**Benefit**

**Wine Event Raises $200K for The Wooden Floor**

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.