

MARY CENTRE NEWSLETTER

10th ANNUAL FUNDRAISER AT FAMOUS PEOPLE PLAYERS



Move over Celine Dion, here comes Alice in Funky Land. This was the phenomenal show performed at the 10th Annual Mary Centre Dinner Theatre at the Famous People Players Theatre. As usual Diane Dupuy and her amazing cast put on a vibrant, entertaining and toe tapping performance for this fundraiser.

Right from the entrance of the dazzling theatre everyone knew they were in for a real treat. Patrons made their way to the Silent Auction where the bidding got aggressive for items such as Leaf and Raptor tickets. Michael who sat at my table was disappointed at being outbid but he'll be happy to know that this auction raised \$4,000 for our worthy cause. We thank everyone, who secured and bid on items for this event.



What can I say about dinner except that the taste buds were treated to the heavenly sensations. The servers did an excellent job providing service with a smile which only made our meal more enjoyable. Weren't we impressed with those who had just performed and yet had energy to clear the dishes? Needless to say we at the table could not budge from our seats after devouring those decadent desserts.



This certainly was a special night as Mary Centre unveiled its 20th Anniversary Logo. 20 years of providing a much needed service of support, information, caring and sharing to wonderful people like Courtney, our server and also a performer.

“Celebrating Developmental Challenges”

What a delight it was to chat with her and find out how happy she is to be living at a Mary Centre residence.

The success of the evening could not have happened with out the combined generosity of patrons, sponsors and donators. This truly is community involvement as Gloria Martin from 680 News did a marvellous job as our gracious emcee and has been since our first event 10 years ago. **Thanks Gloria**. And a special mention to Janet’s band of volunteers (*pictured at the bottom of this page*).

A total of \$35,700.00 was raised at the 10th Annual Mary Centre Dinner Theatre, an evening that captures the spirit of **“celebrating developmental challenges”**. Well done everyone!

by Lily D’Gama, Member Fundraising Committee



Keyur and Anthony – A mutually rewarding collaboration

Keyur Patel has been a volunteer with Mary Centre for a year and it was through Mary Centre that he met Anthony Ng in January 2007. Anthony has been a resident at Our Lady of Victory since 2005.

When Anthony expressed a desire to learn basic mathematics and computer software skills in order to improve his employment prospects, he was introduced to Keyur, a computer and math whiz and a Mechanical Engineer by profession. Ten months later, Anthony is delving into the mysteries of multiplication and division, after having gained rudimentary skills in addition and subtraction.

“I am eager to learn maths and computer software,” says Anthony, “then I can work indoors at the supermarket”. Currently, he is responsible for pushing the carts from outside into the store, but is determined to move on to an admin job before the winter. “It’s hard working outdoors in the cold. I’ve been pushing buggies for over a year, and want to do something else.”

The math and computer classes are progressing so well that his tutor is confident he will realize his ambition.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

May 13, 2008

9th Annual Fundraising Golf Tournament
Glencairn Golf Club, Milton

TBA

11th Annual Fundraiser
Famous People Players Dinner Theatre

For information contact Marion Patterson at (416) 630-5533 or mpatterson@marycentre.com

“Celebrating Developmental Challenges”



“Anthony is determined to be independent,” says Keyur, “he doesn’t give up easily. I hope I have helped him get to the next level.”

What Keyur finds particularly inspiring about his student is his enthusiasm for social work.

“He makes me feel useless,” laughs Keyur, as Anthony reels off the names of the charitable institutions where he volunteers his time.

Anthony has been involved with the Geneva Centre for Autism since he was 14 years old and has served on their board of directors for the last 7 years. He volunteers with two institutions that help people with disabilities, Surrey Place Centre and the Action Club of Toronto of which he is president. With the Salvation Army, he feeds homeless street youth in Toronto. As a volunteer with the Sleeping Children Around the World program, he recently visited the Philippines where he helped distribute bed kits to needy kids. He is an Assistant Cub Leader for the Boy Scouts of Canada’s 1st Weston Cub Pack.

His math mentor is learning from him as well. “He has inspired me to volunteer with another charity. I think if people have the time to teach someone else, they should try it for it is a good use of their time and a very rewarding experience.”

Interview by Cheryl Xavier

In happy times and in sad times, Please remember Mary Centre as your beneficiary

How many times have we found ourselves in a situation:

- of needing to make a donation in lieu of flowers at a funeral
- a gift to commemorate a special occasion
- a birthday or an anniversary
- a holiday gift of a special kind
- a host/hostess gift
- buying for someone difficult to buy for
- impossible to get/send an appropriate gift

An easy and meaningful gift to all concerned is to make a donation to Mary Centre in lieu of the flowers and gifts.

Mary Centre will be very grateful to receive your donation on such occasions. We accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express and cheques. A gratitude card will be sent to the appropriate party in acknowledgement of your gift on their behalf and you will receive a charitable tax donation. Call Marion Patterson at (416) 630-5533 or e-mail at mpatterson@marycentre.com

SUPPORTED INDEPENDENT LIVING AT ITS BEST

Mary Centre is a special place to live and to learn daily living;
I want to know all about Mary Centre;
To have and make good friends;
Where I get a lot of companionship;
The social worker is a big help to me;
I have a lot of friends there;
I am very happy living at Mary Centre.

That's all folks: by Ginny Young



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Mary Centre of the Archdiocese of Toronto
530 Wilson Avenue, Suite 210, Toronto, ON M3H 5Y9
Phone (416) 630-5533, Fax (416) 630-5702 www.marycentre.com

If you would like more information about Mary Centre and/or you would like to make a donation, clip out this and we will provide you with a Charitable Tax Deductible Donation.

- I would like more information about the agency
- I would like information on becoming a volunteer
- I enclose a cheque in the amount of: _____ or charge to my Credit Card
Card # _____ Expiry ____/____ Signature: _____
- I wish to remain an anonymous donor

Name: _____

Address: _____ Postal Code: _____

Charitable Registration #12892 3737 RR0001

“Celebrating Developmental Challenges”