

Fundraiser a Success!

On September 16, more than 125 guests ate, drank and made merry at our annual fundraiser, *Food for Thought*. Held at the University of the Arts, supporters enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and desserts prepared by Weavers Way Co-op, beer from Yards Brewery, wine, music from Mark's Jazz Crew, and a live auction hosted by board of trustee member Carol Saline. [Click here to view photos of the event](#)

Presentations included the Joan and Richard Behr Exceptional Service Award to tutor Pat McGovern Gorchov (see article below), a rousing speech from student Melvin Edwards (see article below), and remarks about literacy in Philadelphia from Peggy Leimkuhler, chair of the board of trustees and chief operating officer, Firsttrust Bank, the presenting sponsor of the event.

With support from sponsors, ticket sales, live auction purchases and donations, we exceed our goal and raised \$61,885.

We are grateful to our sponsors: Firsttrust Bank, Pepper Hamilton, DLA Piper, Susquehanna Bank, Glenmede, Fareeha Arshad, Barbara and Jerry Kaplan, Judge Frederica Massiah-Jackson, BNY Mellon, Don and Lynn Haskin, Tech Impact and Innovative Benefit Planning.

A big thank you to our auction donors:

Restaurants: a.kitchen, Bliss, Chops, Di Bruno Bros., Garces Group (courtesy of Marion Wyce Sindoni), Marathon Grill, The Modern Bar Room in New York City, Starr Restaurants, Venick and Vietnam Café

iPad Air 2 and accessories: courtesy of Jana Landon

Arts and Culture: tickets to performances of Walnut Street Theatre (courtesy of Blair Thompson); Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Please Touch Museum, The Barnes Foundation (courtesy of Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young); Philadelphia Theater Company; EgoPo Classic Theater; 1812 Productions; Wilma Theater; Opera Philadelphia; and an original Chinese brush painting courtesy of the artist, Dick Behr

The Lodge at Woodloch

Casa Fuentecica Villa in Bedar, Spain, courtesy of Gerald Allen and Sandra Fernandes

Ongava Game Reserve in Namibia, Africa, courtesy of John McFadden and Lisa Kabnick

Sports: tickets to Eagles game against the Cowboys (!) and a signed memorabilia of a 1978 game, courtesy of Firsttrust Bank; and DLA Piper's suite for a 76ers game against Orlando Magic

Photo credit: Third Eye Productions