

Benefit

Wine Event Raises \$200K for The Wooden Floor



Left to right: Premier Sponsors John and Janice Markley flanked by The Wooden Floor Executive Director Dawn S. Reese, left, and Artistic Director Melanie Rios Glaser. Premier Sponsors Joan and Don Beall.

The Wooden Floor hosted its 6th Annual Keep the Promise Wine Tasting Benefit at Big Canyon Country Club this month, raising more than \$200,000 to support its award-winning year-round dance, academic, and family services – a 25 percent increase from the previous year.

More than 250 local wine enthusiasts and community supporters tasted a selection of 12 highly-rated, hard-to-find wines from the Oregon and California coasts, each hand-selected and graciously donated by Premier Sponsors John and Janice Markley.

Silent and live auctions highlighted the evening, including a \$6,000 winning bid for a 2009 Kosta Browne Pinot Noir magnum donated by Sonoma vintner Dan Kosta.

In addition to being introduced to a range of spectacular wines, event attendees also gained a deeper knowledge of The Wooden Floor's 29-year-old mission and tremendous outcomes.

Guests enjoyed a short award-winning film on The Wooden Floor students, titled "From Here, You Can Step Anywhere," followed by

remarks by Board Chairman Ernesto Vasquez, Executive Director and Co-CEO Dawn S. Reese, Artistic Director and Co-CEO Melanie Rios Glaser, and John Markley.

Most importantly, Esai Alvarez, a member of The Wooden Floor's Class of 2013, spoke about pursuing his goal of higher education to someday become a surgeon.

Since 2005, 100 percent of graduates from The Wooden Floor have completed high school on time and enrolled in college, outperforming their socioeconomic peers three-fold.



Blind-tasting competition winner Paul Lin.



The Wooden Floor Class of 2013's Esai Alvarez addressing the guests. Sheridan Johnson, Kate Wilson, vintner Dan Kosta and Julie Wilson.



SAVE THE DATE

OCT. 20
Sail for the Visually

Impaired at the American Legion Yacht Club. For details, visit americanlegionyachtclub.com or call Frank Reinhart at 949-933-3420.

OCT. 23
39th Annual Corona del Mar Home Tour, to benefit CdM Middle

School and CdM High School. Tickets \$65. For details and tickets, visit cdmhometour.com.

NOV. 17
Share Our Wine Foundation's Auction Orange County, to benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of OC and

Orangewood Children's Foundation, at the Samueli Theater at 6 p.m. Tickets \$150. Bottle of wine valued at \$75-plus also required for admission. For details, visit shareourwine.org.