on adding more.

The thing I am eyeing next is... anything from the new Gucci collection, and especially the tweed jacket with the Sheffield dogs.



Gucci. Resort 2017



An indulgence I would never forego is... keeping flowers in the house. When I first moved to New York, my mother insisted that I always keep at least one flower in my apartment at all times. It's the same now in Dallas.



Dinnerware by Halo Home

The best gift I have given recently is... to each of the hostesses of my recent birthday lunch: a monogrammed porcelain tray from our new linen line Halo Home by KSW (HaloHomeByKSW.com) collaboration with Pickard.

I love connecting to the world...with my blogs KimberlySchlegelWhitman.blogspot.com and RSVPCalendar.com



Veuve Clicquot champagne

In my fridge you will always find... Veuve Clicquot and Hall Wines.


I love to read... many biographies, historical fiction and parenting books. On my nightstand now are *The Big Disconnect: Protecting Childhood and Family Relationships in the Digital Age* by Dr. Catherine Steiner-Adair, *Three Sisters, Three Queens* by Philippa Gregory, and *The Six: The Lives of the Mitford Sisters* by Laura Thompson.

If I weren't doing what I do, I would be... a historian.

The best gift I have received is... my friendships.



Charleston, S.C.

If I didn't live in this city I'd live in... Charleston, because I love the appreciation they have for their history and their great sense of Southern style. 

DARLING, DO JOIN US FOR SUPPER... WON'T YOU?

Living well is the best revenge. So, too, can be said about entertaining. We've assembled some of the greatest hostesses of all time to inspire your own endeavors. If they weren't born beautiful they soon became so thanks to their wit, ambition and knowing how to make a guest feel more welcome.

1 Marella Agnelli: The wife of Italian Fiat honcho and style icon Gianni Agnelli, her work at *Vogue* led her to her passion of writing gardening books. So grand was her entertaining wardrobe that she was voted into the Best Dressed Hall of Fame in 1963. The priceless Agnelli Collection of art contains myriad works by Picasso, Renoir and Canaletto.

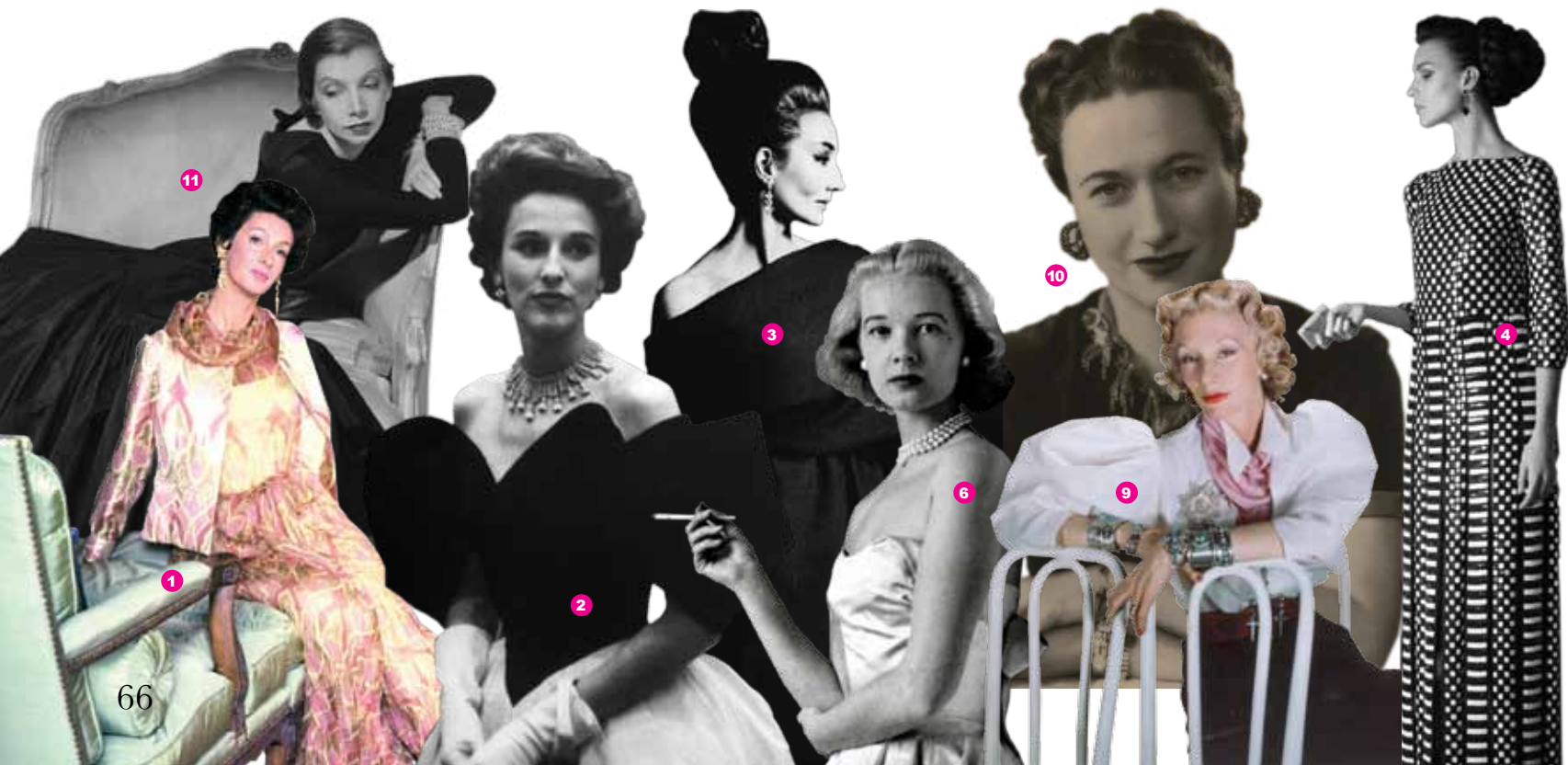
2 Babe Paley (d.1978): Known as the ultimate of Capote's Swans, her style was closely followed and she even made headlines when she donned a headscarf for a cold. Her sisters, the famous Cushing girls, were just as stylish and accomplished hostess. Her picture perfect social world set the standard for millions and she made every guest, from potentate to film star, feel like her best pal.

3 Countess Jaqueline deRibes: The muse to many a haute couture designer, her regal style evokes an essence so legendary that The Metropolitan Museum of Art is retrospectively her life this November 19 – February 21. A fashion designer herself, her philanthropic talents include organizing international charity events, which have been a coveted invitation for decades.

4 Gloria Guinness (d.1980): Mexican-born and married to an English beer fortune scion, her fiery chic came in handy as she glamorously entertained in her six homes across the world. Rail then, she was a leader of the Jet Set, setting the pace with jaunts in one of her three planes. The donations of her museum-quality attire were a testament to her spreading her couture commissions to the greatest of the mid-century.

5 Gloria Vanderbilt: The poor little rich girl married well, lives well and continues to share her artistry with the world. Her innate style, and funds to match, exalted her into the pantheon of style, as she created society-driven designer jeans and fragrances in the 70s with her trademark signature. Known for assembling her favorite intellectual aesthetes for her dinner parties, she still lights a fire in every room she enters.

6 CZ Guest (d.2003): From New York to Palm Beach, the cool blonde exuded a range of talents – from her deft hosting abilities to having been a Ziegfeld Follies showgirl, and expert horsewoman and avid gardener. Her fussless, all-American style, from cashmere twin sweater sets to opulent gowns, still influences savvy style setters across the world as a beacon of elegance.



7 Jennifer Jones (d.2009): The Oscar-winning, raven-haired beauty was known for changing outfits as many as six times an occasion as she hosted for her filmmaker husband David O. Selznick's many weekend-long marathon parties. In fact, the couple led the post-war Hollywood social scene until the Swinging Sixties. Her devotion to mental health issues, as well as her ardent art patronage, kept her busy and in the public eye on the Los Angeles social circuit.

8 Pamela Harriman (d.1997): The British diplomat and political activist knew how to make things happen from Washington to Paris. As the Ambassador to France and known as the "the 20th-century's greatest courtesan" of the elite power players in her era, her style, wit and lively conversational abilities could liaise both diplomatic and personal progress for her circle.

9 Millicent Rogers (d.1953): On the Ten Best Dressed List annually, her love of Southwestern art and architecture, and especially mountains of turquoise jewelry worn simultaneously, became her trademark. She championed Native American civil rights, while hosting aristocrats and movie tycoons alike, all the while wearing four-figure Charles James blouses, of which she had dozens. She remains a muse for current designers and likely will for generations.

10 Duchess of Windsor (d.1986): She knew what she wanted, even if it toppled the British empire in the 1930s. Wallis Simpson was known for her couture, cocktails and canapés and served up tremendous style for herself and the former King of England, the Duke of Windsor. Between Europe and United States living a life of leisure as society celebrities, they were very public with their social lives, sometimes to the chagrin of the royal family.

Babe Paley: Her picture perfect social world set the standard for millions and she made every guest, from potentate to film star, feel like her best pal.

11 Pauline de Rothschild (d.1976): The Parisian-born fashionista knew fashion by working for Elsa Schiaparelli in London and Hattie Carnegie in New York, so bringing her sense of style to her marriage of Baron Phillippe de Rothschild came as second nature. They entertained in their homes and chateaux across the world, and she always displayed her substantial jewel collection upon her décolleté.

12 Diana Vreeland (d.1989): The longtime editor of rivals *Harper's Bazaar* and *Vogue*, she gave the world a point of view for decades and made the pages, and her dining room, come

alive with her notion that, as she said, *The only real elegance is in the mind; if you've got that, the rest really comes from it.* Known to give Jackie Kennedy advice on all matters of style, she was the godmother of the First Lady's style that influenced the globe.

13 Daisy Fellows (d.1962): For the heiress to the Singer sewing machine fortune, fashion was literally in her blood. A devotee of Cartier suppersize pieces, she placed the International Set firmly in the headlines of her Le Bal Oriental gala, a party that went on for 48 hours. Beloved as much as she was despised, her attention to gala details lives on in many a current hostess.

14 The Bouvier Sisters (Jaqueline Kennedy Onassis d.1994): Famous for being famous, the sisterly duo of Jaqueline Kennedy Onassis and Lee Radziwill reigned on a range of continents with their pedigree and stylish refinement. Their masterful French also came in handy at the dinner table. Both married dazzlingly well and to this day remain fresh in iconic looks, from black turtlenecks and white slacks, to gowns and everything in between. **S**



ROCK SOLID

It's in the stars. We all know that, but in the gems, too? Just in time for the holidays, our dynamic foreseer *Weiss Kelly, PMAFA*, shares her insight on why things that sparkle can have a powerfully magnetic and energetic meaning with your birthday.

THE ATTRACTION AND MYSTERY SURROUNDING GEMS HAS always been alluring and a fascinating mixture of fact and fiction. In ancient times, precious gemstones decorated crowns, shields, and swords. Kings in old days led battles on the battlefields wearing leather breastplates studded with precious stones, because they believed the God-given gems protected them and legends are filled with the beautiful stories concerning the names and therapeutic powers of gems come from the mythologies of ancient Asia, Egypt, and Greece. In fact, the Babylonians first used the signs of the zodiac, then followed by the Greeks, Egyptians, and Persians.

Gems have long been associated with astrology, and each planet has a gem assigned by history and tradition. Over time our attraction to both the stars and gems has not changed. Everything on earth, and in the heavens above, including the planets, is comprised of magnetic energy. Unknowingly, you respond to their vibrations with a corresponding energy based upon your own birth horoscope. A kind of cosmic DNA, if you will that is absorbed into your own biological system. Each of your birth gems has its own energy, after years of having jewelry designers consult me, I am always in awe of their final artistic, and highly, personalized, "one of a kind" pieces designed for their clients, based upon my delineations.

Gems have a fascinating mixture of fact and fiction, following are the traditional Sun Sign gems from the days of antiquity, although I can, and on occa-

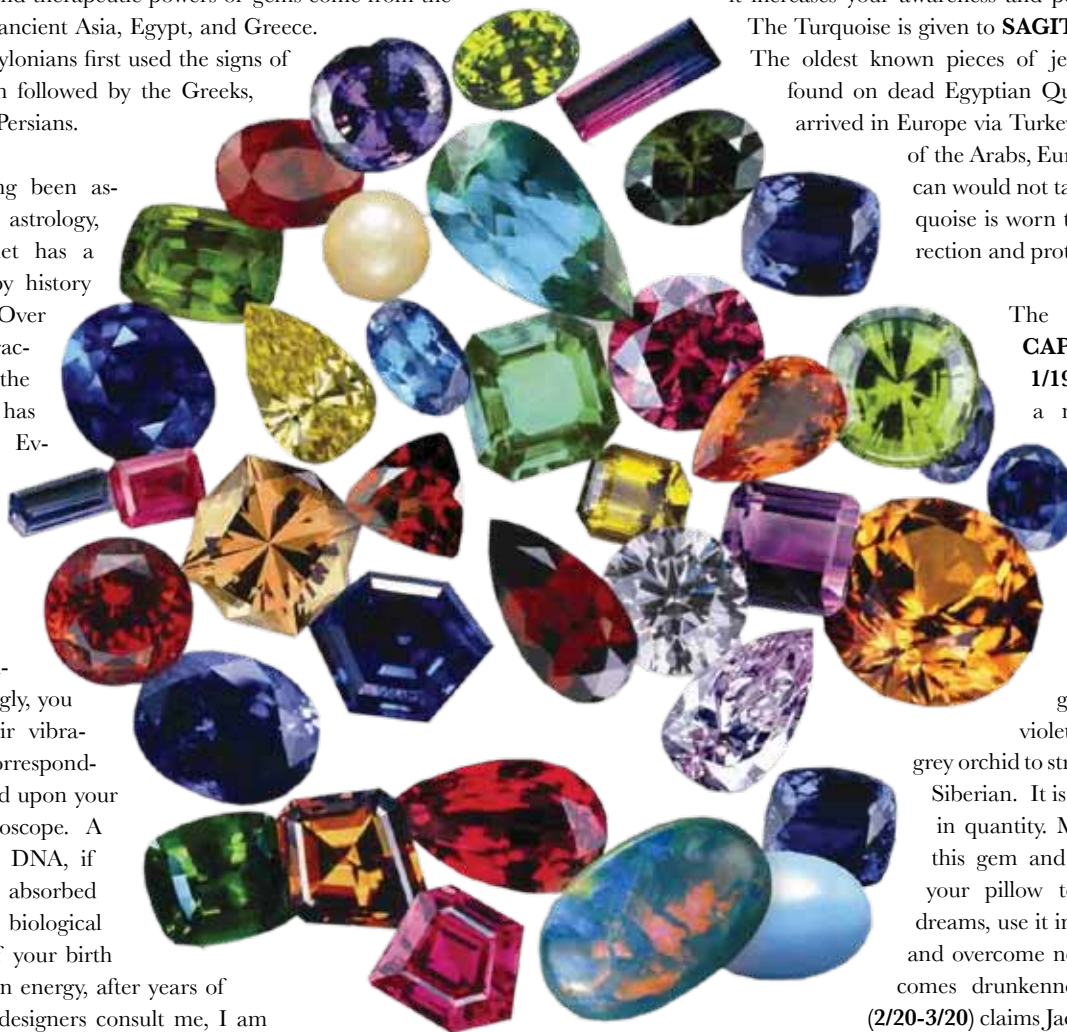
sion do use a modern list of birthstones, an amalgamation of biblical lore and astrological knowledge that is acceptable. Your Sun Sign gem is your *power* gem.

The gem for **SCORPIO (10/23-11/21)** is the Topaz, having a range of colors lights, yellow, brown, green and blue, that subject to change before your eyes. The most beautiful is from Brazil. Like the Scorpio personality, it increases your awareness and powers of transformation.

The Turquoise is given to **SAGITTARIUS (11/22-12/21)**. The oldest known pieces of jewelry are four bracelets found on dead Egyptian Queen Zer. This gemstone arrived in Europe via Turkey. Without it, the mosaics of the Arabs, Europeans and Latin American would not take on their richness. Turquoise is worn to give you a sense of direction and protection.

The power gem for **CAPRICORN (12/22-1/19)** is the Garnet and has a natural star within the stone. A new Garnet stone, a clear green color, was discovered in Africa in 1969 and signifies constancy and fidelity. **AQUARIUS (1/20-2/18)** is the powerful gem of Amethyst whose violet color ranges from soft grey orchid to strong reddish purple called Siberian. It is the only gemstone found in quantity. Many Monarchs admired this gem and its power. Put it under your pillow to bring about pleasant dreams, use it in a room to bring healing and overcome negativity. Wearing it overcomes drunkenness. The next, **PISCES (2/20-3/20)** claims Jade as its power stone. Jade

is found in a number of colors and the Chinese regards jade as the Jewel of Heaven. The finest shade of jade is the rare green *Imperial* color, used as early as 10,000 B.C. The last Empress of China, had a vast collection of hundreds of thousands of pieces of this precious color. In China Jade bracelets are handed down from generation to generation because of the luck it is said to bring the wearer.



For the fire sign of **ARIES (3/21-4/20)** your gem is the Diamond. The Greeks called the diamond Adamus, which means *unconquerable*. It is the hardest of known stones and is used today as the engagement ring stone, a symbol of strong trust and faithfulness. It comes in many colors, and like the light, it exudes all the colors of the spectrum, even the smallest chips, that can give you a sense of safety and protection. The **TAURUS (4/21-5/20)** gem is the Emerald, whose color ranges from blue to emerald green. The finest are mined in Colombia, and South Africa. Egypt's Cleopatra wore and used emeralds from her emerald mines in upper Egypt and the stone was the favorite of Empress Catherine the Great. It is also the gem thought to increase your memory and strengthens your eyes and is considered lucky for love. **GEMINI ((5/21-6/22)** is the Aquamarine stone, a clear, blue color that as the source of its name means *Water of The Sea* and holds within it all the beauty and unleashed powers of the sea. It is the gem known for travel, Sailors wore them as a protection from storms and wearing it is thought to increase your creative process, and also for mindful meditation. The translucent Pearl, the Queen of Gems, just like a tiny moon shape, is ruled



by **CANCER (6/23-7/22)**; It is chiefly from the Persian Gulf in the Sulu sea coast off Australia, and further, off the South Pacific Islands. Its size, shape, and color vary, and pearls are referred to several times in the Bible, and thought to be the tears of the Angels. Their nurturing power balances relationships and is known to convey a peaceful energy transmitted to the wearer. The ancient Ruby, rules **LEO (7/23-8/22)** this vibrant red color gem is second only in value to diamonds. It was the eighth stone on the breastplate of the High Priest Aaron, the brother of Moses. Wearing it, we understand through legend, can help in circulation, and bring love and romance into your life. It's also valued as a commodity in watchmaking and medical instruments. For the sign of **VIRGO 8/23-9/22)**, the beautiful stone is the Sapphire. Legend states that this gem lit Noah's ark during the great flood. Said to be the gem of your destiny, Buddhists believe it favors spiritual enlightenment. The scintillating flash of the Opal is assigned to **LIBRA (9/21-10/22)** and it even gave the language a new word, *opalescence*. There are four types of opals, white, black transparent, and common. No other gemstone has so many legends and superstitions, from blessings to disruptions, as seen in the delicacy of the stone.

Whatever your birth gems may be, wear them, feel their power, enjoy their beauty in good health and happiness. After all, they are a special gift from our Mother Earth and the Universe. **S**



Ellie Leeper Morrison with *The Society Diaries TV's* Tori Johnson

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TRENDING *EN POINTE*

Elaine Turner Hosts Fall Launch Event to Benefit Children's Ballet of San Antonio.

By *Ellie Leeper Morrison* Photography by *Greg Harrison*

Elaine Turner recently showcased its newest fall line with a launch hosted at their eponymous Alamo Heights store in San Antonio. Sipping champagne and snacking on hors d'oeuvres and desserts provided by Jen Human of Hey Girl Catering, the guests were on their toes as they shopped the latest in shoes and boots, apparel, jewelry, handbags, and outerwear.

The Children's Ballet of San Antonio was Elaine Turner's charity partner for the event and the store was buzzing with young ballerinas enamored by Elaine, as they tried on shoes and handbags they longed to fit into the future. Sandra Stephens, Regional Director for Elaine Turner, warmly welcomed guests and dedicated the nonprofit partnership of the evening to the organization while the Ballet's Founder and Artistic Director Vanessa Bessler was there to accept the gesture. The Children's Ballet of San Antonio (CBSA) seeks to inspire the pursuit of excellence and prepare children for productive and creative lives through dance by offering extensive training and performance opportunities for talented children from all backgrounds



Marjorie Tiller and Blanca Silva



Cecelia Weaver, Ashley Weaver and Sandra Stephens



Karla Phillips and Justice Luz Elena Chapa



Daniela Serna, Natalia Chapa, Vanessa Bessler and Isa Serna



Kelda Kapoor and Sanah Kapoor



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THAT PERSONAL TOUCH

How San Antonio's Saks Fifth Avenue Club Really Works.

By *Jake Gaines* Photography by *Greg Harrison*

A jewel box at the heart of Saks Fifth Avenue, The Fifth Avenue Club offers an unmatched level of personalized attention by focusing on your particular lifestyle. “The Fifth Avenue Club is open to anyone no matter how small or big the need - and it is completely free, shares Dennis Trammell, Vice President and General Manager of Saks Fifth Avenue in San Antonio. “You also have access to designers and brands not stocked on the floor. It is an amazing service.”

Whether you are a busy executive in need of a wardrobe; a mom at home; a bride-to-be planning a wedding or long honeymoon; or someone who travels the globe, the Fifth Avenue Club can anticipate and fulfill your every request.

The club's ultimate goal is to offer convenience to your shopping experience so that you may focus on the important things in life: family, career, social obligations and of course, leisure time. Most consultants have 10 or more years of selling experience in clothing and excel in understanding how to fit, drape and flatter a particular body type. Nona Barrick has been with the brand for 30 years muses, “In the Club, we like to have fun when we shop together. I try to have my fitting room personalized for each client, so if she only has twenty minutes we can accomplish her needs in a short time.”

Iris Hagy, the Club's Stylist Manager offers, “Saks Fifth Avenue Club consultants will anticipate and address your individual needs with an intuitive hands-on approach.” When we asked about the most unique experience that Evelyn Parrish, a Club consultant had encountered, she confided, “A client of mine asked me to call her new boyfriend in for a style overhaul because he did not have a wardrobe other than jeans and college T-shirts. He reluctantly came in to shop and a week later called me to schedule another appointment. This time was for more dress clothes and suits. Thanks to the store's approach, he realizes now he's just a better version of himself. This is just an example of how clothes can give us confidence.”

When asked what traits most signified the Saks Fifth Avenue Club experience, Barrick was quick to offer, “Private. Service. Fashion.”

Here are just a few of the little extras that a Saks Fifth Avenue Club client can expect:

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- Holiday planning, including organizing your gift list, planning wardrobe for holiday parties and suggesting favors, too.
- Gift-giving by helping keep track of important birthdays and anniversaries in your life.
- Invitations to special designer events and trunk shows.
- Cosmetic consultations.

So, what are you waiting for? Speak to a Saks Fifth Avenue Club representative about how you can benefit from the exclusive services.

For more information on the San Antonio Saks Fifth Avenue Club , call 210.341.4111.



Vicki Cavallero, Iris Hagy, Evelyn Parrish, Nona Barrick and Charmaine Gomez. Not pictured are Rosina Zollina and Jolie Berndt





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HOTEL EMMA: ENTICING & EVOCATIVE

San Antonio's Latest Gem Creates Exuberance.

Photography by *Nicole Franzen and Jason Risner*

THE NEW HOTEL EMMA IN SAN ANTONIO IS EQUAL PARTS architectural wonder, culinary marvel, and modern comfort mixed with bygone grandeur. In fact, Hotel Emma offers a luxury escape like no other.

From the moment you enter the grounds of the historic, former Pearl Brewery headquarters, as the valet greets you at the colonnade of industrial beams - you'll know you've stepped into another world. Across the original brick terrace, the front desk staff waits to welcome you and deliver your luggage to your guest room while you enjoy a complimentary smoky La Babia margarita in our grand lobby. In one of several seating areas designed with vintage furniture and carpets from around the world, you can relax and leaf through our curated art books, plan museum and cultural destinations, or just take in the turn-of-the-century exposed brick walls, original beamed wood, and pressed tin ceilings.

When you're ready to visit your guest room, you'll find that each is uniquely decorated for your relaxation and enjoyment. Hotel Emma offers 146 guest rooms, including top-floor suites that feature private terraces, two stories, and custom-built mesquite dining tables. Luxurious Frette linens ensure a great night's sleep and the guest bathrooms are fitted with custom tiles, porcelain vanities, and brass fixtures. Many guest rooms offer cast-iron claw foot tubs and all offer Malin + Goetz toiletries.

Whether you're staying for one night or one week, for a solo retreat, a romantic weekend, or a celebration with friends, your stay at Hotel Emma will be a memorable one. The only thing you need to choose is which experience you'd like.

Intimate Getaway

Enjoy the late afternoon glow from your room's private terrace while reading about the many restaurant options that make Pearl one of the top culinary destinations in the country. With more than 15 chef-led

restaurants within walking distance, many of them born from the Culinary Institute of the America, it won't be easy to decide; you could spend a week at Hotel Emma and never dine at the same place twice.

Before dinner, unwind at Hotel Emma's bar and clubroom Sternewirth (named for the brewery's Sternewirth Privilege, which entitled employees of 19th Century breweries to free beer during the workday). Enjoy an aperitif of a craft beer, a glass of wine, or a classic cocktail. Signature creations include *The Three Emmas*, an ambrosial mix of gin, gran classic, apricot, and absinthe. Sternewirth offers an ambiance tableau to suit whatever your mood with an immense roaring fireplace, oversized Kilim-upholstered armchairs, Moroccan leather ottomans, and vintage chairs tucked into a private corner.

When you're ready for dinner, amble through the Pearl neighborhood and find the restaurant that meets your cravings. There are epicurean offerings from Italy to Mexico, Peru to Texas' own barbecue. Too difficult to decide? Let the concierge guide you to acclaimed Chef John Brand's epicurean delight, Supper. Located on the ground floor of Hotel Emma, Chef Brand's menu presents fresh seasonal greenmarket cuisine that melds deliciously with South Texas' multicultural inspirations. After your meal, take a walk along the banks of the San Antonio River and check out the impressive art installations forged along the winding way.

Sleep in the next morning and order in-room dining or put together a breakfast picnic at Larder - a South Texas food store with a soupçon of Euro-sophistication. Hotel Emma offers Electra bikes for guest use during your stay and they're a great way to see downtown San Antonio and the wealth of museums and galleries the city has to offer. In the afternoon, sit back in the Hotel Emma lobby with a beer and a book from the hotel library, or relax in your room with a beverage and snack from your personal "Ice Box," an homage to the South Texas watering hole that features local libations and treats.

WEEKEND WITH FRIENDS

Hotel Emma offers two-story suites with private terraces, the perfect escape for a group of friends to celebrate a special occasion or simply reconnect. Enjoy cocktails in your suite, or join friends at the Sternewirth for a game of pool or reserve one of the popular repurposed cast-iron tanks; friends love to gather in the curved banquette seating. Sample the delicious snacks prepared by the kitchen and try the classic cocktails or a flight of local craft beers.

Hotel Emma has numerous courtyards and guest spaces to explore, each offering something unique - vaulted ceilings, original Redondo Mexican tile, carved wood fireplaces, and the fine provisions at Larder. You could easily spend an afternoon just marveling at the bespoke brass, bronze, and blown-glass chandeliers. Sightsee the hotel at your leisure and don't forget to stop by Hotel Emma's fabulous exhibition kitchen.

For dinner, sit outside on the veranda of the restaurant, enjoying the light breeze and the twinkling lights reflecting off the San Antonio River while relishing the delicious, creative fare. Celebrating a milestone or just a fun reunion? Reserve the private dining room, and because a getaway with friends is an occasion to indulge, order one of each of the desserts and try them all. You won't regret it.

FAMILY VACATION

Traveling with family isn't always easy, so let Hotel Emma make it so for you. Enjoy a walking breakfast from one of San Antonio's top bakers at the producers-only Pearl Farmers Market where vendors provide fresh, local, and seasonal products that they themselves planted, raised, and harvested. Visit the variety of Pearl shops and then head to the Hotel Emma rooftop pool - the perfect spot to spend your afternoon swimming, reading, or gazing out across the San Antonio River. Order your meals poolside, or come down to supper for the best burger in town. After dinner, enjoy a long, relaxing bath in the claw foot tub while the kids watch a movie on the 48" HD television.

BUSINESS IN STYLE

There's no better place to celebrate a business deal than seated at the Sternewirth bar.

Beyond that, with multiple meeting and outdoor spaces from which to choose, each designed with a refined/industrial look to accommodate abundant natural light, Hotel Emma is the ideal place to mix business with pleasure. A selection of quiet, urbane spaces can accommodate from 20 to 240 guests and Chef and Culinary Director John Brand provides incomparable catering services or you can reserve the private dining space at Supper. Hotel Emma can accommodate a variety of business and social functions - from weddings, to work retreats, business meetings, to cocktail receptions. Just let them know what you need.

THE RETREAT

Ah...a solo retreat at Hotel Emma is a personal favorite for internal recharging.

Curl up with that book you've been dying to read but haven't had the time for in one of the oversized armchairs in the lobby. When you're ready to stretch your muscles, swim a few laps in the pool or work up a sweat in the 24-hour fitness center. After a nice, warm shower, put on the in-room robe

tailored by renowned Guayabera designer Dos Carolinas. Have a seat at the custom-made mesquite table in your guestroom and handwrite letters to friends and family.

After dinner, enjoy a walk through the historic Pearl, imagining how it looked as it did as a 19th century brewery. If you didn't have dessert, enjoy a sweet treat at Lick Honest Ice Creams or the Parisian macarons at Bakery Lorraine.

Back at Hotel Emma, stop by the Sternewirth bar for a nightcap. Strike up a conversation with new friends on one of the communal buffalo leather-covered sofas, or just people-watch and enjoy the warm glow of light from the fireplace. Before heading to bed, visit the Hotel Emma Library and pore over the literary treasures that make up the extensive 3,700-piece book collection acquired from storied novelist and cultural anthropologist Sherry Kafka Wagner. The cast-iron spiral staircase takes you up to the floating mezzanine with sliding library ladders, or get cozy in one of the seating vignettes.

In the morning, visit the lobby for a complimentary slow-pour drip coffee and fresh-baked muffin or sticky bun while you read the newspaper, or write in your journal. Before you leave, stock up on freshly-prepared foods and other goodies at Larder for the trip home and don't forget to visit Curio, our gift shop for locally sourced treasures such as those signature robes - the perfect way to remember your time at Hotel Emma when you return home.

However you choose to spend your stay, it will be a visit you'll never forget. More than an ideal getaway, Hotel Emma is a grand style destination you'll want to return to again and again.





Michelle Mitchell and Emily McMichael



Michelle Cook and Myra Farret

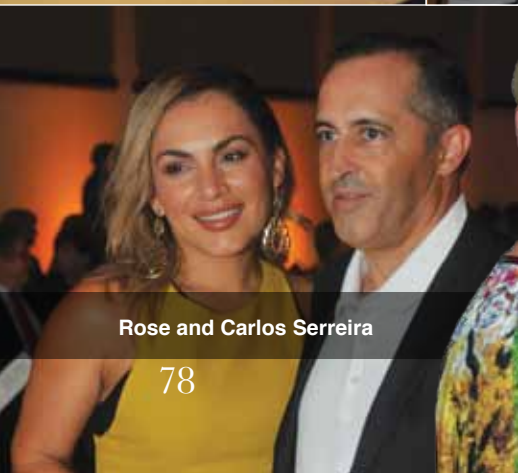
BOARDWALK EMPIRE

Julian Gold And The McNay Art Museum Team For Fashionable Event.

By Shannon Turner Photography by Greg Harrison

San Antonio's long-treasured gem, The McNay Art Museum, set the stage for a night of fashion and fun for contemporary art patrons as they discovered the newest fall fashions presented by Julian Gold. In addition to the fabulous style show, guests spent the evening enjoying cocktails on the boardwalk so to speak, taking in a private viewing of the museum's summer exhibition, *Coney Island: Visions of an American Dreamland 1861-2008*. Proceeds for the event benefit the McNay's acquisition fund for contemporary art.

Event sponsors were JetLinx the personal jet company, Bucay Center for Dermatology and Aesthetics, Sinclair Broadcast Group, and Genaro Design. The McNay was built by artist and educator Marion Koogler McNay in the 1920s. Her Spanish Colonial Revival residence became the site of Texas's first museum of modern art when it opened in 1954. Today more than 134,000 visitors a year enjoy works by modern masters including Paul Gauguin, Vincent van Gogh, Edward Hopper, Georgia O'Keeffe, Pablo Picasso, Jackson Pollock, and Pierre-Auguste Renoir.



Rose and Carlos Serreira



Abby Tolin and Connie McNab



Sharron Batchelor, Melissa Gonzalez and Pamela Gilbert



Rowe and Sage Blount, Jennifer Martinson & Daniel Kearns



Glen and Carrie Huddleston & Renee Barreo



David Adams, Elizabeth Adams and Donna Adams



Carson Wolff and Melissa Crea



Eric Love



Kristen Upton, Lauren Moldowan and Ann Guerrero



Sherry Johnson, Melissa Unsel and Hannah Little



Kristan and Tom Northington

Daniela Oliver de Portillo, Mayra Farret de Peralta, Rebecca Noriega and Michelle Cook

PROMOTE



FALL SEASON FASHION FORECAST

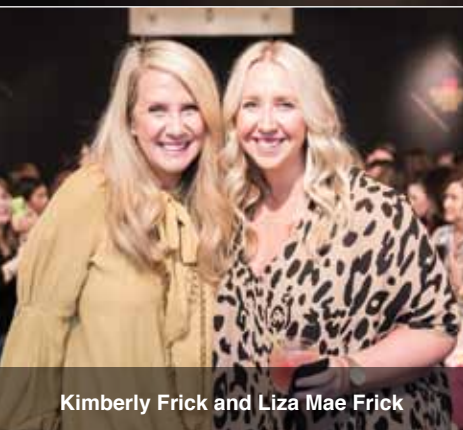
Neiman Marcus of San Antonio Shares Latest Trends

By *Ellie Leeper Morrison* Photography By *Candace Schaddelee*

Fashion was a fierce force on the runway at Neiman Marcus San Antonio as models unleashed the hottest looks of the season during their 2016 Fall Trend Event. The show featured the season's standout sartorial styles, according to the store: bold gold accents, florals, velvet, the color berry, and more.

Neiman Marcus Public Relations Manager Xitlalt Herrera-Salazar presented the fashion show, narrating the details of each trend. The onsite Mariposa Restaurant catered fashion-inspired hors d'oeuvres and served chic cocktails crafted around the 'berry' color trend of the season.

After the show, beauty experts from Le Metier De Beaute and Cle De Peau made sure ladies walked away with on-trend luscious berry colored lips, and Creed launched their exclusive fragrance, Aventus for Her.



Kimberly Frick and Liza Mae Frick



Debbie Poole and Lourdes Daguerra-Tuten



Lisa Wolff and Carson Wolff



Orlando and Aquila Mendez-Valdez



Sylvia Garza Hogue, Rocio Heller and Semon Tam



Adriana De La Garza and Gabrielle De La Garza

LAP OF LUXURY

BCM Magazine Of Monterrey Hosts The Luxury Good Weekend For First Time in U.S.

By *Ellie Leeper Morrison* Photography by *Greg Harrison*

BCM magazine from Monterrey, Mexico, in affiliation with Asociación de Empresarios Mexicanos (AEM) hosted its first annual weekend-long luxury event extravaganza, The Luxury Good Weekend, in San Antonio. The weekend offered experiences ranging from golf, to fashion, polo, and cuisine, in partnership with the Dominion Country Club, the La Cantera Resort & Spa, Neiman Marcus, the San Antonio Polo Association, and Mexican guest chefs Alberto Sentías and Alfredo Villanueva.

The weekend began with The Hole-in-One Challenge at the Dominion Country Club, where players were entered to win a luxury car and a bevy of snazzy prizes. The next experience was a fashion show at La Cantera Resort & Spa presented by Neiman Marcus. The store's Public Relations Manager Xitlalt Herrera-Salazar curated and presented the sleek show for 300 guests, highlighting the hottest haute trends for autumn.

Guests at the show enjoyed a festival of Mexican Northwestern contemporary cuisine prepared by the guest chefs from Monterrey and the chefs from La Cantera Resort & Spa. For the weekend's finale, the San Antonio Polo Association hosted guests for a polo match between USA and Mexico and featured an on-site automotive, real estate, and luxury services expo.

The AEM elected to donate 50% of the proceeds from the tickets to the weekend's fashion show to the Boys and Girls Club of San Antonio and to Club Niños y Niñas de Nuevo León in order to raise awareness of their noble causes on both sides of the border.



The Luxury Good Weekend at La Cantera Resort & Spa



Tiffany Rea, Michelle Robertson, Daniela Brunet & Paul and Maru Brunet



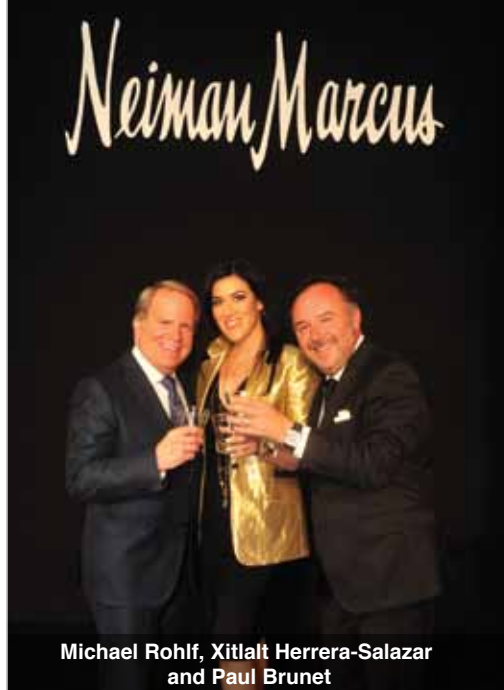
Megan Perez and Trudy Madan



Jorge and Claudia Segovia



Ursula Pari, Lisa Watel and Paul Harris



Michael Rohlf, Xitlalt Herrera-Salazar and Paul Brunet



Beverly Rohlf and Sharron Batchelor



Erica Sloan and Natalia Narvaez



Melissa Alvarez and Sylvia Hogue





DE LACHICA & SON



C.M. De Lachica



DE LACHICA & SON location

HOW NOTEWORTHY

De Lachica & Son Creates Correspondence Glamour.

By *Jake Gaines* Photography courtesy of *De Lachica & Son Showroom*

“Ever since I can remember I’ve been an admirer of premium quality stationery,” says fine stationer DE LACHICA & SON’s founder Carlos de Lachica. “Bespoke stationery speaks about who we are at our best. Now, when our writing instrument comes in contact with fine paper and bleeds our thought process through its cotton fibers it conveys that we care to create and evoke the perfect sentiment. The art of writing on beautiful paper reflects our personality and generates attention and appreciation.”

With the firm’s fine stationery comes their love and discerning eye for things, pieces, and symbols that speak powerfully and to that tell the story of excellence in craftsmanship and their place of prominence steeped in history. Coupled with their love for beautiful things de Lachica comes from a family that expects perfection and precision, and most of all, attention to detail. It is that same attention to detail in the selection of his stationery and luxury gifts that is a feast for the eyes.

The company has traveled the world to carefully curate the finest stationery products and luxury goods that meet their high standard for excel-

lence. “We exist for our customers,” states de Lachica, who is based at 311 Roosevelt Avenue at the historic Roosevelt Library building in San Antonio. “They are treated to a memorable and extraordinary environment. We provide counsel on written etiquette and project management. Our goal is to exceed the expectations that our clients have come to expect.”

Along with their attention to detail, the company’s concierge service is devoted to paying attention to the details that are important to their clients. That includes constant communication, providing same-day delivery within the San Antonio area and shipping purchases to destinations in the United States. They can assemble invitations or announcements that include inner envelopes, response correspondence, tissue overlay on each component of the invitation, the integration of ribbon when desired... and postage. They also address any appropriate components with printing, handwriting, or calligraphy. We serve our clients by managing their invitation or announcement guest list and responses with the utmost discretion.

DE LACHICA & SON carries the finest brands such as Crane & Co. and Dempsey and Carroll Stationery Engravers, as well as one of the most prestigious and world-renowned line of candles, Cire Trudon, the royal candle makers of France since Louis XIII. At DE LACHICA & SON the most perfect stationery and gift selection awaits your holiday shopping. For more information, visit DeLachicaAndSon.com

Control your environment.

Your home is your personal environment, control it with smart home automation.

Amazon Alexa now integrates with Control4 for hands-free control of lighting, lighting scenes, and thermostats without the need for drivers or programming. Your expertise will be required to add more complex scenes that include entertainment, security, shading and more.

A particularly unique aspect of Control4 and Amazon Alexa is the coordination of all connected devices in a home for a truly personalized homeowner experience with solutions to maximize your comfort, convenience, entertainment and peace of mind.

While there are many smart products available today, it isn't until these devices work together in orchestration that you experience the magic of a smart home automation. Control4 delivers power and performance in one platform that coordinates the technology in your home into complete, brilliant experiences—interactions that fit your lifestyle and are easy for your family to enjoy.

With one touch, dim the lights, stream high-resolution music, turn up the heat, lock the doors and arm the security system. Or, check in on your home no matter where you are.

And now, through the power of the Amazon Echo, you can control virtually everything in your Control4 system with the sound of your voice—just ask Alexa. It's easy to automate your home using Control4 and voice commands.

Just imagine being able to turn on music you love, have the room at just the right temperature, the lights low and all the doors secure just by asking for it all to happen.

That's true convenience, that's smart home automation.



“With one touch, dim the lights, stream high-resolution music, turn up the heat, lock the doors and arm the security system. Or, check in on your home no matter where you are.”

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Linda Pace (1945-2007)

PROMOTE



PADDLES UP

Linda Pace Foundation Auction Of Founder's Estate Continues Legacy Of Contemporary Art.

By *John Bloodsworth* Photography courtesy of *Vogt Auction Gallery*

Want to be a part of a legendary and artful endeavor? The Linda Pace Foundation will be hosting a legacy auction of furniture and personal effects from the estate of its founder, Linda Pace, internationally recognized artist, collector and philanthropist. On Dec. 3rd and 4th, the auction will begin at 1PM each day in the San Antonio headquarters of Vogt Auction Gallery, 7233 Blanco Rd. in San Antonio. The sale will also be featured live online at VogtAuction.com/pace.

Art patroness Linda Pace (1945-2007) was driven by the belief that art is a vital social force. As a collector she gathered hundreds of contemporary artworks into a personal and expressive collection, which reflects many of the critical strands of recent art. She boldly fostered the work of today's most adventurous artists through the founding of Artpace San Antonio. Since Pace's death in 2007, her Camp Street condominium has been maintained by the Linda Pace Foundation, located in San Antonio. The condominium is being sold as the Foundation prepares for its eventual move to Ruby City, a 14,000 sq. ft. art exhibition space that will be built on Camp Street and is slated to be complete in late 2018.

"We are excited and thankful for the opportunity to partner with the Linda Pace Foundation to celebrate Ms. Pace's legacy at this landmark auction event, and invite all who were touched by her life to participate," said Rob Vogt, Director of Vogt Auction Galleries. The auction will include fine mid-century and modern furnishings by Eames, Saarinen, Knoll, Egg, Paola Lenti, Minotti Moore, Alvar Aalto, BABA Design, Living Divani, B & B Italia, and others. Antique furniture, fine carpets and rugs, sterling silver serving pieces including Tiffany, William Spratling and Georg Jensen will also be included in the historic auction.

In addition, ceramic, crystal, and ivory serving pieces, art glass, glass serving pieces, cookware and fine appliances will be up for auction. Fine and costume jewelry, books, and household items will complete the inventory of more than 400 lots to be auctioned. No foundation artwork is for sale and proceeds from the auction will support the mission of the Linda Pace Foundation which Linda herself defined. The Linda Pace Foundation is tasked with preserving, exhibiting and growing the Foundation's extensive art collection, operating CHRISpark and SPACE Gallery, and creating community exhibitions and programming around contemporary art.

PROMOTE

BIG & GRAND

The Collections By The University Of Texas At Austin.

We love a good read, especially one that is as sweeping as Texas itself. Spotighting more than 80 collections in very diverse fields, this extensively illustrated volume showcases the unparalleled quality and range of the holdings of the University of Texas at Austin. In fact, it's the perfect gift for any Texan, or Texan far away, that you know and love. \$125. At UTPress.com



THE ARTIST'S WAY

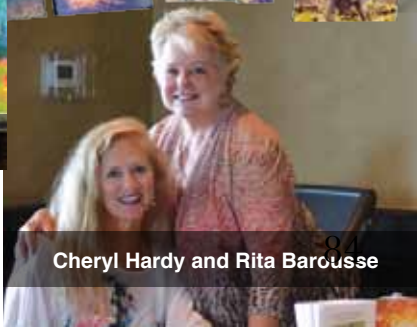
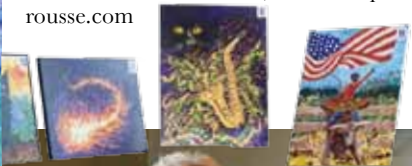
Central Texas Artist Philip Barousse Holds Art Auction Supporting PTSD

Recently at the Steiner Ranch Steakhouse in Austin, local impressionist artist Philip Barousse held an art auction of selected pieces from his large collection of paintings. Half of the proceeds were donated to help veterans suffering with PTSD. After the auction Barousse was honored for his generosity and his military service during the Vietnam War with an army bayonet mounted on a wooden plaque including a brass plate honoring the fundraiser, with Phil's name, Navy rank and years served in Vietnam.



Philip Barousse

Speakers during the event included Julie Oligschlager, who lost her son Chad to PTSD, and Dr. Tanya Glenn, who donates her time treating veterans with PTSD. It's estimated that every day, approximately 22 veterans die by suicide from the effects of PTSD. Barousse felt it was not only his duty, but also a privilege to help his comrades-in-arms by hosting this event. For more information on Barousse's work, visit PhilipBarousse.com



Cheryl Hardy and Rita Barousse



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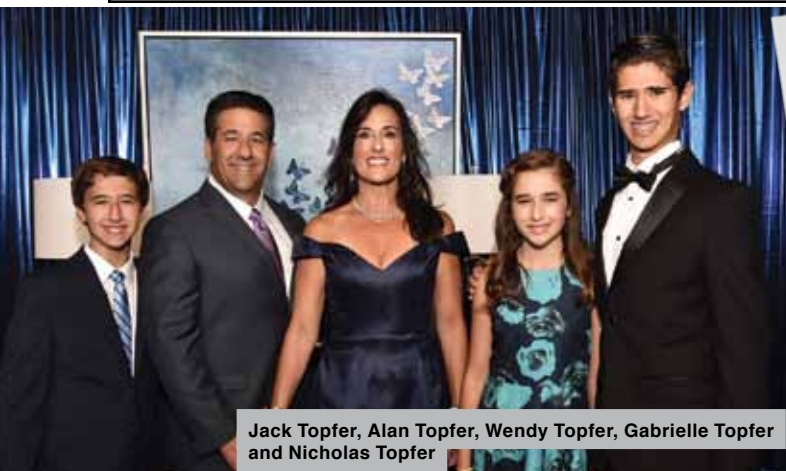
Mort Topfer's Birthday Soirée Focuses On Family, Friends & Music

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Joan Fuller and Charles Quinn Photography

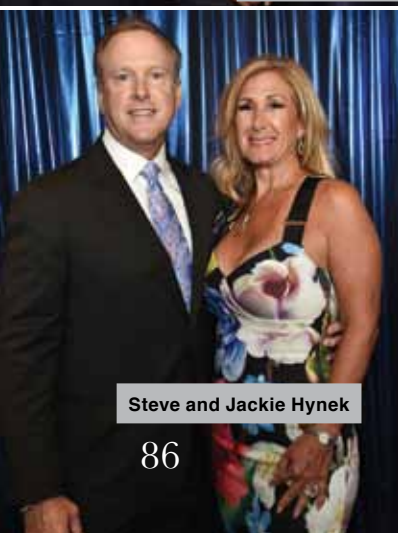
Earth Wind and Fire

THE SCENE:

Over the course of two evenings, the first at Austin's W Hotel, the second at the ZACH Topfer Theatre and Bobbi Pavilion, a group of approximately 225 people from Austin, and many national and international ports of call, celebrated a man who has touched the lives of so many. Inspired by the Sinatra era, tech tycoon Mort Topfer's 80th birthday bash was a two-night tour de force of family, food, friends, fun, heart-warming tributes...capped off with an incredible serenade by one of the world's most beloved bands, Earth Wind & Fire.



Jack Topfer, Alan Topfer, Wendy Topfer, Gabrielle Topfer and Nicholas Topfer



Steve and Jackie Hynek



Bobbi and Mort Topfer with their grandchildren, nieces and nephews



Bonnie and Rich Newell



Jade Ausley, Mort Topfer, Ronda Gray, Mindy Brown and Cica Fleiner



Nicholas Topfer performs



Bobbi Topfer, Judy Houchins and John Brinkley



Frances Cohen and Mort Topfer



Mort and Bobbi Topfer, David Kurio, Victoria Hentrich and Jennifer Hentrich



Placecard Installation



Richard and Kelly Topfer

THE VIBE:

The magical weekend culminated with a spectacular celebration on Saturday evening at ZACH Theatre's Bobbi Pavilion where the celebrity dream team of Creative Consultants' Victoria Hentrich and Jennifer Hentrich, floral designer David Kurio and Townsley Designs created a welcoming environment as a warm and inviting space.

The second evening's festivities began as guests entered ZACH Theatre's Topfer Theatre Lobby, where they were treated to a series of acrobats and dancers draped in blue and white, the evening's theme colors, amongst a mix of sleek white seating areas surrounded by thousands of white orchids. The stunning backdrop of blue liquid lame, all amongst dozens and dozens of blue and white ginger jar vases provided the setting for party-goers who wished the birthday honoree many happy returns, and Topfer duo for creating such an incredible experience that would, like the celebrant, be remembered fondly. Since it was a family affair, Mort's grandson Nicholas Topfer serenaded the crowd with this Sinatra-esque crooning of *Feelin' Good*.

Then it was onto the Bobbi Pavilion, where the immaculately decorated tent that was inspired by Bunny Mellon, the legendary New York horticulturalist and philanthropist, immediately transported guests to a Brooklyn rooftop terrace overlooking the Manhattan, an homage to the Brooklyn-born birthday boy. As guests were seated for a world class, five-star dinner catered by the Four Seasons Hotel, the meal was peppered with a series of heartwarming tributes to those closest to Mort, including his loving wife Bobbi and his four children, all conveyed with love and gratitude. Then, the icing on the cake, literally, was the individual vanilla birthday cakes with raspberry marmalade filling, and a blue and white butter cream frosting that was presented by eight chorus girl dancers in full headdress costumes.

As dinner concluded, the VIPs in attendance strolled back inside the theatre for a musical performance by the legendary Earth Wind & Fire, who belted out all of their classic tunes to the mesmerized crowd who often sang word for word to the songs that are the epitome of fun. After the performance, guests gathered in the Topfer Theatre lobby, where the party went on well into the evening, guests dancing the night away and celebrating a man and his accomplishments.



Charlie and Cathy Amato, Bev Golden & Ken Trevett

STARS & STRIPES SOIRÉE

President's Gala Honors Military Community

By *Jason Grosgrain* | Photography by *Greg Harrison*



Mollie and Bartell Zachry



Rebecca Husain and Dr. Adil Husain

THE SCENE:

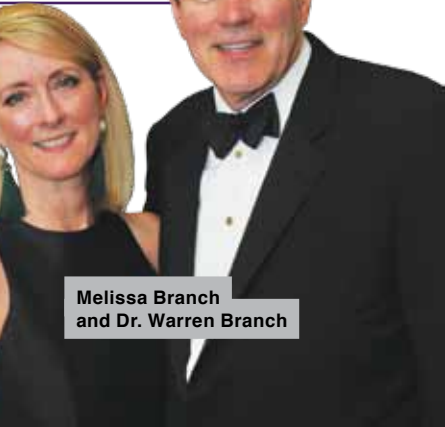
More than 1,100 glittery gowned women, men in tuxedos and leaders of our military in dress uniforms and regalia attended the 9th Annual President's Ball honoring San Antonio's UT Health Science Center and its dedication to military healthcare initiatives. The crowd mingled over pre-gala cocktails and then entered a dinner club ambience that gave a nod towards patriotism with marine-blue sequined tablecloths and lily and rose centerpieces. The head table lined the middle of the room, and guests were greeted by a full video wall of star spangled banners and video stories by staff, faculty and members of active duty, reserves, and retired military. The evening was dedicated to honoring the stories of dedication, commitment and the honor of serving in the military and the honor of serving patients.



Mary Henrich, Dr. William Henrich and Emily Meister



Charles Smith and Daniella Carrasco



Melissa Branch and Dr. Warren Branch



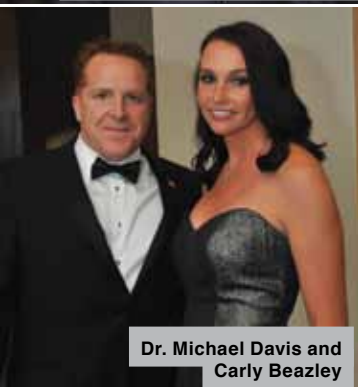
Dr. Andrea Giuffrida, Chancellor Bill McRaven and Georgina McRaven



Dr. Ian Thompson and Donna Thompson



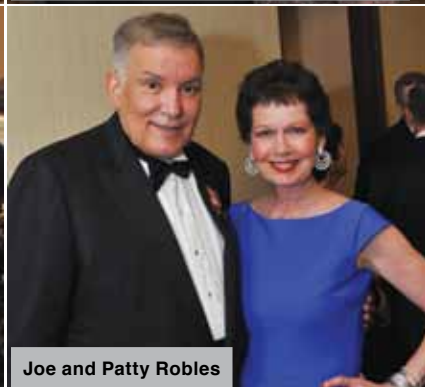
Ian and Colleen Makey



Dr. Michael Davis and Carly Beazley



Gretchen and Lance Lahourcade



Joe and Patty Robles



Clyde and Paula Johnson



Renee and Art Flores



Shari and Manny Ortiz



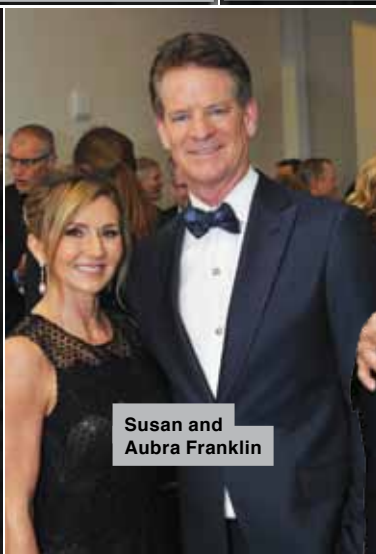
Michael Minter, Dr. Jennifer Potter and Richard Gallaway



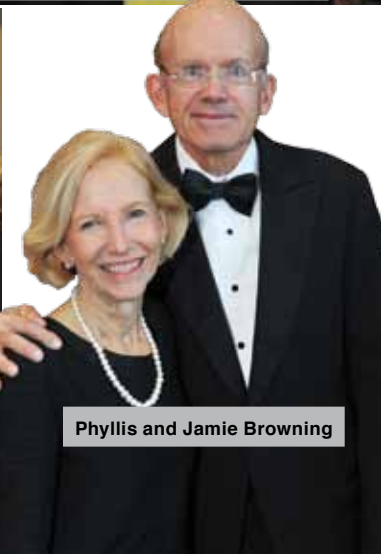
Jake and Mary Stork & Valerie and Ken Goodman



Suzanne and James Goudge



Susan and Aubra Franklin



Phyllis and Jamie Browning

THE VIBE:

Honoring Major General Joe (USA Ret.) and Patty Robles, Health Science Center President William L. Henrich, MD acknowledged the Robles' service to the nation, San Antonio's military community and USAA – Gen. Robles served USAA as president and CEO from 2007 until his retirement in 2015. Emphasizing the Health Science Center's dedication to improving the health and well-being of military personnel, veterans and families, President Heinrich announced that gala proceeds will establish the Joe and Patty Robles Chair, dedicated to support innovative medical research, health education and clinical care that enhances and nurtures military collaborations.

A video featuring community leader Marty Wender illustrated the impact of the partnership between the Health Science Center and the U.S. Army Institute for Surgical Research. Wender, who sustained life-threatening injuries in an accident, thanked his medical providers for their life-saving intervention. In 2014, the Health Science Center formalized its decades-long relationship with the military by establishing the Military Health Institute.

THE CAUSE:

Chancellor Bill and Georgeanne McRaven were the honorary chairs. According to its vision statement, the Military Health Institute will be the nation's leader in health-related academic collaborations that improve the health and resiliency of the nation's military service members, veterans and their families. Proceeds from the gala will establish an endowment in honor of Joe and Patty Robles for the Health Science Center's Military Health Institute, which will benefit the institute in perpetuity.

FAIRYTALES CAN COME TRUE

Ballet Austin's Fête And Fête*ish Dazzle With Announcement Of Major New Endowment

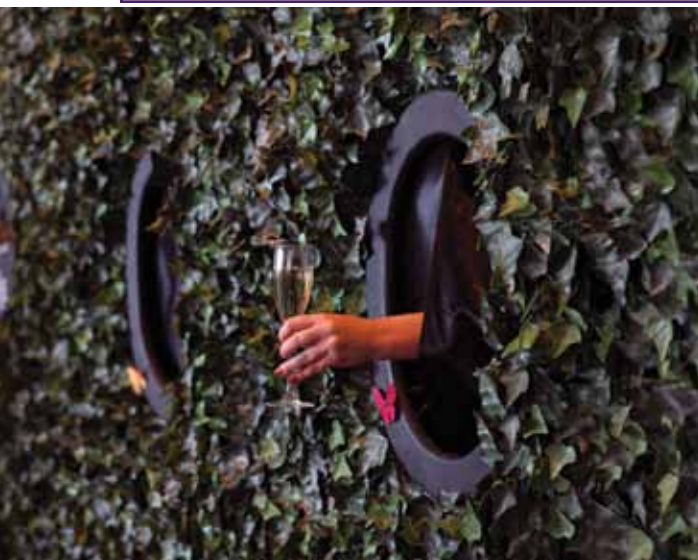
By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Anne Bloodgood, Jennifer Hoger and John Pesina



Justin Schmidt, Weston Lipscomb, Jair Gonzalez and Jennifer Williams

THE SCENE:

Over 600 of Austin's Sociables rub elbows to launch the social season as they arrived at the JW Marriott for an evening of full of *Alice In Wonderland*-themed décor. Dazzled by what they encountered, Ballet Austin's Fête and its accompanying after-party fête*ish, delivered an evening of lively festivities that coincided with a major new program that will further establish Austin as a regional and national destination for the performing arts.



Alex Ladage, Beverly Dale and Jeff Coddington



Cookie Ruiz and Sarah Butler



Marla Bommarito Crouch



Alejandro and Ana Ruelas



TJ Mathias and Meghan Runstetter



Manuel and Cassandra Polidori, Patricia King, Priscilla King and Julian Goodwin Ferris



Victoria Avila and Roy Sosa



Ray and Jeanne Mashburn



Jessie Katz and Andy Means



Jax Whittington, Vanessa Mejia and Elena Evans

THE VIBE:

From the moment guests ascended the escalator to the foyer outside of the grand ballroom, they could feel the sense of magic and wonder in the air in high anticipation of the night ahead. As guests sipped on cocktails and mingled through the impeccably dressed black-tie crowd, they could ring a bell against a giant wall of ivy to obtain champagne from the hands that sticking out of the ivy for a creatively served beverage. Just like in Alice's dreams.

The festivities then turned to the ballroom where attendees, after walking through an intimate forest-like entry, strolled into beautifully decorated ballroom beyond the imagination of any childhood wonderscape. The dinner was a scrumptious meal fit for kings and queens, with the evening's program that featured a robust live auction. The big news of the evening was the incredible announcement of a \$3 million dollar donation by Dr. Ernest and Sarah Butler for the newly created Butler New Choreography Endowment, with a balloon drop to commemorate the generous gift. Afterward, the door between the Fête and fête*ish ballrooms opened with the party continuing well into the night as guests danced the night away in style – the perfect way to cap off a fairytale evening.



Cookie Ruiz, Sarah Butler, Stephen Mills, Jeff Coddington and Ernest Butler



Rich Cleary and Cristina Fisher



Ben Woods and Preston Patterson



Jeremy Rathke, Orlando Julius Canova and Cassia Wilson



Karen Steakley, Stuart Selig, Will Steakley and Lara Selig

THE CAUSE:

Ballet Austin Fête, chaired by Jeff Coddington and Beverly Dale and fête*ish chaired by Jessie Katz and Andy Means raised over \$410,000 for Ballet Austin programs providing exceptional artistic programming, arts education and access to residents of Central Texas and beyond.

FASHION X HONOR

4th Annual Fashion X Dallas Honors Style Setters Who Support The Dallas Community

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Shana Anderson, Gregg Cestaro and Danielle Ellis

THE SCENE:

Dallas' Fashion Industry Gallery was recently the setting for three evenings of runway collections, drawing nearly 2,000 fans of Dallas fashion and style elite. The 4th annual Fashion X Dallas, presented by Cadillac, featured a dazzling array of beautiful fall fashion collections, all the while honoring some of Dallas' most stylish women who give back to the community they love.



Model Wearing Chloe Dao



Model wearing Ese Azenabor



Model wearing Alantude



Model wearing Vintage Martini



Heidi Dillon and Ralph



Linda Gray



Model wearing Daniel Esquivel



Jason and Brittanie Oleniczak



LeeAnne Locken and Steve Kemble



Ekaterina Kouznetsova and Michael Dylan



Kara and Matt Swinney



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Jane McGarry and Cynthia Smoot



Alli Heisler-Hansen and Jonathan Huo



Kylie Bolwitt and Amanda Valentine



TJ Emsley and Colby Braley

THE VIBE:

The welcoming vibe was felt each evening from the moment the members of Dallas' stilerazzi walked down the runway style sidewalk featuring various Cadillac models on display. Upon entering into the gallery, guests were able to pose for photos showcasing the mix of stylish cocktail and party chic attire on the red carpet. Guests then ascended the stairs to the second floor where they were greeted with champagne sponsored by Chloe wines. En route to the hip and happening VIP gifting lounge, fashionistas were able to view over 20 designers via pop-up boutiques showcasing the latest up and coming fashion trends before ultimately taking their seats for the main event: the runway collections.



Model wearing Binzario Couture



Model wearing Abi Ferrin



Model wearing Michelle Lesniak



Model wearing Suitsupply

These collections featured something for everyone... from the young to the young at heart. Collection upon collection impressed the stylish crowd with each designer's innovative and unique points of view and their interpretation of fashion. Each evening also added an element of giving back that included honoring the generous trend-setters in Dallas. The honorees were LeeAnne Locken and Steve Kemble on Thursday evening, Heidi Dillon on Friday evening, and Linda Gray on Saturday evening. Each of the honorees wore their most memorable looks from their closets, showcasing the effortless range of their impeccable style.

THE CAUSE:

Portions of the proceeds from the event benefitted local charities of the honorees' choice. Thursday evening honoring LeeAnne Locken and Steve Kemble benefitted AIDS Services of Dallas. Friday evening honoring Heidi Dillon benefitted the FGI Dallas Scholarship Fund. Saturday evening honoring Linda Gray benefitted the city's Assist the Officer Foundation.



Rob Giardinelli, Donaji Lira and Lance Avery Morgan



Lauren Coe and Austin Reid



Kylie Thomas and Sarah Haggard



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Mary Ann McKeithan, Kelli Cohen Fein and Chree Boydston

LEAVING A LEGACY

14th Annual Legacy Luncheon Raises Record Funds

By *Jennifer Roosth* | Photography by *Kim Coffman*



THE SCENE:

The grand foyer of the Wortham Theater was overflowing with pink roses and champagne as over 400 supporters of The Legacy Community Health Center attended the organization's 14th annual Legacy Luncheon honoring Dr. Kelli Cohen Fein. The sold-out event, chaired by Mary Ann McKeithan, raised over \$250,000 for The Legacy Community Health Center's Little Readers program.



Todd Fiscus, Dominique Sasche and Ceron



Tripp Carter and Martha Turner



Ileanna Trevino and Sheridan Williams



Phoebe Tudor and Y. Ping Sun



Danielle Ellis



Lacey Dalcour Salas and Shannon Simpson



Keith Dodd, Chree Boydston and John Pettiette



Barbara Van Postman and Leisa Holland Nelson



Nancy Pettiette and Dru Cone



George Lancaster



Joann Crassas and Penny Wright



Kirk and Beth Bruce



Ellen Cohen and Cyndy Garza Roberts



Mark and Christina Hanson, Beth Wolff and Sofia Androque



Melissa Schafer, Ryane Jackson, Cathy Easter, Summer Dajani and Erin Mulpur



Tony Bravo, Yvonne Cormier and Richard Weiner



Hallie Vanderhider and Fady Armanious



Rebecca Fein, Regina Rogers and Daniel Fein



Mario Elie, Gina Gaston & Kelli Cohen Fein and Martin Fein



Claire Cormier Thielke and Ginni Mithoff



Ray Purser, Katy Caldwell and Hon. Robert Gallefos

THE VIBE:

The vibe was one of sentiment and beauty. After mingling the crowd was welcomed by Legacy CEO Katy Caldwell and Legacy Chief Development Officer Chree Boydtun, who spoke of the organization's accomplishments of providing "health care in a judgement-free zone for over 125,000 patients." Chair Mary Ann McKeithan introduced a video tribute to Dr. Kelli Cohen Fein with cameos by Shelby Hodge, Phoebe Tudor, and Martin Fein, Kelli's husband, who spoke of her grace, service to the community, and professional accomplishments. To close, event emcee Dominique Sachse instructed a group of blazer-clad KIPP youngsters to walk around and collect donation cards.

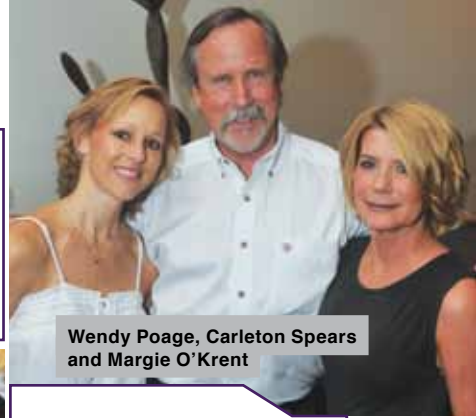
THE CAUSE:

Since 2015, over 26,000 books have been given to Legacy youngest patients with the inception the Little Readers program. HEB also announced its continuous support of the program through 2020. Legacy Health Center is a full-service, federally-qualified health center that has worked tirelessly for the past 35 years to make Houston healthier by serving disadvantaged populations. It was one of the earliest care centers with HIV/AIDS programming and more recently, preemptive messaging and preventative measures against the Zika virus within the region.

WESTERN FLAIR

Survivors And Local Celebs Appear At Ranch Chic Fashion Show

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



Wendy Poage, Carleton Spears and Margie O'Krent



THE SCENE:

The Rosenberg Sky Room at The University of the Incarnate Word once again set the stage for The American Cancer Society's Ranch Chic Fashion Show. Guests enjoyed cocktails and hors d'ouvres as they enjoyed fashions by Cavender's with jewelry provided by Kendra Scott. This year's presenting sponsors were Wrangler Jeans, Methodist Healthcare Cancer Network, Baptist Breast Center, Gentiva Hospital, Ariat Boots, Surgical Oncology Associates and San Antonio Jewelry.



Natalie Holland and Genevieve Holland



Bill Fisher



Michal Waechter, Debbie Margozewitz, Donna Muslin and Dixie George



Chelsea Hernandez



Sarah Lucero



Michelle Muslin Lipari and Terry Weilbacher



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THE VIBE:

The chic cowgirl theme was the order of the day for local celebrities and executives, as well professional models and cancer survivors alike, who brought life to the runway with true western flair. As Methodist Healthcare President/CEO Jaime Wesolowsky, a cancer survivor herself, said, «Many of the models [return] year after year. We have formed a bond. We are family. Thats what The American Cancer Society is all about.



Peter Suess with Model



Ashley Martinez, Joslyn Campbell and Sheri DeFina

THE CAUSE:

Founded in 2005 by a group of volunteers, the Ranch Chic Fashion Show was created to benefit the annual Cattle Baron's Gala and to raise awareness for The American Cancer Society.



Laura May Delagarza and Lori Wesolowsk

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Ava Late & Ben and Julie Crenshaw

TOUCHDOWN FASHION!

4th And Goal Gala Raises Record Funds For Darrell K. Royal Research Fund For Alzheimer's Disease

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by David Brendan Hall and Stacey Harrell

THE SCENE:

Two incredible events occurred recently in Austin, drawing celebrities and the social elite to a cause that is near and dear to many. Several hundred supporters raised funds for the Darrell K. Royal Research Fund for Alzheimer's Disease, known as the DKR Fund, in the memory of iconic University of Texas football coach. A series of events featured sport, fashion, and as some may say, "The Sport of Fashion." The first was an annual gala that drew a celebrity crowd, while the second was a fashion show co-hosted by Neiman Marcus and *The Society Diaries*, with all ticket proceeds going to the DKR Fund.



Wendell Mobley and Scotty Emerick perform



Rita Hortenstine and Dr. Andrea Haley



Pam and Ed Small



Sammye and Mike Myers



Claire Cavender, Lesley Ford and Gretchen Brice



DK Reynolds, Matthew McConaughey and Mike Reynolds



Laura and Steve Beurlein

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MBA, REALTOR®

Cynthia Marmolejo has experienced all aspects of real estate since she began her career in 1986 as an attorney for a local title company. She worked as a title closer in New York and as an assistant city attorney in the Real Estate Department of the City of San Antonio.

Her contract knowledge, combined with involvement in the property investment business, provide Cynthia a solid foundation to assist clients through the process of buying or selling a home. She has built a reputation based on effective problem solving and protecting her clients' best interests.



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Lindsay Smith and Amanda Beck



Victoria Strong, Edith Royal and Debbie Hanna



Lisa Williams, Ericka Johnson and Sharon Moorer



Martha Small Dyess and Taylor Harper



Dalton Young, Stefanie Moore, Lindsey Majors and Megan Matza



Meghan Stover and Holly Brown



Jennifer Carnes and Chris Hendel



Jamie Chandlee, Edith Royal and Jenna Leiker

THE VIBE:

Over 300 attendees arrived at the AT&T Conference Center ready for the annual 4th and Goal Gala where the guests donned their best Texas Chic style; cowboy hats blended seamlessly with cocktail attire. Guests were treated to a delicious meal, a live auction that raised over \$220,000, and a performance by four of country music's most prominent singers and songwriters: Paul Overstreet, Brett James, Scotty Emerick and Wendell Mobley. The highlight of the evening was a presentation by Academy Award-winner Matthew McConaughey, Hall of Fame Golfer Ben Crenshaw, and Mike Myers who presented Edith Royal with a \$500,000 donation for the Edith Royal Endowment for Research, Family Support and Education Fund.

The follow-up fundraising marathon continued as over a hundred of Austin's sociables descended upon Austin's Neiman Marcus store for a New York Fashion Week-quality fashion show by world-acclaimed designer Roberto Cavalli. The lunchtime affair featured light bites from Capital Grille, along with mimosas and other festive beverages. The fashion show featured Cavalli's Fall 2016 sportswear collection, curated by the store's Jennifer Carnes. Special remarks by Ava Late, Neiman Marcus General Manager Chris Hendel, and the magazine's Lance Avery Morgan offered a perfect complement to the spirit of the organization's efforts.

THE CAUSE:

The 4th and Goal Gala, chaired by Debbie Hanna and Ava Late, and the Roberto Cavalli Fashion Show at Neiman Marcus, chaired by Jamie Chandlee and Jenna Leiker, raised over \$1.3 million dollars for the Darrell K. Royal Research Fund for Alzheimer's Disease, an organization dedicated to raising awareness and funding research initiatives of Alzheimer's Disease throughout the state of Texas.



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MBA, REALTOR®



San Antonio native, Kate Parish Lanfear is one of Phyllis Browning Company's multi-million dollar producers with nearly 10 years of experience as a residential REALTOR®. Kate grew up in Terrell Hills with parents who are community leaders and entrepreneurs -- adding to her high level of integrity, creative service and regional market savvy.

Kate's reputation for protecting her client's best interests and effective problem solving began while serving 21 years as an international flight attendant and using her fluency in Portuguese. After graduating from the University of Texas at Austin, she went on to earn an MBA from Southern Methodist University with a focus on negotiations and business law, which now gives her an edge in helping her clients navigate the home buying and selling process.



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MBA, REALTOR®

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klanfear@phyllisbrowning.com



Carolyn Farb

HEAVEN SENT

Autism Rescue Angel's Fall Luncheon Surpasses Goals

By *Jennifer Roosth* | Photography by *Priscilla Dickson*



Estella and Randy Hale



Merritt Marinelli and Stacy Anderson



Leslie Mogil, Martha Rivera, Jenny Thompson, Penny Khuri and Lisa Graham Garza

THE SCENE:

Over 200 guests gathered at the Houston Racquet Club for Autism Rescue Angels' fall luncheon. Co-founders Lisa Graham-Garza and Penny Khuri both mothers of autistic children, welcomed the crowd and introduced honorary chair Carolyn Farb who has mentored the organization since its founding in 2014. Autism Rescue Angels provides financial assistance and resources to families raising children on the autism spectrum.



Shelbie Reed and Jess Rogers



Beth Stotts and Jamie Rodewalt



Jenny Thompson and Dr. Tami Swonigan



Elaine and Jim Turner



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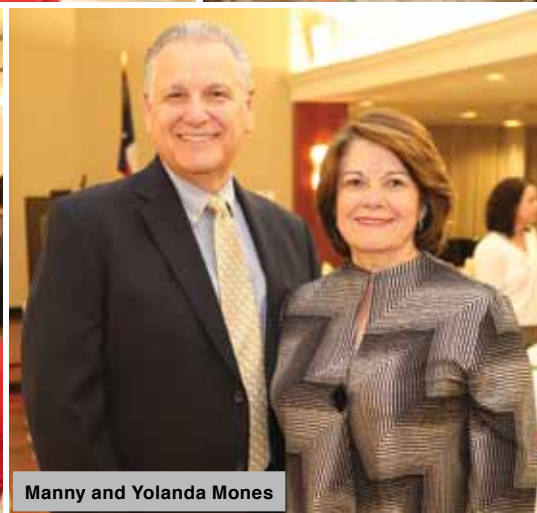




Shandy Moore, Kelly Clouser Lynn, Mia Gradney, Davonda Williams



Lauren Biggs, Leslie Moerer, Suzanne Martin



Manny and Yolanda Mones



Phyllis Chronowski, Dena Hyland, Sarah Chauvin and Anne Reardon



Steve Bohrer and Cynthia Reece



Claudia Sierra and Jennifer Roosth



Davonda Williams, Karen Tillman, Lynn Clouser Kelly, Mia Gradney, Robin Coleman Houston and Nicole Hadnott

THE VIBE:

The vibe of the event was profoundly moving as it raised funds and voices for Autism families. The entire event cost was underwritten by a “friend of the non-profit.” “Autism is the fastest growing disability in the U.S., yet it receives the least funding,” said Graham-Garza. “We know firsthand the struggles of raising children on the autism spectrum, and we are deeply grateful to our sponsors and donors who allow us to support other families struggling with this disability.” Estella and Randy Hale, recipients of Autism Rescue Angels support, gave a moving and inspiring speech about raising three children on the autism spectrum.

THE CAUSE:

While there was no charge to attend, over \$50,000 was raised from individual donors and sponsorships to support the non-profit’s mission to provide financial assistance to local Houston families raising children on the autism spectrum. Elaine Turner, a founding board member, donated a fabulous handbag from her new Fall collection as the door prize, and students from the Best Buddies Club at St Pius X High School volunteered their time to serve as event Ambassadors.

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The Age Of ENTERTAINMENT

From a late-night supper in Rome to making the scene in Gstaad, our ingénue is on the move to see new sites and climb higher heights... while dressed every inch the lady. Join us as we romp across the globe in satin and sumptuousness during the holiday season spreading cheer and mayhem.

Photography by MARK OBERLIN
Styling by DION "BLEU" DRAKE

Makeup by Julia Taylor using Make Up For Ever and Bite Beauty
Hair by Edson Ibarra using Joico and Matrix
Model: Coral Swindells, Two Management
Assistant Stylist: Beau Deron
Sittings Editor: Lance Avery Morgan





OIL THE PLACES YOU'LL GO

(Opposite) Dress by MIAU by Clara Rotescu at Mi-
aBoutique.ro. Earrings by Dori Csengeri at DoriCsen-
geri.com. Shoes by Liliana at Liliana.com

FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH

Top by Yen Designs at YenDesigns.co.za. Skirt by Jean
Fares Couture at JeanFaresCouture.com. Bracelet by
Jessica Elliot at JessicaElliott.com. Earrings by Cutting
Edge Archive at The Archive Showroom. Shoes by
Becki Coakley

HALL OF HONOR

Dress by Talbot Runhof at Julian Gold. Jacket by Faubourg Du Temple, Earrings by Dori Csengeri at DoriCsengeri.com

ENTER STAGE LEFT

(Opposite) Jumpsuit and skirt by Pedram Couture at PedramCouture.com. Earrings by Dori Csengeri at DoriCsengeri.com, Bracelet by Jessica Elliot at JessicaElliott.com. Shoes by Becki Coakley Ring by Cutting Edge Archives at The Archives Showroom. Shoes by AMI Clubwear at AMIClubwear.com







SHEER GENIUS

Gown by Joyce Pilarsky at
JoycePilarsky.com. Earrings by
Lynn Ban. Shoes by J. Maurice





THE WOMAN IN RED

Dress by Cati Dogaaru Atelier at CatiDogaaru.com. Coat by OTT Dubai at Byott.com. Bracelet, ring and earrings by Cutting Edge Archive at Archives Showroom. Shoes by AMI Clubwear at AMIClubwear.com

CURVE APPEAL

(Opposite) Gown by Parker at Julian Gold. Earrings by Erickson Beamon at EricksonBeamon.com. Shoes by Saint Laurent at Neiman Marcus





POUR ONE ON

Meticulously inlaid with ten exotic woods and gold and silver leaf, this mini bar is the epitome of glam design and modern style. \$31,339. At BocaDeLobo.com



ESTATE YOUR CASE

Whether it's new or estate jewelry, fine jewelry adds shiny new excitement to any collection. Priceless. At fine stores seen in this magazine.



TIME FLIES WHEN YOU'RE FABULOUS

This fun mid-century style clock has timeless style that's perfect for the office desk, mantel, or bedside table. \$490. At Design Within Reach.

THE MORE the merrier

The perfect gift? A surprise that surpasses your deepest desires. Our extraordinarily erudite editors *Alexandra Del Lago, Jake Gaines, Jason Grosgrain, Lance Avery Morgan and Jonathan Spindel* just can't keep their eyes off this year's most enticing items, which enrich your life this winter and all year, too.

LUMINOUS



TRAY ME NOW

Sleek and modern, these kaleidoscopic trays by Hay add a colorful touch to any meal or cocktail hour you share with family and friends. From \$15. At Hay.dk

THE TRUMAN SHOW

The gang's all here - Truman Capote, Tallulah Bankhead, Mia Farrow and Frank Sinatra.... Turn your living room into a party room with hand-painted accessories like this chic lampshade by Hayley Sarno. \$750. At HayleySarno.com



RADIANT



LIFE, IN AN INSTANT

Polaroid is back with new school cool. Instant printing and uploading to your favorite sites and apps makes this a fun present to use over the holidays and beyond. \$159. At retailers nationwide.

HEIGHTENED MASTERCLASS

An unforgettable experience is a gift that keeps giving. From learning to fly to racing Aston Martins in Las Vegas, make someone's dream come true. Priceless. At Cloud9Living.com



ELECTRIC'S NEW AVENUE

This top-of-the-line cruiser is inspired by Amsterdam's historic bikes, but includes all the modern upgrades. Get the electric version for a little extra zip. From \$1,300. At ElectraBike.com



KEEP COOL & CARRY IT ON

For jet setting or jaunts around town, carry this ultra-limited alligator bag by Zegna. With only ten made in the world, you'll be sure to stand out with this amazing accoutrement on your arm. \$25,900. At PurventOnline.com



AND SNAKE EYES IT LANDS

Vintage objects d'art make wonderfully unique gifts, like these 22k engraved gold dice by Jean Mahie. From art and jewelry to antique treasures, find the perfect gift. Priceless. At FD-Gallery.com



CUSHION THE BLOW

Inspired by Italy's Amalfi coast, this limited edition hand-painted cushion makes a perfect beach housewarming gift. \$295. At AlexandraDFoster.com

SECRET GARDEN

Display your home grown blooms in this charming Victorian style botanical garden kit that gives a wink to the 70s terrarium craze. \$35. At Another-Studio.com



SHIMMERING

FIT TO BE TIED

A scarf adds pizzazz to any outfit, especially when this 100% silk scarf from Italy, designed on the iconic Capri "piazzetta" design by Eco Capri is a part of your ensemble. \$300. At Riccio-Italy.com



I THINK, THEREFORE iPad

This abstract art iPad case by Burberry keeps your tech stylishly secure when you're on the go. From \$600. At Saks Fifth Avenue & Neiman Marcus.



HOW DO YOU DOODLE?

The latest version of the best-selling 3D printing pen, the 3Doodler Create lets you bring your imaginative masterpieces to life in full 3D color. \$99. At The3Doodler.com





GLASS ACT FOR ANYONE TO FOLLOW

These chic hand blown decanters feature hand-crafted sterling silver stoppers. Each piece looks great on its own, and even better as a set.

From \$1,980. At TheoFennell.com



QUITE COMPARTMENTALIZED, AREN'T YOU?

Bring that cashmere sweater vibe to your baubles and keep your jewelry in a box as exquisite as the treasures it contains. Crafted from glossed lime wood. From \$3,000.

At LoroPiana.com

NUMBER, PLEASE

The perfect functional décor for your vintage interior; this phone is a modern version of the classic and colorful 1960s style, complete with mechanical bell ringer. \$94.

At Amara.com



GLOWING



CAPRI, HERE WE COME

On your way to the resort? Don't forget this fun pair of shades, a quirky take on the classic cat eye shape by Lynda Farrow. Prices vary per pair. At Neiman Marcus.

RAINBOW CONNECTION

Wear a splash of color with this bag by Bea Valdes, featuring semiprecious stones and colorful embellishments galore. \$675. At BeaValdes.com





DIAMONDS ARE EVERYONE'S BEST FRIEND

Why not create an instant heirloom experience with a sparkling diamond bracelet that works for dusk 'till dawn? Shown is a platinum and diamond bracelet with a 2.14 ct. central diamond. Estimate \$40,000 - 60,000. At IGavelAuctions.com



SLIP INTO SOMETHING COMFORTABLE

Wear the bespoke experience with a shoe made just for you. Caroline Groves crafts one-of-a-kind footwear based on your personal style and desires, using the finest materials and techniques in the world. From \$3,660. At CarolineGroves.co.uk



SCOTCH BRITE

To match their exquisite 65-year single malt, the master distillers of Macallan teamed with the iconic crystal house Laliqie to create the ultimate scotch decanter set. \$35,000. Learn more at TheMacallan.com

STACKED & READY

Art Deco-inspired rings by Monica Vinader are designed to wear alone or stacked as a set, so you can mix and match a look for every mood and any outfit. Featuring onyx, diamond and more. \$190 - \$760. At Saks Fifth Avenue.



BOWLED OVER, AREN'T YOU?

Made of pure gold and geode, this hand-carved crystal bowl by Anna New York makes an eye-catching impression. \$493. At Amara.com

SPARKLING



TAKE A LETTER, MISS HATHAWAY

Feel the thrill of Aston Martin anytime, with these rose-gold-plated pens styled with the curves of the classic English sports cars. Available in rollerball and ballpoint. From \$325. Available at Late European. At LateEuropean.com

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

Lifestyle tech is the new "it" accessory. This sleek mobile drive by LaCie, with Porsche styling, is built for speed, so you can store and retrieve your treasured memories instantly. From \$119.99. At LaCie.com



GLEAMING

REALLY HEADY STUFF

These sleek wireless headphones double as a phone speaker, so you can answer phone calls while listening to your favorite tunes. Available in a variety of cool colors by AHead. \$145.

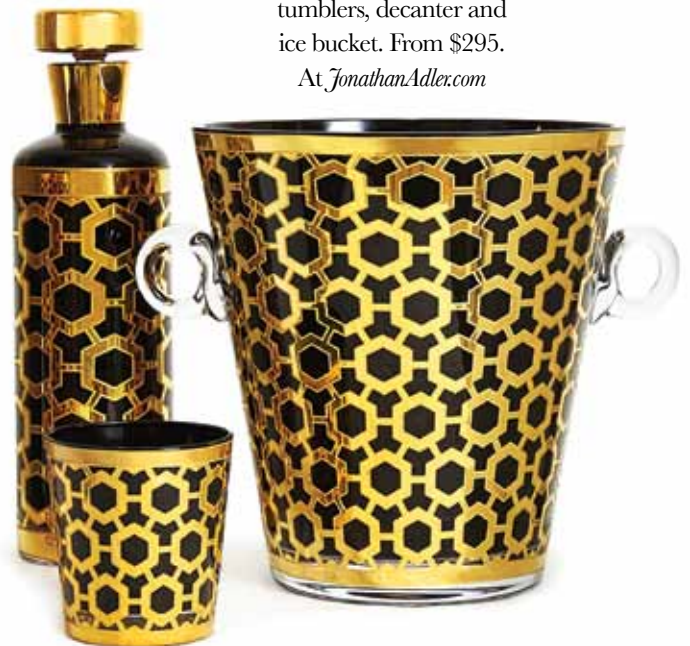
At Anthropologie.com



BAR WON

Take your bar to the next level with this stunning art deco set by Jonathan Adler, including tumblers, decanter and ice bucket. From \$295.

At JonathanAdler.com



PITCHER THIS

Liven up your dinner service with something Neue. This pure silver pitcher with gold interior was designed in 1935 yet looks as modern as ever. \$11,000. At NeueGalerie.org





IT'S ALL IN THE WRIST

For the man of the world, this interchangeable cuff link case lets you select from a wrist wardrobe of precious metals, stones and hardwoods. Perfect for traveling. \$9,480. At Boucheron.com



PICNICKING PRETTY

For Hill Country ranch to the Hamptons, bring this handmade wicker picnic set, which includes every accessory you need to enjoy your favorite delicacies al fresco. \$12,600. At DavidLinley.com

VELVETY? VERY.

Slip into these luxurious slippers available in a range of styles and colors to match your personality. From \$165. At BroadlandSlippers.co.uk



GLISTENING



GO GLOBAL OR GO HOME

With this finely crafted globe nearby, you'll have the whole world in your hands. Featuring a copper base and smooth roller bearings. \$2,650. At BellerbyAandCo.com



LET'S CLEAR THE AIR

These candles double as objects d'art, featuring scents of anjou pear, tonka bean and armoise. \$100. At DICompany.com

POLISHED



TURN YOUR BEAT AROUND

Rediscover your favorite albums with a high performance turntable that plays your records vertically. It sounds as great as it looks. \$500. At Gramovox.com



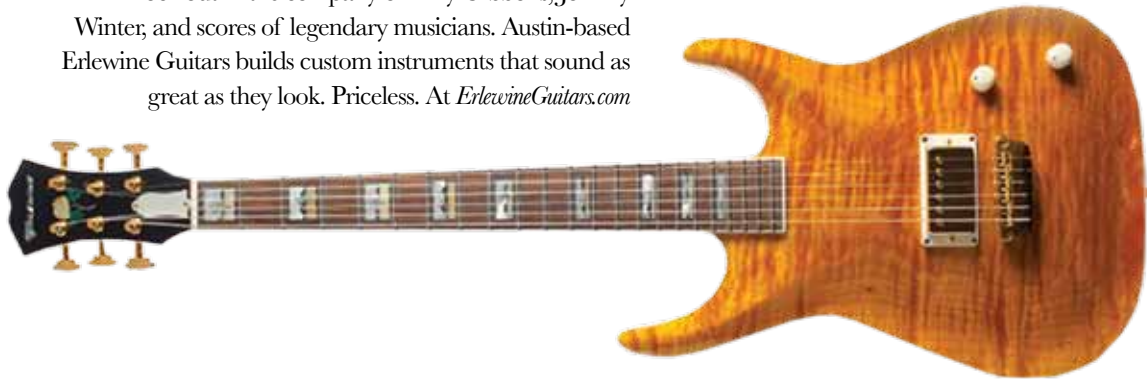
TOOL TIME

Channel your grandfather with this beautifully crafted tool set, made of premium steel and hardwoods, makes a stunning gift for the creative craftsman in your life. From \$3,000. At

ConranShop.co.uk

D.I.Y. ROCK STAR

Rock out in the company of Billy Gibbons, Johnny Winter, and scores of legendary musicians. Austin-based Erlewine Guitars builds custom instruments that sound as great as they look. Priceless. At ErlewineGuitars.com



GREEN PARTY

For the luxurious lawn gathering, roll out this croquet set for six players. You'll dazzle them with your swing. \$400. At ConranShop.co.uk

BAG LADY REDUX

Whether you ride the Orient Express or Dreamliner Jet, pack your wardrobe in these chic suitcases inspired by vintage trunks. From \$179. At ModaOperandi.com





AR

The cathedral in Cartagena

128

CAPTIVATING TAGENA



The best escapes may be the ones we least expect, as *our gallivanting globetrotter Dee Covey* finds herself in the pulsing heart of Colombia, and shares how to tune in to its Latin beat.



A view of Bocagrande

THE BUTLER DID IT.

When snappy white-clad Gustavo unlocked the ten-foot mahogany door to the Gabriel García Marquez Suite at our spectacular tropical hotel, we were instantly transported to Cartagena's vivid world of "Gabo's" magical Caribbean splendor.

How did that happen? Cartagena, Colombia. Although this enchanting, colorful and steamy seaside city (also known as ABC *Modern Family* star Sofia Vergara's intriguing hometown) may be the coolest UNESCO World Heritage site in all of The Americas – with gorgeous lodgings, gracious people and sultry scenery – just two weeks before, Cartagena was only a vague blip on our global radar.

For most Americans, "Colombia" and "cartel" seem too intertwined to make it a safe or desirable destination. Yet, there we were, at the famed Sofitel Santa Clara looking up our stairway to heaven, then out the tall glass door to our spacious private terrace, the shimmering sapphire sea, and amazingly, my favorite writer's actual home. Oh. My. G.

This is the seduction of Cartagena, I discovered, where we quickly learned that if you go with its alternatively languid and lively flows, serendipities like this are no accident at all. (It also helps to have a guide like Gustavo for reservations to special places. More on that, later.)

Yes, this eye candy-colored dream is real, and it's *everywhere*. It's the reason Cartagena has been a magnet for Botero, Marquez, Clinton (the taller one), Jagger (yes, as in Mick) and Shakira, as well as countless romantics, adventurers, and anyone who loves a great street party scene served up with their cascading bougainvillea, inventive cuisines, and an endless peekaboo backstreet vibe.

Cartagena is just as sexy, smart and cheeky like Vergara herself, who apparently walked and reveled in many of our cobblestoned and tiled steps two weeks before our visit – but in flaming five-inch Louboutins, of course.

DESTINATION? DESTINY.

How did we get so lucky, in this and so many other ways? To back up a couple of months, our fifth anniversary was looming. Where to go that is memorably romantic? Paris, of course. Even the thought of the sensual City of Lights had me swooning all over again.

But there was a teeny weenie problem with passionate Patee. (Actually two, but who's counting.) "I'm sorry, love," my groom said. "We only have a long weekend. Oh, and we have to leave from Fort Lauderdale."

Pivot! Out of curiosity, I pulled up the JetBlue map to see



destinations in the vicinity. Aruba, Cuba... Cartagena? Bingo. Something fired in my imagination when I saw that C'TG is a little two-hour hop from FLL, with three handy flights a day.

Who knew? This jewel, originally called Cartagena de Indias, was built with 16th Century colonial plunder, when the Spaniards constructed the walled fortress in 1533 to protect their pirated treasures.

Yet today Cartagena is fresh, fascinating and authentically chic with little trace of Old World attitudes. Cartagena is literally being reimagined by a fresh crop of international artists and architects and eager Colombian expats returning to bring new interpretations of their singular heritage, to the delight of the rest of the world.

Many of these influential, clever Colombians are women who love to pamper, shop and entertain, such as legendary designer Sylvia Tcherassi's Hotel + Spa; transplanted New York style curator Chrissy Crawford Corredor of ArtStar, who favors brilliant Mochila bags handmade by the remote Wayuu tribe; Moda Operandi founder Lauren Santo Domingo and her fabulous St. Dom concept shop... and, whew, if that's not enough, Chiqui de Echavarria's sensational housewares store named Casa Chiqui ("cheeky.")

TASTE OF THE TERRITORY

Before discovering any boutiques, though, first we took time to quench our thirst and our curiosity. We quickly headed down the hotel's curving blush stone staircase, to take celebrity chef Anthony Bourdain up on his recommendation to savor Cartagena's signature seafood dish at the tiny, vibrant blue-and-white themed La Cevicheria restaurant – literally out the back door of the hotel. Wow.

Tony B sure was right on about this pit stop. We washed down the ingenious mandarin-kissed octopus and tangy limed shrimp with a couple of local cervezas, lazily enjoying the contrast of clever teen tableside rappers, clip-clopping horses and the entire paint-splashed spectrum that is a touchstone of the city and its equally colorful people.

My ringing mobile snapped us back to the world. "Hello Dee, this is Marelyv." Oops. Our culture-straddling personal guide was cooling her jets next to the talking toucan in our lush hotel courtyard.

No worries for the brilliant and spirited Merelyv Peña-Hall, who gave us a charming look behind the curtain of the culture in the Centro Historico and beyond. As it turned out, we arrived on a thrilling day when the entire

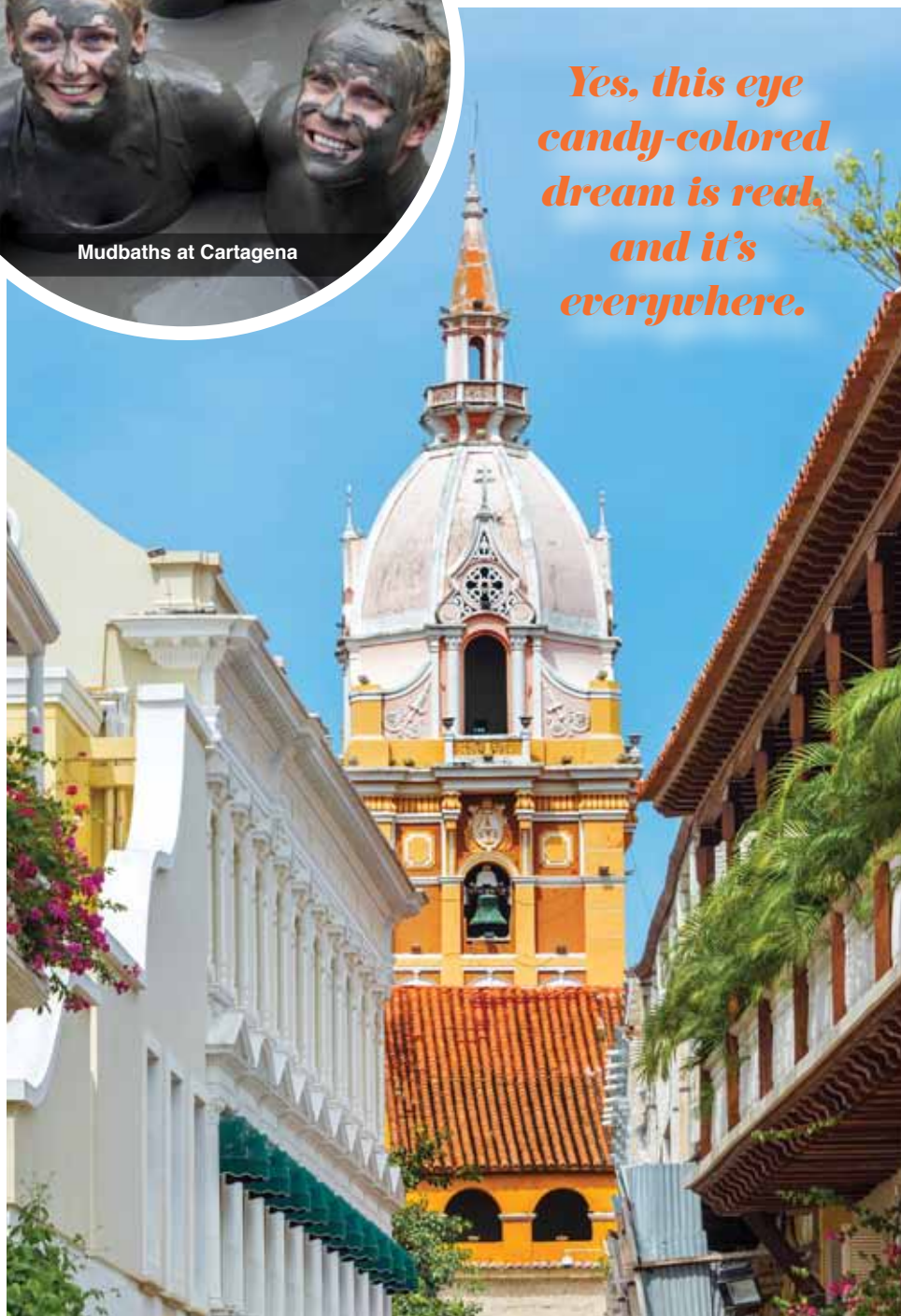


The Museum of Modern Art, Cartagena



Mudbaths at Cartagena

*Yes, this eye
candy-colored
dream is real,
and it's
everywhere.*





town was shutting down and setting up the pretty plazas, neighborhood joints and home TVs to watch the much-anticipated Colombia vs. USA soccer COPa América Centenario match.

A highlight of Merelvy's plan was the special little Café San Alberto, the place to go for coffee lovers. Colombia is the epicenter of the Central American caffeine kick, and the San Alberto gets beans straight from the plantation. They have an awesome array of brewing objects d'art, and her 20-something barista friend did an amazing tasting for us with great care and pleasure, using some of the more mysterious techniques on hand. What we discovered is that it's true...the method makes the madness.

Gustavo, Merelvy and the young barista crystallize the most compelling grace note of Cartagena. Race and class seem refreshingly irrelevant; happy hospitality is the norm from everyone we met. Cartagenans savor, share and celebrate their sunny city, and offer a sensational level of service—absent any whiff of servitude—and are unfailingly sharp, cheerful and kind.

WHEN IN CARTAGENA, DO AS THE COLOMBIANS DO

It's easy for a visitor to join in public life in Cartagena – and cheer for the home team! – enjoying a lifestyle organized around the many festive, flowering and Botero kissed plazas ringed with restaurants, shops and bars, where spontaneous dancing, drumbeats (and, apparently) beauty pageants can break out at any moment.

What we discovered on our own is that Cartagena's vibrant culinary scene is also completely irresistible, with phenomenal chefs and equally tantalizing interior spaces, such as chef Alejandro Ramírez's mind-blowing Maria, the uber-romantic Vera, the hip Demente tapas joint, and the 1940s supper clubby (and absolutely *W*) restaurant, La Vitrola – where a pre-arranged secret knock is the only way to get in.

While dreamy, lyrical and inventive, there is a more practical custom to honor there. Cartagena is the kind of city (like Rome) that is all about the personal touch, where you need somebody to make reservations for you and you'll glide through the door or the head of the line. What's unique and different is that it's not about greasing palms, it's about relationships. Cartagenans love to refer business to each other, and will often do it for visitors simply as a courtesy. Just ask.

NEIGHBORHOOD HOPPING & BEATING THE HEAT

Wherever you choose to stay or go, the geography is easy for the weekend traveler. The cobblestone streets are clean and walkable; taxis are plentiful and cheap. For



The old port in Cartagena

lodging, there are the safe and stunning Old City/San Diego districts inside the original walls, with lovely hotels like the Casa San Agustín and Cuadrifalo, pitch perfect restaurants and the best new global cocktail bar in town, Alquímico.

Just beyond is high-energy Getsemani, the lively bohemian hood (think Williamsburg in Brooklyn) that lights up when the sun goes down. No visit to Cartagena is complete without getting a ringside table around the bar and salsa dancing at the sensationally evocative Club Havana, where live bands get revved up after 11P.M. (Everyone from everywhere goes there, period.)

There are many AirBnB rentals in the Centro Histórico and Getsemani, but more in Bocagrande. We did not explore that area, but it looks like a cluster of new highrises overlooking the grainy shore and choppy sea, away from the heartbeat of the city. It's quite popular for Colombian families, but you might as well be back in the States. Basically, if you want a great beach, you have to take a boat.

Yes, Cartagena is hot and humid, year-round, but so what. As Texans, we knew better than to resist it. We spent the toastiest hours resting up in our fabulous digs before late owling, or enjoying mojitos by the extraordinary pool at the Santa Clara, reportedly the best in all of South America. Of course, there's always a stop at the "artisanal popsicle" shop La Paletaria, but you better eat it fast!

The quizzical juxtaposition is that Cartagena's dwellings always seem to keep surprising secrets, in this otherwise open and free society. It's not uncommon for a crumbling wall to hide an extraordinary internal vision right out of a design magazine. Streets are lined with seemingly untouchable balconies and studded wood doors that keep out street noise, which invariably swing open into spacious lush courtyards, incredibly designed spaces, and are often finished with dramatically lit pools and chic rooftop bars.

The kicker? While these brightly-hued walls seem crafted to shut out strangers, residential back doors are often left wide open to winding alleys, as if it were one big friendly small town.

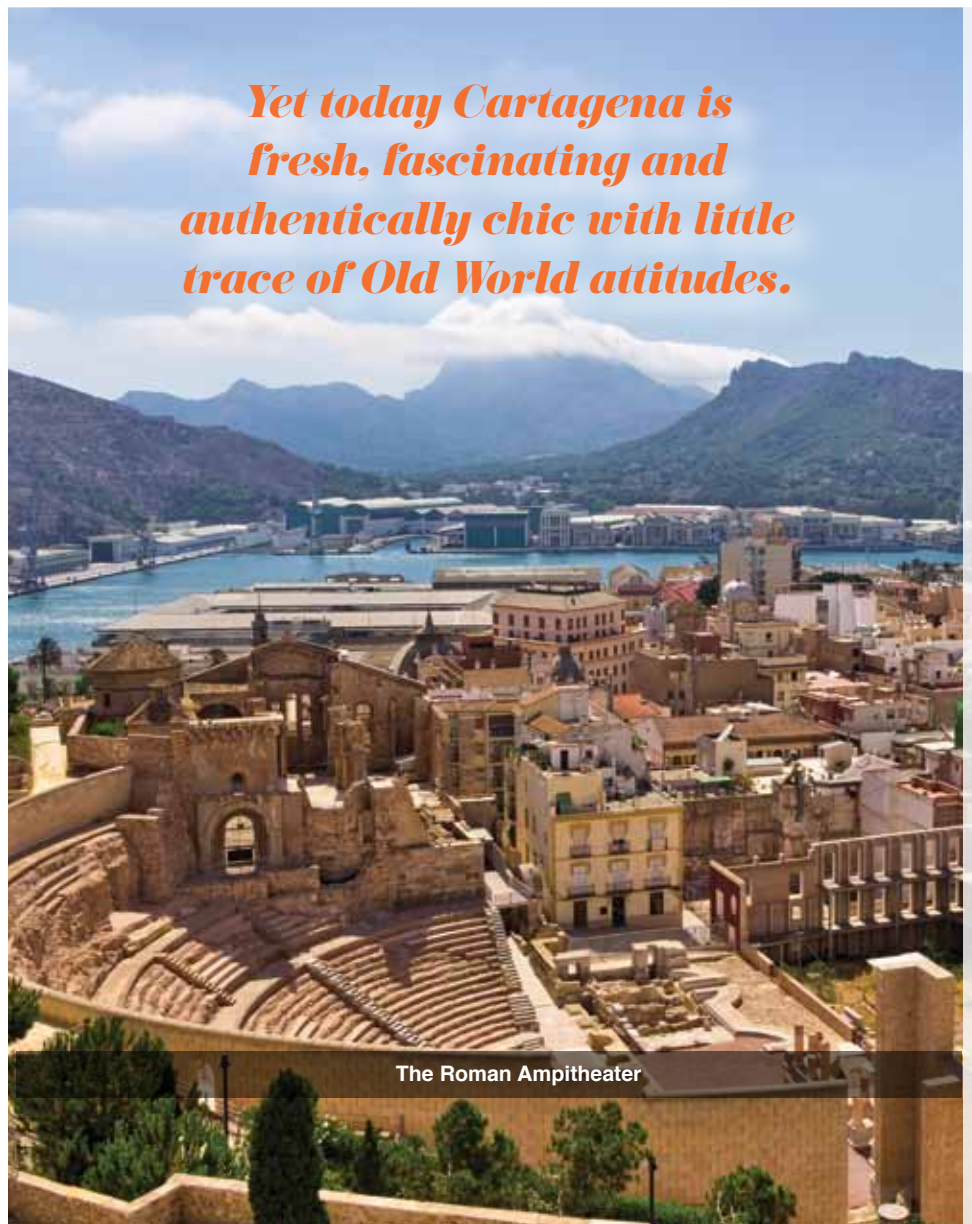
Yet like another beautiful light-filled city, simply drifting along at any hour gave us some of our most treasured moments and memories. There is no weariness to this place; and there's a reason so many have called it "cinematic." Wherever we went, Cartagena was a revelation, a pleasure, a lovely magical sueño, where amazingly, we rarely bumped elbows with fellow Americans.

Were we ever wistful for Paris? Nope. Cartagena may make you sweat, but if you let it in, it will also make you swoon. **S**



Castillo San Felipe Cartagena

Yet today Cartagena is fresh, fascinating and authentically chic with little trace of Old World attitudes.



The Roman Amphitheater

ICE, ICE BABY

Big Brothers Big Sister Of Central Texas Celebrates With Glam Gala

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Chris Casselli and Christina Harding

THE SCENE:

Austin's Hyatt Regency Hotel was the setting for an evening showcasing how one person can truly make a difference in a young person's life. The 12th Annual Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Texas Ice Ball drew over 700 of Austin's social movers and shakers for a fun event that carried on well into the evening.



Christy and Jim McGuane



Danielle Kress and Cassie LaMere



Chris and Laura Villagran Johnson



David Morin and Brandon Maldonado



Mykayla Reynolds and Shannon Mouser



Bill Nelson, Elizabeth Elias, Connie Nelson and Nad Elias



Kate and Hector Perez, Gabriel Hardin & Brent Fields

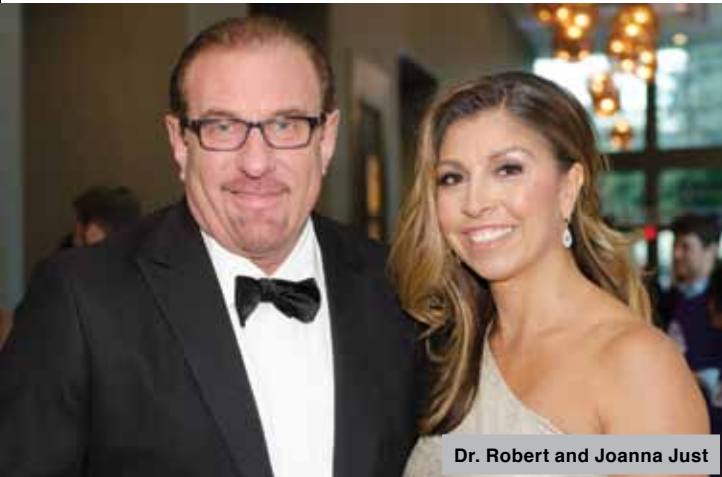




Greg Weaver, Dick and Sara Rathgeber & Jessica Weaver



Cedric and Tasha Burton



Dr. Robert and Joanna Just



Christy and Ed Kargbo



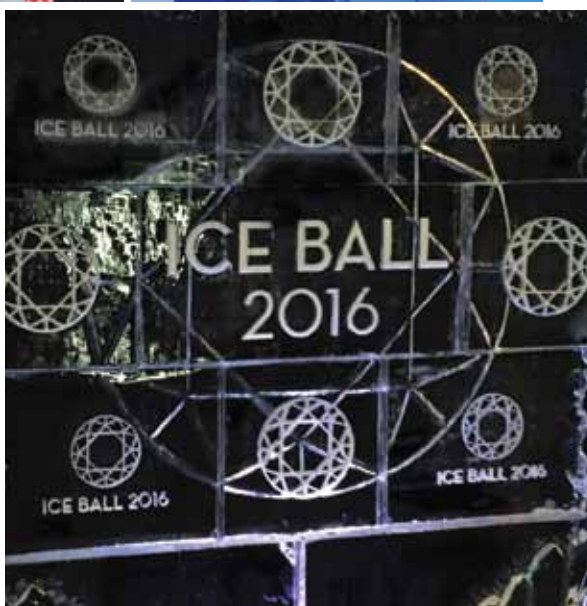
Justin Poses, Lauren Petrowski & Charli and Gabe Anderson



Emcee Shannon Wolfson



Tom Taylor and Lauren Portley



THE VIBE:

As guests descended the elevator, they got a sneak peak of the a ice-hot red carpet, featuring a massive ice sculpture that highlighted the organization's logo, serving as the backdrop where revelers could pose for social media photos upon arrival. Guests then entered the soaring foyer, where in addition to mingling about the crowd, they were able to bid on various silent auction items including a signed guitar by country music star Dierks Bentley.

The festivities continued into the ballroom as guests dined during a program that featured a video highlighting the broad reach of the region's Big Brothers Big Sisters within Central Texas. The video highlighted the relationship between Big Sister of the year Shannon Mouser and her Little Sister of seven years, Mykayla Reynolds. The program continued with a lively auction that included trips to such luxe and exotic places as Paris and Bali. After the program, the party continued to the tunes of the Memphis Train Revue band.

THE CAUSE:

The event, chaired by Kate and Hector Perez, raised over \$500,000 for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Texas, which provides adult role models to children and teenagers ages six to eighteen, providing a direct and positive impact on their young lives.



Sheree Smith of Memphis Train Revue performs



ANIMAL INSTINCTS

Funds Raised For Organ Donation by Taylor's Gift Foundation

By Cynthia Smoot | Photography by Thomas Garza Photography and Bret Redman

THE SCENE:

The SPCA of Texas' Fur Ball 2016, with the theme of *Shedding Light on Their Future* recently occurred at the Omni Dallas hotel. The black-tie evening included dinner, dancing and live and silent auctions for 1,200 guests. A three-piece combo from Limelight jazzed it up as a whole passel of puppies from the SPCA of Texas' iFoster program romped as they were cooed over and petted by the glittering guests. Mary Spencer presented the 2016 recipient of the Spencer Humanitarian Award to Karen Urie and competition was fierce at the over 300-item silent auction.

THE VIBE:

Fur Ball 2016 was a tail-wagging success thanks to honorary chairs D'Andra Simmons Lock & Jeremy Lock, Anne & Steve Stodghill and Drs. Wendy & John Vandermeer; chair Phyllis Comu; co-chair Kristen Greenberg; auction chair Sandra Fite. Elegantly clad guests walked the purple carpet and chatted with M.C. and *Real Housewives of Dallas* star LeeAnne Locken and Steve Kemble about everything from what they were wearing to why supporting the animals is so important. The event brought the high-voltage fun that continued with guests who rushed the dance floor and partied under a stunning, purple-lit chandelier that twinkled like a thousand stars until beyond midnight.



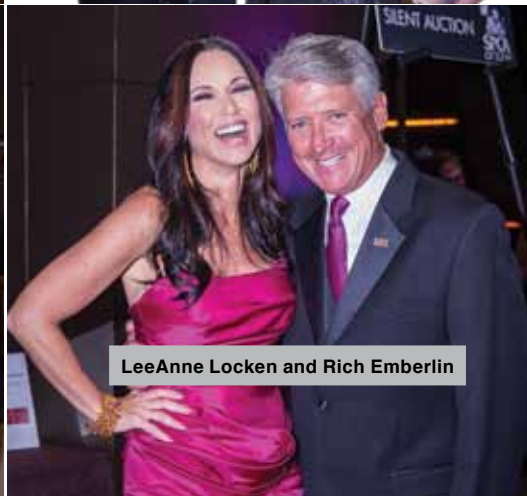
Michael Plunkett and Angie Barrett



Jocelyn White and Cheryl Poldrugach



Heidi and Bill Dillon



LeeAnne Locken and Rich Emberlin



Kristen and Scott Greenberg

THE CAUSE:

Fur Ball 2016 raised more than \$510,000 to help the SPCA of Texas serve 50,000 animals and their people in 2016 and beyond. SPCA of Texas President and CEO Mary Spencer presented the 2016 recipient of the Spencer Humanitarian Award to Karen Urie. James Bias shared with guests the important work the SPCA of Texas will be bringing to South Dallas in the future to help transform the community for people and animals, improving public safety and providing for the welfare of animals. Fur Ball is DFW's salute to the bond between people and their pets and a celebration of the SPCA of Texas' important mission to provide every animal exceptional care and a loving home.



Phyllis and CJ Comu



James Bias



Steve Kemble, Debra Nelson and LeeAnne Locken



Shane Walker and Joani White



Jeremy Lock and D'Andra Simmons Lock



Prashi Shah and Suraj Jagannathan



Kathy Fielder and Britt Harless

ABSOLUTLEY FABULOUS

Pet Set's Fierce & Fabulous Gala

By Jennifer Roosth | Photography by Fulton Davenport



Rachel and Jeff Bagwell



Dany Daniel and Lauren Wren



Tracy and Harry Faulkner



Susan Boggio



Don Sanders



Kent Schaffer and Hon. John Whitmire



Carmina Zamora and Rafeal Chavez



Patricia Ward Wallace and Hon. Devon Anderson



Neil Hamil and Fred Smith

THE SCENE:

With sassy and glam cocktail party attire, over 360 guests attended an evening of cocktails, dinner and auction at the Astorian to celebrate the 12th Annual Pet Set Gala. Tena Lundquist Faust and Tama Lundquist chaired the evening for the fourth time, and guest laughed en masse as they enjoyed KHOU Great Day's ost Decorah Duncan emcee of the event. This fabulous party kicked off the fall social season in Houston.

THE VIBE:

The vibe of the evening was celebrities, celebrities, celebrities. The canine celebrity was Charlie, a Pit-bull a rescue from Southside Street Dogs who is missing a leg and brought back to good health. ABC's *The Bachelor* Prince Lorenzo Borghese was the celebrity guest of honor. He is the president of Animal Aid USA, a non-for-profit focusing on changing laws to stop animal cruelty. After dinner, there was an auction and lively "after the gala party" with DJ tunes spinning well into the evening.



Tama Lundquist, Prince Lorenzo Borghese, Tena Lundquist Faust

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EXPLORE THE MENU



Bone-In Colorado Veal Chop 16 oz.

SOME OF OUR NEW MENU INSPIRATIONS

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Thick-Cut Applewood Smoked Bacon
 maple-glazed, house-made steak sauce

Coconut-Crusted Sea Scallops
 watermelon radish and jicama slaw

Baby Kale Salad
 toasted pine nuts, sun-dried cranberries and shaved Parmigiano Reggiano

Bone-In Colorado Veal Rib Chop 16 ounce

Prime Aged Porterhouse Steak 28 ounce

Australian Wagyu Rib-Eye Steak 12 ounce

14-Day Dry-Aged Duroc® Pork Porterhouse 16 ounce
 brandy mushroom demi-glace

Jumbo Cold Water Nova Scotia Lobster Tail 15 ounce trio of sauces

Linguine Fra Diavolo shrimp, clams and calamari

Bone-In Colorado Veal Rib Chop Malfata
 baby arugula, shaved fennel, red onion and mozzarella di bufala salad



Rosey Meyers and Angelica Chapman

THE CAUSE:

The Fierce & Fabulous gala raised a record \$300,000 to benefit Houston PetSet, an umbrella non-profit organization dedicated to making a difference by providing grants to animal welfare-related nonprofits in the Greater Houston area. Honoree Don Sanders was recognized for his dedication to the animals and for financing a no-kill animal shelter “Friends for Life”. Jan Duncan was also recognized for her \$89,000 donation through Houston PetSet for Emancipet to open its first veterinary clinic in Houston’s East End to provide low-cost neuter/spay services.



Maria and Neil Bush



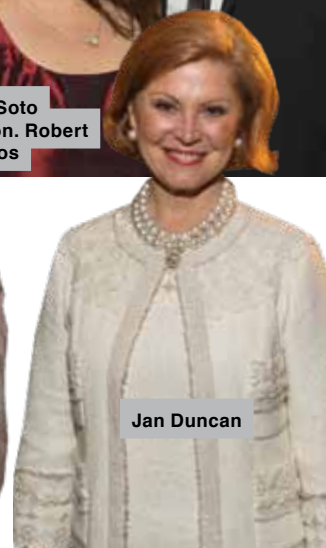
Charlie



Sonia Soto and Hon. Robert Gallegos



Daniele and Meredith Cullen



Jan Duncan



Michael Johnson, Stephanie Eustis and Bubba McNeely



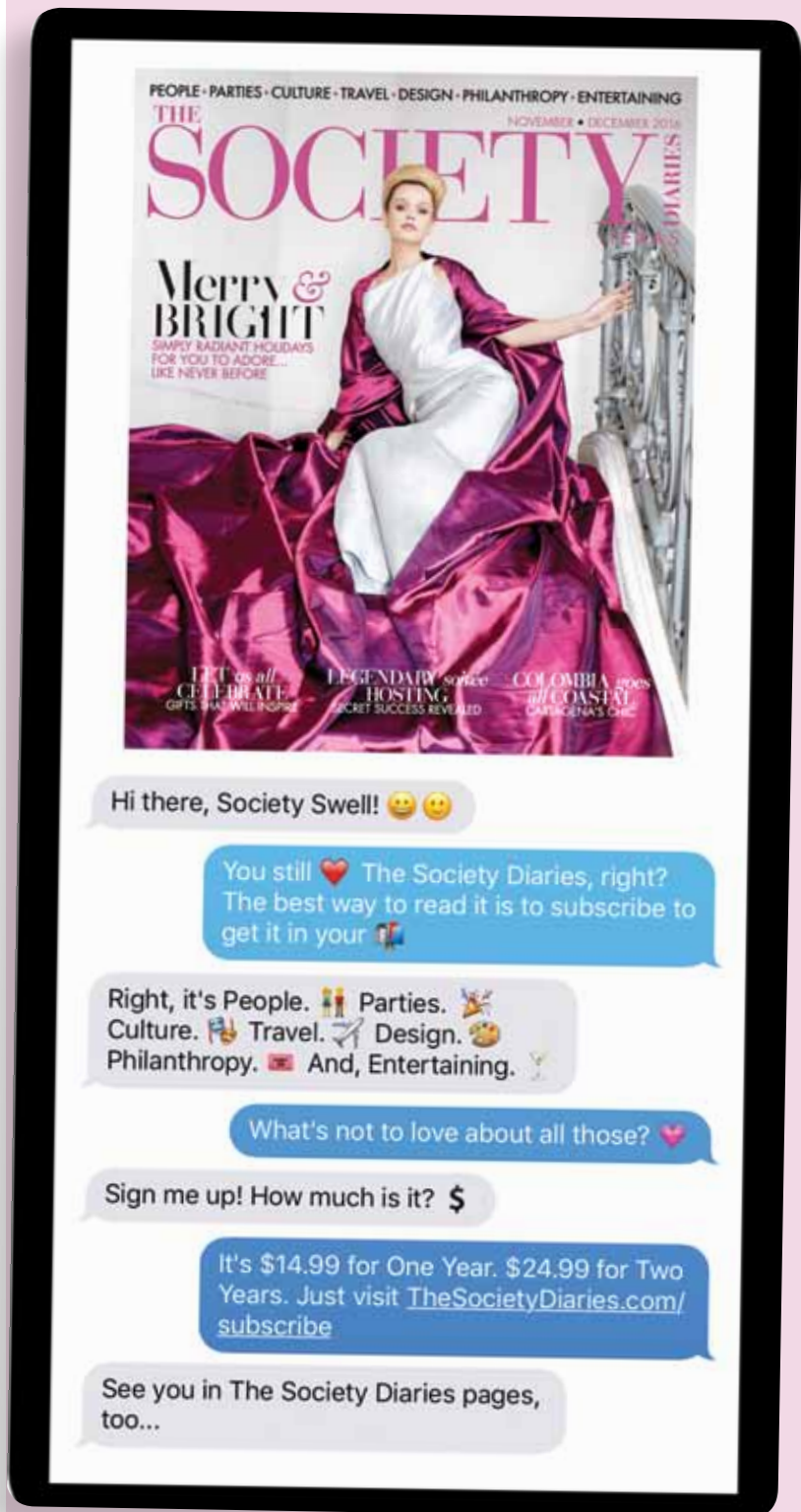
Tyson Faust and John Wright



Duncan and Michelle Stewart



Devinder and Gina Bhatia



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ARRANGE

AUSTIN

November 3-6
Settlement Home for
Children's 41st Annual
Garage and Estate Sale
www.settlementhome.org

November 3-11
Christmas at the Caswell
House
austinjuniorforum.org

November 4
First Edition Literary Gala
Texas Book Festival
texasbookfestival.org

November 5
Austin Children's Shelter
Reach for the Stars Gala
austinchildrensservices.org

November 10
Help Clifford Help Kids
The Clifford Antone
Foundation
helpcliffordhelpkids.com

November 18
Andy Roddick Foundation
Gala with John Legend
arfoundation.org

November 18
Key To the Cure
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
of Central Texas
Cff.org

November 16 - 20
A Christmas Affair
Junior League of Austin
jlaustin.org

November 19
Seton Board Development
Gala
Elizabeth Ann Seton Board
setonfund.org

November 19
Rags to Wags Gala
Austin Human Society
austinhumanesociety.org

December 4
Dancing with the Stars
Austin
Center for Child Protection
centerforchildprotection.org

DALLAS

November 3
Flora Award Gala
Texas Discovery Gardens
texasdiscoverygardens.org

November 4
Night of Stars
Fashion Group
International
fgi.org

November 5
ART for ADVOCACY
Dallas Children's Advocacy
Center
dcac.org

November 8
Deals & Dreams Casino
Night
Heart of a Warrior
Charitable Foundation
hoawdallas.org

November 12
Billiard Ball
Boys & Girls Club of
Greater Dallas
bgcdallas.org

November 12
Night at the Museum:
Illuminate
Perot Museum of Nature
and Science
perotmuseum.org

November 16
The Milestones Luncheon
Junior League of Dallas
jld.net

November 16
Crystal Charity Ball Circle
of Angels Dinner
Dallas Co. Children's
Charities
crystalcharityball.org

November 17
Awards for Excellence
in Community Service
Luncheon
Dallas Historical Society
dallashistory.org

December 1
Tutu Chic Fashion Show
and Luncheon
Texas Ballet Theater
texasballet.org

December 3
The Crystal Charity Ball
Children's Charities
crystalcharityball.org

HOUSTON

November 2
One Great Night in
November
The Museum of Fine Arts,
Houston
mfah.org

November 2
Best Buddies Houston Gala
& Fashion Show
bestbuddiestexas.org

November 3
Catwalk for a Cure
Amschwand Sarcoma
Cancer Foundation
sarcomacancer.org

November 4
Feast with the Beasts
Houston Zoo
houstonzoo.org

November 12
Houston Corks and Forks
The American Cancer
Society
gala.acevents.org

November 12
Celebrity Paws Gala
Citizens for Animal
Protection
cap4pets.org

November 14
Art of Conversation
City ArtWorks
cityartworks.org

November 17
What's Up, Doc?
Texas Children's Cancer
Center
texaschildrens.org

November 19
Deck The Trees
Alley Theatre
alleytheatre.org

December 7
Angels of Hope Luncheon
and Fashion Presentation
Friends of Child Advocates
childadvocates.org

SAN ANTONIO

November 4
3rd Annual Tango of the
Vines AFE Foundation
afesupport.org

November 5
Diwali Festival of Lights
thesanantonioriverwalk.com

November 5
HRC San Antonio Gala
and Silent Auction
hrc.org

November 6
12th Annual Party in the
Pasture
Meals on Wheels San
Antonio
christianseniorservices.org

November 9
Richard's Roundup
Transplants for Children
transplantsforchildren.org

November 10
Zoobilation Ball
San Antonio Zoological
Society
sazoo.org

November 25
Ford Holiday River Parade
thesanantonioriverwalk.com

December 2 - 4
Ford Fiesta de las
Luminarias
thesanantonioriverwalk.com

December 8
Poinsettia Ball
Friends of Hospice
friendsofhospicesa.org

December 10
Tannenbaum Ball
Gillespie County
Historical Society
pioneer museum.net

By Laura Villagran-Johnson and Kevin Smothers

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