Association Holds Art Show and Wine Tasting Benefit

First let me express my gratitude to our members, sponsors and host gallery who all contributed to making our first fundraiser this winter a successful and enjoyable event. We all enjoyed the celebration of flavors while experiencing the art of Sullivan Dunn, Luke Brenner, Lindsay Jacobus-Mueller and Brian Meade.

Paul from the Wilmington Wine Shoppe provided a selection of exceptional wines from Argentina, Australia, and Chile. The top choice selected by guests was the Tilia Malbec/Syrah from Argentina based on the results of the tasting scorecards. The origin of the Malbec grape is the Bordeaux region of France. While the French have used this variety of grape primarily for blending, this is the new signature grape in Argentina.

The abundance of food donated by Caffe Phoenix, Elijah's, Harris Teeter, Pilot House and Rim Wang was equally enjoyable. Chet Fisher, owner and curator of Era 20th Century Furniture and Art Gallery, provided a

(Above) *No Boundaries* international artists colony cofounder Gayle Tustin, Sister Cities Association of Wilmington President Marilyn Cantarella, and Catherine Ackiss enjoy the fundraiser.



beautiful and intimate setting for us while mingling with our guests. The event raised nearly \$700 to benefit Sister Cities Association and will be used to help cover the design costs for our website, which we hope to launch later this year.

Marilyn Cantarella SCAW President

(Below) The first fundraiser for SCAW attracted a nice crowd and raised nearly \$700 for the Association.



Sister City Program Activities - January through June 2008

UNCW Intercultural Fair

Sister Cities Association members, in partnership with the Sister City Commission, manned a booth at the University's Annual Intercultural Fair. Art objects from Wilmington's sister cities were displayed and information was distributed about the history of Wilmington's twinnings and Sister City activities.

San Pedro, Belize

The City of Wilmington has approved the donation of a street sweeper to Sister City San Pedro, Belize. In July the City ordered parts for repair of the sweeper, which was recently removed from active service on Wilmington streets. San Pedro will assume the cost of the repairs and pay to transport it to Miami, where it will be loaded on a cargo ship to its final destination. Details are currently being worked out by Ed Paul, the Consulate of Belize, to allow a mechanic from San Pedro to travel to Wilmington to participate in repairs and training.

Azalea Festival 2008

The Sister City Commission participated in this year's Azalea Festival for the first time. Flags representing each of our sister cities and a sister cities banner were purchased and used to decorate the downtown trolley. It was a great opportunity to highlight Wilmington's sister cities and raise awareness of these relationships.

Dinner Program

Our March 31 guest speaker, Mark Campbell, gave a presentation on his experiences while participating in a Fulbright Fellowship in Japan. His oral presentation was accompanied by slides of places, people and events during his trip last year. Campbell's future plans include bringing a group of 30 students from Wilmington to Japan during the summer break as part of a cultural exchange. Campbell is part of the faculty at Cape Fear Academy and spent time teaching in Mexico and Australia prior to locating to Wilmington.

Upcoming Events

Save the Date: Monday, August 25, 2008 at 6:00 PM, Main Branch New Hanover County Library

A View of Mainland Southeast Asia: It's People, Places, and Culture

Experience the beauty and tranquility of the Thai/Cambodian people through the lens of local artist and master photographer Arrow Ross. Join us for dinner and lively conversation at Charin Thai following the one-hour multi-media show. Open to the public. Telephone reservations required due to limited space. Call Marilyn at 343-5226 if you are planning to attend.

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