

RIC ASSOCIATE BOARD UPDATE

WINTER 2009

VOLUME 7 ▶ ISSUE 3

FROM OUR PRESIDENT...

Happy 2009! Our Associate Board has begun the year in full stride, preparing for the annual Mardi Gras Party on Sunday, March 1st, from 2 – 4 p.m. at the flagship in the Heyworth Rooms. Please join us as we interact with kids and families for arts and crafts, food and fun. Many AB Members bring their own kids so c'mon by!



KEVIN HULL

One of my goals is to further expand our volunteer opportunities, specifically focusing on the Sports Program,

the Therapeutic Recreation Department, and the LIFE Center. Periodically, we will be sending out a calendar listing with the dates and times of programs and events. I hope we all can experience that special feeling of touching the life of another through the giving of our smiles. Help me return the Associate Board to the on-campus presence we are committed to sharing at the RIC.

One of the other goals is to make our events this year the best they've ever been – and we can with your involvement! You will find the ArtFutura information in this newsletter so be sure to mark your calendars for Thursday, June 4th at our exciting new location. How can you help? Let's buck the notion that this economy is going to keep sponsors away and show what our Board can do! Remember: we need to keep Phoebe on the job as the Art Therapist for all those kids and adults. Sponsorships can come at any level, so let Bridget or me know if you have someone in mind and we can develop a plan.

Time to get our sleeves up and hands dirty – I'll see you over at the mask-decorating station at Mardi Gras! *

ARTFUTURA 2009 ▶ 6.4.09

The 7TH Annual ArtFutura exhibit is May 22 – June 4, 2009, at the Chicago Apparel Center, Lobby. A **CLOSING NIGHT AWARD PARTY ON THURSDAY, JUNE 4**, will include music by DJ Sheldon Knight, hors d'oeuvres, artwork for sale and artists' awards. Funds raised at the 2009 event help meet the Associate Board's goal of continuing to fund RIC's art therapist, Phoebe.

ARTFUTURA 2009: INFINITE POSSIBILITY IS NOW ACCEPTING ARTIST ENTRIES. Any U.S. artist (emerging or established) age 18 or older may be eligible to participate.

Entry forms with more details on submission are available

ARTFUTURA
2009 :: INFINITE POSSIBILITY

at www.associateboard.org. Please share with anyone you know that may be interested in submitting. **DEADLINE FOR ENTRY IS MARCH 30, 2009.**

If you are interested in being part of the committee that plans this exciting benefit for the Associate Board, please contact one of the 2009 co-chairs or Bridget Vrba. Ticket sales for the June 4th closing event are now open. You can get your \$45 advanced price ticket (entry will be \$60 at the door) online at the AB site today. *

ARTFUTURA 2009 CO-CHAIRS

KELLY KITSCH

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RAY SIMONAITIS

rimsim@gmail.com

BRIAN STANG

bstang@

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ARTFUTURA
2009 :: INFINITE POSSIBILITY
TO BENEFIT THE REHABILITATION INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO
MAY 22-JUNE 4, 2009 ▶ CHICAGO APPAREL CENTER
Call for Artist Entries

We are excited to extend the opportunity for you to participate in ArtFutura 2009!

The 7TH ANNUAL ARTFUTURA is a juried art exhibition of more than 150 emerging and established artists. The exhibit and closing night reception are attended by hundreds of visitors and proceeds **BENEFIT THE REHABILITATION INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO'S ART THERAPY PROGRAM**. Art Therapy is based on the belief that the creative process involved in the creation of art is healing and life-enhancing – making a difference in the lives of people with physical disabilities.

James Rondeau, Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, The Art Institute of Chicago, will serve as juror of the 2009 submissions and **PRIZES RANGING FROM \$300 TO \$1000** will be awarded. Finalists' work will be on display at the Chicago Apparel Center in downtown Chicago, a space that receives approximately 8,000 visitors a day. The exhibit will run from May 22 through June 4, 2009. The exhibition will be free and open to the public and artwork will be available for sale.

- ▶ All submissions meeting the following criteria will be eligible for jury.
- ▶ Artwork should have been completed within the last 2 years
- ▶ Artwork should relate to the theme "Infinite Possibility"
- ▶ Each artist may submit up to 3 images at a \$25 entry fee
- ▶ Follow the **RULES & GUIDELINES** of the Call to Entries
- ▶ A completed **EXHIBITION ENTRY FORM** (available at www.associateboard.org)
- ▶ Materials must be received by **MONDAY MARCH 30, 2009** at the address below

FINALISTS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THEIR SELECTION IN MID-APRIL AND WILL RECEIVE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ATTENDING THE CLOSING NIGHT AND AWARDS PARTY ON THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2009. Artists' awards will be announced and granted at this event.

Thank you in advance for your support of our goal to provide valuable Art Therapy service to people with disabilities served by RIC through your participation.

Sincerely,
Kelly Kitch, Ray Simonaitis & Brian Stang
ArtFutura 2009 Co-Chairs

ART FUTURA 2009 - SUBMISSION
c/o Bridget Vrba
Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago
345 East Superior Street
Chicago, IL 60611-9929 • 312.238.1252
brvba@ric.org • www.associateboard.org

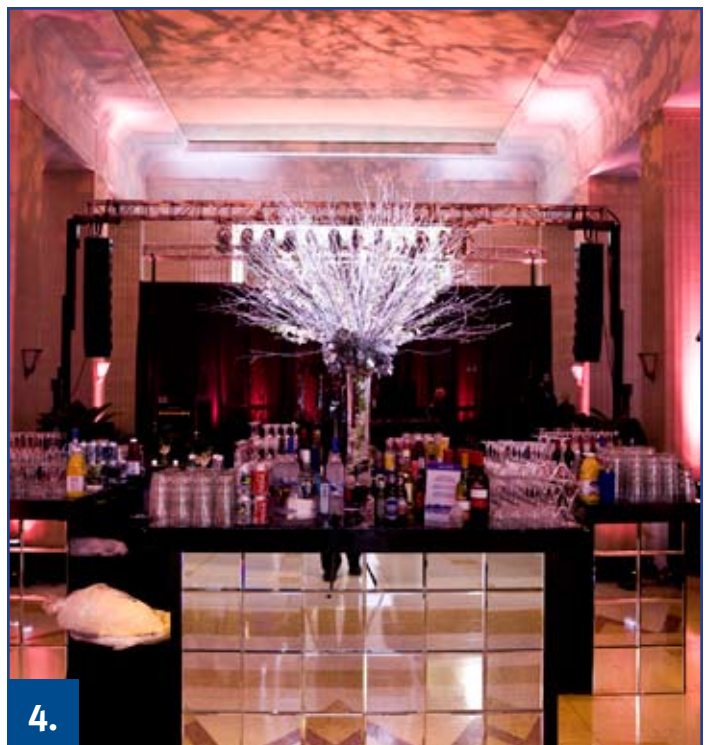
A DECADE OF THE BEARCAT BALL ► 11.15.08

On Saturday, November 15, a sell-out crowd of more than 500 celebrated the 10th Annual Bearcat Ball at The Merchandise Mart. We surpassed our goal and raised more than \$110,000 for RIC's Pediatric Charity Care program.

None of this would have been possible without the amazing 2008 Bearcat Ball Co-Chairs – Johanna Croll, Inga Stenta and Margie Stineman. Their commitment and hard work made for a remarkable 10th anniversary event.

One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of the Tree of Life award. Greta Neimanas, U.S. Paralympic Cyclist, accepted a moving photographic series by artist Suzette Bross Bulley, an AB Life Member. Greta has motivated other children with disabilities through sports as a camp counselor for RIC's Caring for Kids Program and inspires others with her strength, determination and true competitive spirit.

A special thank you to our Host Committee and all the sponsors, donors and committee members that participated in and supported the 2008 event! ✨



1. Suzette Bulley, Greta Neimanas and John Scully; 2. Surreal Neil of Super Diamond; 3. 2008 Chairs, Inga Stenta, Margie Stineman and Johanna Croll; 4. A custom-made mirrored bar was the focal point of the room.

More photos on following page.

BEARCAT BALL CONTINUED



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.

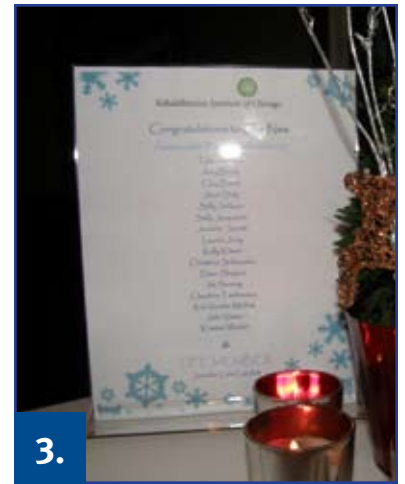
1. Dr. Santiago Toledo dancing to Super Diamond; 2. Rory Repicky, Dr. Joanne Smith, M. Jude Reyes, Lori Reyes; 3. Silent Auction included Oprah tickets, vacation packages and more; 4. Denise Constantine and Claudine Tambuatco; 5. Keith and Lindsay Freeman; 6. Monica and Yves Fredette

SAVE THE DATE ► OCTOBER 24, 2009, 11TH ANNUAL BEARCAT BALL!

Congratulations to the **2009 Co-Chairs TYLER AKESON, SCOTT FEHLAN AND NORA GILHOOLY!** Plans are already underway for what is sure to be an exciting new feel for the Ball. **AFTER 10 YEARS, WE ARE HOSTING THE EVENT AT A NEW VENUE — CHICAGO CULTURAL CENTER, YATES GALLERY.** If you are interested in helping plan the 2009 Bearcat Ball please contact Scott at sfehan@att.net. ❄️

LET IT SNOW! ► DECEMBER 9, 2008

More than 40 AB members and guests braved the winter weather to celebrate a successful year on Tuesday, December 9, 2008, at Powerhouse Restaurant & Bar. ❄️



1. Kate Yeskey cheers as she wins one of several prize drawings; 2. Janet Siegel and Kevin Hull; 3. Congratulations to our New Members; 4. Four of our 16 New Members; Jim Soreng, Jr., John Vietor, Christina Schmucker and Sean Daly; 5. Laura Ferrio, RIC VP, Patient Services, Kirsten Ekdahl Hull, Erica Scully, and Christine Sommerfeldt, RIC VP, Operations; 6. AB Executive Committee Members; Jennifer Schipf, Alby Van Alyea, Julie Boniecki, Lindsay Freeman, John Scully and Kevin Hull

CARING FOR KIDS HOLIDAY PARTY ► DECEMBER 14, 2008

By Kate Yeskey

On Sunday, December 14th, a group of energetic volunteers participated in the Caring for Kids annual Holiday Party at RIC's main hospital. **CARING FOR KIDS** is a dynamic program for any youth (ages 7-17 years) who has a physical disability and is independent in his or her daily living skills. The program offers year-round adaptive sports, recreation, special events, and social activities. **THE HOLIDAY PARTY WAS A SMASHING SUCCESS THIS YEAR**, with volunteers and participants together enjoying crafts, games, carolers, jugglers, dinner and decadent desserts, and even a special visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus — presents in tow!

As a first time volunteer with Caring for Kids, I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to get to know these amazing kids and their families. I hope to see my new friends again soon at the next Caring for Kids event.

If you are interested in volunteering with Caring for Kids, the organization is looking for volunteers willing to commit to a 3-4 month period for their art therapy program. **THE PROGRAM MEETS ONCE A MONTH ON THE 3RD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH FROM 12:30-4:30 PM AT RIC'S SPORTS AND FITNESS CENTER.** Contact Jenny DiLaura at jdilaura@ric.org for more information. *



Right: The Brazza Family;
Left: Jamal Leflore



RECYCLE YOUR VASES FOR RIC

Whether from a holiday arrangement or a Valentine's Day gift from your sweetheart, you can turn your old vases, ceramics and baskets into GREEN—green plants and green cash donations to the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago!

It's so easy! Simply bring your glass, ceramic and wicker containers to 250 E. Superior or any Ashland Addison

Florist location. For every five reusable containers brought in at one time, customers will receive a green plant and have a \$3 donation made on their behalf to RIC. Be sure to tell the sales clerk that your donation should go to RIC.

Ashland Addison Florist will evaluate each container to see if it is able to be reused and filled with amazing fresh blooms again. Containers that are not able to be reused will be properly recycled. Recycling a single glass vase saves enough energy to operate a television for 90 minutes.

For more information on the program and a list of all drop-off locations, go to <http://www.ashaddflorist.com/green.htm>. *



More information on all Associate Board programs and events online at www.associateboard.org.

MEMBERSHIP STATUS FORMS

Renewal Update

Does RIC have your updated contact information? The AB executive committee is working to put together a contact book for all members and needs your help. All existing members should have received a Renewal Commitment Contact Form. Update your information and renew your two-year commitment to the Board.

TO BE COMPLETED BY RIC:
DATE RECEIVED: _____
MEMBERSHIP CYCLE: _____
AB CONTACT: _____

Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago

ASSOCIATE BOARD MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & CONTACT INFORMATION FORM

Thank you for your interest in the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago and the RIC Associate Board.

Founded in 1954, RIC is making a difference in the world for people with disabilities. RIC provides world-class care to patients from around the globe for a range of conditions from acute brain and spinal cord injury to chronic arthritis, pain and sports injuries. RIC has been designated the "#1 Rehabilitation Hospital in America" by U.S. News & World Report every year since 1991, and attributes its leading standard of care in part to its innovative research and discovery, particularly in the areas of bionic medicine, robotics, neural regeneration, pain care and better outcomes. RIC operates its 165-bed, Flagship hospital in downtown Chicago, as well as a network of 30 Sites of Care located throughout the city and surrounding suburbs. These facilities provide additional inpatient care, day rehabilitation and outpatient services. RIC also maintains strategic alliances with leading healthcare providers throughout the states of Illinois and Indiana.

Founded in 1990, the RIC Associate Board is a group of approximately 100 emerging business and civic leaders. The group is committed to raising funding support and increasing the awareness and ongoing success of the RIC through beneficiary events and volunteer programs. The Associate Board is pleased to entertain applications from new members that are passionate about supporting RIC's mission and vision of advancing human ability.

Once accepted, prospective members are encouraged to attend quarterly board meetings, participate in the organization and planning of fundraising events (Bearcat Ball and ArtFutura), and/or volunteer at the hospital. The Associate Board invites prospective members to become full board members up to two times a year.

Upon induction, Associate Board Members are expected to make a two year commitment to the RIC Associate Board and also contribute in the following ways:

1. Attend as many quarterly meetings as possible;
2. Buy two tickets to one of the Associate Board's annual fundraising events; AND
3. Contribute in one of the following ways:
 - a. Volunteer at least four times a year with the Associate Board Volunteer Team;
 - b. Take an active role within the Board, i.e. serving on a committee of one of the fundraising events; serving as an officer on the executive committee or as the Associate Board representative to a hospital committee; OR
 - c. Make a donation of \$250 to the Associate Board of the RIC.

Please complete the Application Form below and submit via mail, email or fax, or deliver in-person at one of the AB's events. Once your Application is received, you will begin receiving announcements and notices of upcoming meetings, social events and volunteer opportunities.

1.09

Please return this to Bridget Vrba by March 2nd (extended deadline from Feb. 20th!). It is crucial for our upcoming event invitations that the AB has your updated information on file. If you did not receive a renewal form, please contact Bridget.

2009 CALENDAR DATES

MARCH 1 Mardi Gras
Volunteer Event
RIC

MARCH 2 Deadline for Member
Renewal Forms

APRIL 28 AB Quarterly Meeting
RIC

MAY 22 - JUNE 4 ArtFutura 2009 Exhibit
The Chicago Apparel
Center, Lobby

JUNE 4 ArtFutura Closing
Night Awards Party
The Chicago Apparel
Center, Lobby

JULY 2009 AB Summer Social
Location and Date TBD

SEPTEMBER 15 AB Annual Meeting
RIC

OCTOBER 24 11th Annual Bearcat Ball
The Chicago Cultural
Center, Yates Gallery

PROSPECTIVE MEMBER APPLICATIONS

A new formal application has also been created to help organize the new member intake process for the Associate Board. If you are a Prospective Member and have not yet completed this new application, please download at http://www.associateboard.org/RICABapplicationFINAL_1%2009.pdf and return to RIC. All members should feel free to share this application with anyone you think would make a valuable member of the AB. This will be a great tool as we continue to grow and involve new members in the mission of supporting RIC. ❁

2008-2009 OFFICERS



Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago

www.associateboard.org

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VICE PRESIDENT

VICE PRESIDENT

TREASURER

SECRETARY

MEMBERSHIP

BOARD ENRICHMENT

PROSPECTIVE MEMBER CHAIR

KEVIN HULL

LINDSAY FREEMAN

JOHN SCULLY

MARGIE STINEMAN

JULIE BONIECKI

ALBY VAN ALYEA

NEAL GOSS

JENNIFER SCHIFF

BRIDGET VRBA

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