vour guide to the HOTTEST galas & FUNDRAISERS CALAVIAN ON TER/SPRING 2014 V.1 ON TER/SPRING

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GALA EVENTS and FUNDRAISERS in TORONTO and the GTA



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GALAvanting

A HOToronto Publication



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The information on establishments and special venues listed or mentioned in this publication is compiled from all available, and considered to be reliable sources. The publisher does not assume responsibility for omissions, errors or changes printed. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy of information provided at time of printing. Due to the nature of the venues, information may change after date of publication.

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Winter/Spring 2014 V.1 On Line Edition



From the editor



FUNdraising season is in full swing with Galas Galore!

Joey Cee, Publisher & Editor

HOToronto Magazine, in its commitment to keeping you informed and enlightened, continues to present you with a host of new on-line download magazine titles. This magazine is dedicated to one of our famous pastimes *- fundraising*. GALAvanting Magazine is an online DIGITAL publication, available as a free download designed to be of interest to the consumer and trade sectors alike. We have compiled for you, a list of galas and major fundraisers that basically put the FUN into FUNdraising. In subsequent updated issues we will be featuring Golf Tournaments and additional fundraising events.

The information compiled in this issue is derived from many sources, solicited and unsolicited. Our team of writers and photographers have been covering such galas for more than 19 years, and each year there are more and more such events popping up all over the city and throughout the GTA. For most, it is hard to keep up with the variety of gala events that want us to attend and support their particular cause. All of them worthy of consideration.

Although this information is being transmitted to you via free subscription or as a digital download, it will only be available in this format seasonally, updated accordingly as the urgency of the information requires us to offer a new version. You will note the updated version of GALAvanting by the version code at the top of this page or by the new cover. At all times you can simply go to www.HOToronto.com or www.TorontoOnDemand.ca and click on the Galas & Fundraisers link to acquire detailed updates and additions as they become available.

If you have a fundraising event you wish to be listed, please send the details of your event to us at hotoronto@rogers.com. We will do our best to get it posted and get the word out.

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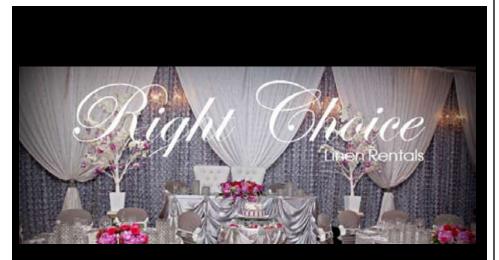
LISTED GALAS AT A GLANCE

DATELINE Listed by Date

Januarv 25 Dragon Ball 2014 A Cure In The Future Gala February 15 February 1 Night to Nurture Gala February 6 Book Lovers' Ball Love 4 A Cure: February 6 Kiss and Tell February 7 Casablanca Gala February 7 Winter Wonderland February 8 Great Valentine Gala February 8 Laugh Out Loud Gala Heart to Heart February 8 Valentines Gala February 8 Hollywood Gala To Cure Cancer Love Forever Charity Gala February 14 February 14 Lend Your Love February 22 Carnevale di Venezia February 22 Chocolate + Ice Wine Gala:Decadence February 22 Friends Helping Friends March 29 Forbidden Prom April 5 Retro Boogie Night April 25 Creating Dream Gala May 2 Roots + Wings Spring Gala May 29 The Butterfly Ball June 8 Toronto Taste June 12 **Big Night Out** June 14 Barbados Ball September 7 Feast of Fields September 27 Angels Ball October 7 Art with Heart November 1 Teddy Bear Affair: Viva Italia

HEADS UP UPCOMING BALLS + GALAS

Artbeats Gala **Beggars Banquet Gala** Best Buddies Gala Bloor Street Entertains Bridle Bash Cife Gala D.A.N.I. Gala Diya: Annual South Asian Gala Dx Gala Eat To The Beat Fandango Full Circle Innovator's Ball Tlhe Venetian Ball It's Always Something Italian Walk Of Fame Gala Laughter Is The Best Medicine 2 Luminato Big Bang Bash Massive Party @ AGO Mistletoe Ball onexone Operanation Pencer Brain Trust Power Ball Queen Street Unmasked Snowball 2014 Stems Of Hope Gala The Busker Ball The Chocolate Ball Toronto ThE Chocolate Ball Vaughan The Crystal Ball The Mirror Ball The Phoenix Ball Walk Of Fame Charity Ball Writers' Trust Gala



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HISTORY TRANSFORMED INTO A PLACE OF BEAUTY

The Eglinton Theatre opened its doors in 1936 and closed in April 2002. In 2003, this designated historical landmark's lease was acquired by Dynamic Hospitality and Entertainment Group who transformed it back to its original 1930's art-deco grandeur and convert it into a special events venue. Remamed the Eglinton Grand, it has since played host to many galas, special events and weddings. Once you visit and discover this venue, you will marvel in it's transformation from a historic theatre to a modern first-class venue suitable for any event. Located just west of Avenue Road on Eglinton Avenue.



YOUR GUIDE TO THE BEST GALAS & FUNDRAISERS

January 25 DRAGON BALL 2014

Metro Toronto Convention Centre

In Support of Yee Hong Centre Dragon Ball is the annual signature fundraising gala for Yee Hong. Dragon Ball is recognized as the largest Chinese New Year celebration of its kind in North America and one of the most prominent galas in Canada. Into its 24th year, Dragon Ball 2012 will welcome the Year of the Dragon with more than 1,000 patrons.

February 1 NIGHT TO NURTURE GALA

Metro Toronto Convention Centre In Support of Kids Help Phone

February 6 BOOK LOVER'S BALL

(9th Annual)

Fairmont Royal York Hotel In Support of Toronto Public Library Foundation Sixty of Canada's top authors will put aside their guill pens for one night to attend a black tie affair supporting Toronto Public Library -- one of the busiest urban library systems in the world. Up to 600 guests will have the rare opportunity to mingle with 60 celebrated authors over a culinary extravaganza designed by Food Network personality Lynn Crawford. Featured authors include former politician, Michael Ignatieff (Fire and Ashes); former **CEO** and President of Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment, Richard Peddie (Dream

Job); acclaimed musician and author Dave Bidini (Keon and Me); erotic literature sensation, L. Marie Adeline (S.E.C.R.E.T. Shared): international bestselling novelist Steven Galloway (The Cellist of Sarajevo); member of parliament Olivia Chow (My Journey); and regular awesome guy turned awesome author, Neil Pasricha (The Book of Awesome). Hosted by Citvline personality Tracy Moore, The Book Lover's Ball will include a sparkling reception, a dazzling silent auction and "Adopt-a-Branch" fundraiser, and culminate in five chapters of entertainment, each based on a novel by bestselling authors Jason Mott, Steven Galloway, Kamal Al-Solaylee, Eva Stachniak and Suzanne Collins. Infused with an eclectic mix of mime, slam poetry, archery, music and fashion. the show will bring these much-loved books to life on stage in jaw-dropping style.

February 6 LOVE 4 A CURE: KISS AND TELL

The Courthouse Tickets: 416-946-2353 *love4acure.com* In Support of Princess Margaret Hospital EVENT INCLUDES: Black tie Gala, Complimentary Bar service, Bachelor/Bachelorette auction, Live Music Performance, Silent Auction, Entertainment and many more surprises.

February 7 CASABLANCA GALA The Carlu

nbs-enb.ca/casablancagala In Support of the National Ballet School

This year's Gala will feature many of the aspects of previous years that have proven so popular with attendees, with some new and exciting twists. The Casablanca Gala will feature a Casablanca-inspired cocktail reception and gourmet Moroccan dinner, culminating in a ballet performance by NBS' **Professional Ballet Program** students. Following the performance will be a casino and lounge with live entertainment. The evening will also include a luxury raffle with prizes valued over \$49,000, featuring lead **Raffle Partner Mindham Fine** Jewellery. New to this year's Gala, NBS is offering an exclusive "35 and Under" ticket at a reduced price with the intent of introducing a younger generation to the art form of ballet. "35 and Under" tickets will include a 'welcome' wine reception with NBS student ambassadors, as well as performance, raffle, casino and lounge. Gourmet hors d'oeuvres and complimentary bar service will also be offered throughout the evening.

February 7 WINTER WONDERLAND

Liberty Grand In support of Special Olympics

February 8 GREAT VALENTINE GALA Westin Harbour Castle Hotel *www.cfpdp.com* In support of Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons

February 8 LAUGH OUT LOUD with MARTIN SHORT + GERRY DEE

International Centre lol4trillium.ca In support of Trillilum Health Partners

February 8 HEART TO HEART VALENTINES GALA

(3rd Annual) President's Banquet Hall, Concord Tickets: 647-638-5683 In support of SickKids

February 8 HOLLYWOOD GALA TO CURE CANCER

The Terrace Banquet Hall www.vaughninmotion.com In support of Vaughn In Motion to Cure Cancer

February 14 LOVE FOREVER CHARITY GALA

Markham Events Centre Tickets: 647-290-2372 In support of SickKids

February 14 LEND YOUR LOVE

Markham Museum 9350 Markham Road www.memoryboxevents.ca/ lendyourlove In support of Plan Canada's Because I Am A Girl Initiative Lend Your Love is a formal charity gala that takes place on Valentine's Day. It aims to educate and inspire the community to become active participants in making a change. Together we can understand the issues and focus on being a part of the solution. Lend Your Love 2014 will be benefiting Plan Canada's, Because I am a Girl, with the goal of providing literacy training to 100 women in the third world. 100% of proceeds will be donated. Dinner, dancing, silent auction and raffle prizes!

February 15 A NIGHT IN THE PAST FOR A CURE IN THE FUTURE GALA (8th Annual)

Bellvue Manor acureinthefuture.com In support of Princess Margaret Hospital

February 22-23 CARNEVALE di VENEZIA Liberty Grand

Tickets: 416-622-2000

February 22 CHOCOLATE & ICE GALA: DECADENCE

Niagara Culinary College Niagara-on-the-lake *www.niagaracollege.ca/decadence*

February 22 FRIENDS HELPING SICKKIDS: "SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER" DISCO EVENT

La Primavera Banquet & Convention Centre In support of SickKids Foundation

March 29 FORBIDDEN PROM 2014

Royal Ontario Museum www.rom.on.ca/en/ypc/events In support of the ROM

April 5 RETRO BOOGIE NIGHT (4th Annual)

West River Event Centre, Vaughan *nf4sickkids.com* In support of Neurofibromatosis (NF), SickKids Foundation

April 25 YELLOW BRICK HOUSE: CREATING DREAMS GALA (9th Annual)

Angus Glen Golf Club *yellowbrickhouse.org* In support of the Yellow Brick House

May 2 ROOTS + WINGS SPRING GALA

Eglinton Grand *trails.ca* In support of Trails Youth Initiatives

May 29 THE BUTTERFLY BALL

Four Seasons Hotel boostforkids.org In support of Boost Child Prevention and Intervention

June 8 TORONTO TASTE

Corus Quay *www.torontotaste.ca* In support of Second Harvest Mingle with Toronto's top chefs and taste everything our vibrant culinary scene has to offer coming this summer to Corus Quay at 25 Dockside Drive.

June 12 BIG NIGHT OUT

Liberty Grand *www.bbbst.com* In support of Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Toronto A special evening celebrating the people who make a difference in the lives of so many children and youth in our community. Enjoy a wonderful evening featuring silent and live auctions, gourmet dinner and fabulous entertainment.

June 14 BARBADOS BALL CANADA AID

www.barbadosballcanada.com Pearson Convention Centre In support of BBCA John Rollock Memorial Scholarships

September 7 FEAST OF FIELDS EVENT

Cold Creek Conservation Area www.feastoffields.org, 905-859-3609

September 27 ANGELS BALL (11th Annual)

Montecassino Woodbridge In support of Toronto Earlscourt Rotary Club

October 7

ART WITH HEART The Carlu *www.artwithheart.ca* In Support of Casey House An exciting opportunity to take home a significant piece of art while helping people with HIV/ AIDS in our community. Art with Heart has earned a strong reputation for presenting some of Canada's finest established contemporary artist as well as emerging artists whose careers are on the rise

October 17 TRILLIUM DIWALI 2014

Pearson Convention Centre In support of Seniors Health at Trillium Hospital

If you have a FUNDRAISING EVENT you would like us to know about, send the details of your event to:

HOToronto@rogers.com or mail to HOToronto Magazine 1235 Bay Street, Suite 400, Toronto, Ontario. M5R 3K4 Tel: 416-923-HOTO

GALAvanting



IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

FUNDRAISERS PHOTO GALLERY GOLF TOURNAMENTS and GALA UPDATES

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TOP 10 SPECIAL EVENTS COMMERCIALS WEDDINGS



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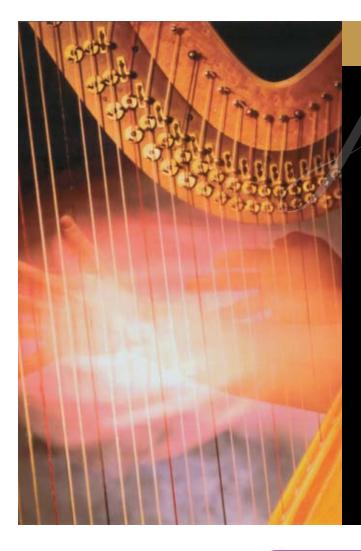




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A GALA IS A BALL ... and that's not all!

A BALL or GALA is a festive celebration normally a black tie event. Many of today's balls and galas are themed to create a night of excitement and involvement by patrons who pay anywhere from \$75 to \$1500 a ticket to attend. Although most are reserved sit down dinners, some feature a buffet in a reception style setting which is a combination of standup and limited seating.

Most galas or balls feature a combination of the several elements, such as: a VIP reception, souvenir photos, silent auction, live auction, dinner or buffet, open or cash bar, speeches, live musical entertainment, added feature entertainment, raffles, draws, door prizes, balloon busts, late dessert tables and a parting goody bag or souvenir.

Depending on the price of the ticket and the venue, some provide free valet parking and coat check, while others provide free self parking.

What used to be considered a night out for the rich and famous is now a favourite destination for all ages and walks of life. In fact, many galas are affordable and when you consider the entertainment value. The price is often not much different than going to a concert.

GALAvanting for a Cause

If you have already been to one or more galas, you know the value of having a great night out while supporting a good cause. If you have yet to attend one of these social gatherings, try to make it to at least one this year. Although we all know that times are tight, an evening out with your partner or friends to a gala is a great stress reliever and a chance to forget about everything for a night.

Dressing for a gala is part of the fun, so don't get stressed out about what to wear. The rule of thumb is to dress according to the event's theme. If it is elegant and black tie, your invitation should note that. Men: Don't rent a tux unless the event strictly calls for one or you want to. Normally a nice suit or slacks and jacket will do. Use your discretion. Women: A ball gown is not necessary unless the event specifies in its dress code. You don't have to spend a fortune on a new gown – this is not a wedding. Unlike the men, there are a lot of styles you can get away with, but again use your own discretion. Dress to impress, but dress so that you will be comfortable enough to enjoy yourself. If there is a lot of standing and dancing, remember to wear comfortable shoes. If you're sitting most of the night, consider clothing that doesn't crease.

Galas are memorable events and worth every penny - most of the money raised goes to charity. Each year, Toronto holds a plethora of world-class galas, balls, creative fundraisers and golf tournaments for locals and tourists to gather and socialize, while supporting a worthwhile cause.



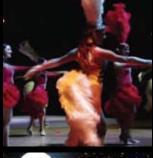
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One of the most predominant things I heard last night was, "Who did the videos? They are fantastic!" Seriously, everyone loved them. Several nominees asked me for copies because they were so pleased with how you presented their work. A number of them said that they liked your narration and how conversational it was.

Thanks so much, and congratulations!

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