



From left, auction chair Michelle Cherry, committee member Marsha Morgan and committee member Monica Paredes



Head of School Marisa Isabel Leon with founder, board president and sponsor Erin Defosse

## 2ND ANNUAL GALA

# Noche de Gala raises funds for Magellan International School

By Holly Jackson  
Contributing Writer

Worldwide influences were pervasive throughout the second annual Noche de Gala benefiting the Magellan International School. More than 200 supporters attended this festive fundraiser at the Renaissance Hotel.

Partygoers enjoyed a cocktail reception sponsored by Enchanted Rock Vodka. Tasty tapas included ahi tuna, portabella puffs, chicken satay, jumbo scallops, egg rolls and pork loin.

Westbankers Jeff and Gail Kodosky and Westbank-owned Henna Chevrolet were the top event sponsors, and Westbanker Leo A. Ramirez Jr. emceed the exciting evening. The Race to the

Raffle featured a free year's tuition. The lucky winners were Natalie and Michael Kennedy.

The silent auction showcased 85 items and student art projects. Auctioneer Victoria Gutierrez led the extensive live auction of 31 packages. The largest bids were awarded for unique vacations. Gary and Michelle Cherry bought a trip to the Berkshires for a James Taylor concert. Thomas and Mary Marek purchased a vacation to the Guavaberry Resort & Country Club in the Dominican Republic. Laura Kodosky Waltermann won an overseas excursion to the French countryside.

Music began with an ensemble of eight middle and high school guitarists

from Austin Bella Corda, part of the national Childbloom Guitar program. Then, Stuart Yaros of Dance International taught group salsa lessons. The Brew played lively Latin jazz to end the evening.

Proceeds of approximately \$100,000 will help maintain the school, build a library, develop programs, continue scholarships and hire/retain teachers and staff.

"The success of the gala will allow the expansion to almost 200 students due to our unprecedented growth for an independent school in Central Texas," said founder and board president Erin DeFosse. "We hope our school will be a model for academic achievement."

Since 2009, the Magellan International School has offered a multicultural curriculum and overall philosophy that provides knowledge and appreciation of cultures from around the world deemed necessary in this age of globalization. This pre-primary through third-grade school teaches language immersion that enables children to become bi-literate in English and Spanish and develop proficiency in Mandarin.

For more information, please visit [www.magellanschool.org](http://www.magellanschool.org).

For more events, visit [HollysHotHappenings.com](http://HollysHotHappenings.com)



Rob and Amy Story, Magellan International School Parent Association treasurer



Westbankers and sponsors Mark and Patricia Henna-Rowe, auction co-chair



Sponsor Laura Kodosky Waltermann and Eric Wangler



Shannon and Teri-Terrazas Graham, event chair



Board members Carol Thomas and Alejandra Mielke



Rita and Jose Luque, board member



Westbanker and emcee Leo A. Ramirez Jr. with Westbanker Moris Simson



Westbankers and sponsors Gail and Jeff Kodosky



Michael and Jill Jaimes, Magellan International School Parent Association treasurer president