

1st Annual Wine Tasting Fundraiser – a Huge Success!

The Rotary Club of Toronto West (RCTW) in conjunction with the Canadian Landmine Foundation (CLMF) held a very successful fundraiser on June 1st at the chef's house, part of George Brown College. The students handled everything from start to finish.

We were greeted by their lovely maître d', who showed us to our seats. And then the well-trained wait staff took over. Wine and canapes started off the evening. We were later treated to an exquisite 3-course dinner plus a dessert, and all were paired with a flavorful wine (See menu below). The students prepared all of the food and served it with impeccable taste. And, if you had an allergy, they took care of that too, preparing special replacement dishes to ensure all were comfortable. One of the teachers was the Sommelier, and she regaled us with facts about the wine, interspersed with some humorous tidbits. We were clearly in a high class restaurant with wonderful food and service.

Stephen Thiele acted as host for the event and his son, Taylor, had created a video-film, that highlighted the work in Cambodia and the donors that gave such great support to this event. This played on two screens throughout the evening. The fun was added by 14 door prizes and 5 fabulous raffle baskets. Lots of strategy went into the purchase of those raffle tickets and the quest for specific prizes! Besides the meal, many went home with prizes.

And the real winners will be the children and people of Cambodia. All proceeds went to water projects there, which will be managed by Patti Lee, who is also a member of RCTW. Patti thanked the attendees for their generous support of the event and told the audience that the event raised more than \$6,600. The money will be used to build toilets and handwashing stations at 2 government schools in Cambodia and to build a toilet for an impoverished family there. Money really goes a long way in Cambodia!

Huge thanks to our donors and sponsors: Ticketmaster, Cineplex, Newediuk Funeral Homes, CIBC, Blyth Festival Theatre, the Village Players, Salon Allure, Sempre Pizza & Pasta, the Toronto Blue Jays, the chef's house, and the Canadian Landmine Foundation. Please support them.

Thanks to all of the donors, attendees, and RCTW & CLMF for their fantastic support. We are already planning for next year, so plan to attend!

Rotary Dinner

Thursday June 1st, 2023

Selection of Canapes

Squash Arancini

Burrata Crostini

Manchego & Chorizo Croquette

Parés Baltà Cava Brut, NV, Spain

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Ricotta Ravioli

Roasted Mushroom, Truffle Brown Butter, Sage

Luigi Righetti Pinot Grigio, 2021, Veneto, Italy

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Pan Seared Seabass

Sweet Potato, Bok Choy, Snow Pea, Wild Rice, Sesame, Ginger

Verdejo, 2020, Rueda, Spain

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Roasted Chicken Supreme

Olives, Parsnip Puree, Natural Jus

Cappone Chianti Classico, 2020, Tuscany, Italy

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Shortcake

Strawberries, Chantilly

Stratus Ice Wine, 2020, Niagara, ON