

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

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HEARD & SCENE

Six Galas, One Night

By MARSHALL HEYMAN



During cocktails at the 34th Annual Gala for the Inner-City Scholarship fund at Cipriani 42nd St Tuesday, JP Morgan Chase Vice Chairman Jimmy Lee joked about Blackstone Group chairman Steve Schwarzman. "Steve and I have a running competition about how many Jewish awards I've won and how many Catholic awards he's won," said Mr. Lee. He was carrying a stack of handmade cards sent to him by students he'd sponsored. "I underlined things that I found touching," Mr. Lee said.

Raised: Almost \$1 million
Hors d'oeuvre: Tuna tartare on toasted baguette

At the Organic Elegance Benefit for the Continuum Center for Health and Healing, Shana Kuhn Siegel, a yoga therapy coordinator, asked guests (including Donna Karan, Charlotte Sarkozy and Rory Tahari) to engage in some "chair yoga-relaxation": "Place your hands on your thighs and press your feet into the floor." There was a lot of silence dur-

ing the evening. It began with a blessing from the Rev. Koshin Paley Ellison, who said: "Dedicate this moment of stillness to a loved one," and ended, after six songs from Elvis Costello, with a meditation.

Raised: \$400,000
Gift bag: Xocai chocolate, aroma oil, and a Canyon Ranch cookbook
Hors d'oeuvre: Apple chips with smoked tofu

At the American Patrons of the Tate gala, just before dinner on the 44th Floor of the Hearst building, Becca Cason Thrash, the Texas philanthropist in Dior Haute Couture, compared New York to Houston. "Texans are ebullient," she said. "We're comfortable in our skins. We're enthusiastic and not afraid to show it. There's more of a blasé attitude in New York. I don't judge it. It is what it is. I think it flabbergasts people sometimes when I say, 'You look divine!' Women are surprised by that."

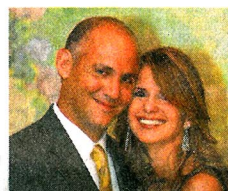
Raised: \$750,000
Gift bag: An issue of Harper's Bazaar, Marc Jacobs Lola perfume, pack of recycled Post-Its.
Hors d'oeuvre: Seven-spice chicken meatballs

LINCOLN CENTER GALA



Barbaralee and Carl Spielvogel

HOWARD GANEK'S 80TH



David and Danielle Ganek

At around 9:05, guests of Lincoln Center's Spring Gala gathered in front of the newly renovated fountain to sip champagne and enjoy a water show choreographed by WET Design. Liza Minnelli had just delivered a rendition of "New York, New York" that left Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel, vice-chair of the New York State Council on the Arts, speechless. "I'll have to tell you later," she said, when a reporter asked her thoughts.

Raised: \$3.1 million
Gift bag: Sort of. At each plate, a red bag held sesame-chicken salad in a takeout box.
Hors d'oeuvre: Hot dogs

Ten minutes after, in the ballroom of the Pierre at a dinner for money manager Howard Ganek, hosted by the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, David Ganek, of Level Global, announced a \$500,000 gift to the museum in honor of his father's 80th birthday. He then took a short detour: "I don't mind telling you that my wife, Danielle, has a book coming out this month called 'The Summer We Read Gatsby.' We could come together and do a great thing if we all ordered it on Amazon tonight, but I have too much pride to go there."

Raised: \$2.3 million
Hors d'oeuvre: Caprese salad.

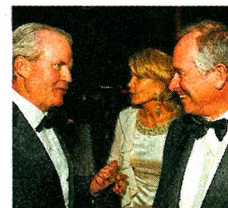
At the end of Performance Space 122's Spring Gala, which honored actor John Leguizamo, actress Rosie Perez enlisted two male friends to take photos of the dessert trays. They were full of mini carrot cakes as well as brownies with the name "John" written in frosting. Ms. Perez told Mr. Leguizamo that she and her friends were going to get dinner and asked if he wanted to come along. "I'm just going to eat these things," Mr. Leguizamo answered, holding up a "John" brownie.

Raised: \$125,000
Hors d'oeuvre: Roast pork Cubanos
—Shelly Banjo, Maya Pope-Chappell, Elva Ramirez, Pia Catton and Adam Laukhuf contributed.

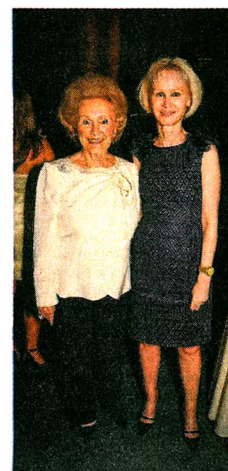
FRIENDS OF INNER-CITY SCHOLARSHIP FUND



Mike Ovitz



Jimmy Lee, Christine and Steve Schwarzman



Mrs. Wellington T. Mara and her daughter Susan McDonnell