Holy Cross Hospital hosts international culinary adventure

A global culinary adventure awaited guests at Epicurean Escapade, a Holy Cross Hospital Auxiliary gala at Design Center of the Americas. After a cocktail reception with passed hors d’oeuvres and a sushi bar, partygoers moved to the dining room, where international buffet stations offered gourmet dishes from France, Thailand, the Caribbean islands and the southern U.S., along with matching wines. The Jerry Wayne band rocked the dance floor.

The evening chaired by Cheryl Lamb and Julie Valent raised nearly $200,000 for the Phil Smith ALS and Movement Disorders Clinic at the Phil Smith Neuroscience Institute at Holy Cross.

Enchanted Forest

Performers costumed as whimsical creatures like a friendly frog, fantailed bluebird and strolling flower greeted guests entering an enchanted forest illuminated with fairy lights at the Broward Heart Ball. During the cocktail hour, servers passed bruschetta, lobster rolls, diver scallops and empanadas. In the dining room, candles flickered on white floral centerpieces and gleaming gold cloths and charger plates.

The dinner at the Ritz Carlton honored Dr. Zachariah P. Zachariah, medical director at UHealth Cardiology Fort Lauderdale. Guests also watched a video about child survivor Victoria Orellana, who last year received a heart transplant performed by Dr. Frank Scholl, chief of the Heart Institute at Joe DiMaggio Children’s Hospital. The event raised $500,000.

Dream Makers

The evening was bittersweet as supporters of Debbie’s Dream Foundation gathered for a gala at the Diplomat Resort & Spa in Hollywood. The party honored the memory of the organization’s founder, Debbie Zelman, who passed away last December after nearly a decade of battling stomach cancer.

But the night was mostly festive, with guests gussied up in snazzy outfits to match the theme, Dressed to the Nines. Lawyer David Kubiilun and Stephen Greenberger of the Broward County Sheriff’s Office served as chairs for the sixth consecutive year. Lisa Petrillo, WFOR CBS4 Miami, was master of ceremonies for the party that raised more than $300,000 for stomach cancer research.

Cook & Cork

Bubbling flutes of champagne began the evening when the Fort Lauderdale Chapter of the Chaine des Rotisseurs met at the Cook & Cork for a five-course dinner. Chef-owner Keith Blauschild and his wife Dena hosted the party that featured lobster tortellini, duck confit croquette, roast Wagyu beef, goat cheesecake and chocolate fig tart.

Dr. Zachariah P. Zachariah and Dr. Alan Schwartz at the Broward Heart Ball. (Downtown Photo)

Candice Scholl and Dr. Frank Scholl at the Broward Heart Ball. (Downtown Photo)

Debbie’s Dream co-chairs David Kubiilun and Stephen Greenberger. (Downtown Photo)

Debbie’s Dream Foundation Board President Michael Ehren, Lisa Petrillo, Kristi Krueger and DDF Executive Director Andrea Eidelman (DDF)

Jerry Rosenthal and Chef Keith Blauschild at the Cook & Cork. (Jana Danger)

Fort Lauderdale Chaine President Jerry Rosenthal expressed the group’s appreciation with a commemorative plaque and a rare bottle of port for the chef. The Chaine Foundation provides scholarships for deserving culinary and enological students.