

Symphony's 'Evening in Paris' Brings Home Funds for Education



KUDOS/GIVING

Joyce Glazer

The San Diego Symphony's Season Opening Gala Opus 2011 "An Evening in Paris" was held Oct. 1 beginning with a reception and dinner at the University Club at Symphony Towers followed by a concert at Copley Symphony

Hall. Soprano **Kathleen Battle** and French pianist **Jean-Yves Thibaudet** were the headline performers. **Van Cleef & Arpels** sponsored the pre-concert and postconcert activities. The evening raised a record \$440,000 to support the educational and outreach programs, which serve 53,000 students throughout San Diego County ... **The California Wellness Foundation** gave a \$250,000 grant to **Reality Changers** to help young people from neighborhoods that have the highest rates of gang violence in San Diego become the first in their families to go to college. "TCWF has given more grant support to Reality Changers than any other entity," said **Christopher Yanov**, founder and president of Reality Changers ... **Nika Water** received the Philanthropic Small Business of the Year award at the Third Annual **Stay Classy Awards**. "Our goal is to be an ethical and socially responsible force that drives others to join the clean water cause," said Nika co-founder **Jeff Church**. It is the largest philanthropic awards ceremony in the country, recognizing the most outstanding philanthropic achievements by charities, businesses and individuals nationwide ... **The Lucky Duck Foundation** donated a total of \$30,000 to the **Challenged Athletes Foundation** and **Helen Woodward Animal Center**. The foundation is committed to raising awareness and funds for charitable causes and improving communities through the leadership and actions of its volunteers ... Stone 15th Anniversary Celebration & Invitational Beer Festival was held Aug. 19 and 20 at **Cal State San Marcos**. "Since day one, we've made supporting well-deserving charities one of our most important principles,"

said **Greg Koch**, CEO and co-founder of **Stone Brewing Co.** This year the \$240,000 will be distributed to **Surfrider Foundation**, **Boys & Girls Club of San Marcos**, **Palomar Family YMCA**, **Fight ALD**, **CSUSM Foundation**, **Kiwanis Club of Escondido** and **IMA North County chapter** ... **Cubic Corp.** and **Geico** sponsored the 29th annual **No Limits Walk for UCP** on Oct. 22 at Mission Bay. **Casa De Bandini** and **Casa De Pico** were the food sponsors. Funds raised will support **United Cerebral Palsy's** local programs ... **Voices for Children** held its ninth annual "Starry, Starry Night: Turn on Your Heartlight!" on Sept. 24 at the estate of **Joan Waitt** in La Jolla. **Qualcomm** was the presenting sponsor and **Hughes Marino** and the **Farrell Family Foundation** were magical night sponsors. **Bridgepoint Education**, **KPBS**, **Genentech** and **ProFlowers** were among the underwriters. The \$775,000 raised will benefit the Court Appointed Special Advocate program of **Voices for Children** ... **Feeding America San Diego** challenged local businesses to help fight hunger during "September Action Month." Thirty companies joined the **Finest City Food Fight** by empowering their employees to donate funds, food or time. A total of \$37,400 was raised along with 4,860 pounds of food to benefit **FASD** and the families fed by the organization. The top fundraisers were **Naked Café**, **DLA Piper** and **Ameriprise Financial** ... The fourth annual **San Diego Hospice Invitational Golf Tournament** was held Sept. 27 at **The Crosby** at Rancho Santa Fe. **Robert Hartman** and **Bonnie Hartman** were the eagle sponsor for the event which raised \$100,000 to support the **Center for Grief Care and Education** at SDH, including **Camp Erin San Diego**, an annual weekend summer camp ... **Promises2Kids** received a \$60,000 donation from **Sleep Train** to support the **Guardian Scholars Program**. The gift, which is the proceeds from the **Fifth Sleep Train Annual Charity Golf Classic**, will help former foster youth to attend college.

Please send Kudos and Giving items to
Joyce Glazer at jglazer@sdbj.com.