

Published: 08/30/2011

On Thursday, September 1, 2011, Top Chef Masters contestant Celina Tio will demonstrate her award-winning skills in a unique collaborative fundraising benefit on behalf of the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo and the autism programs of the Toledo Children's Hospital. This event is held in the private home of Barbara Steele and Alan Kimpel in Perrysburg, Ohio. Tickets for the event have sold out.

Ms. Tio will be joined by **Chef Sebastian Mazzotta from Naples, FL**. In addition, seventeen local restaurants and caterers are supporting the event with their signature creations. Those restaurants are: Fifi's Reprise, Mancy's Steakhouse, Mancy's Bluewater Grille, The Beirut/Byblos, Burger Bar 419, Rosie's Italian Grille, Poco Piatti, Evans Street Station, Georgio's Café International, Veggie U, Koto Buki, Petit Fours Patisserie & Café, Chef Marcel Fine Catering, Cynthia's Catering, Al's Cupcakes/Alexandra Martin, Rachel Michaels Gourmet Popcorn, and Artisanal Pastries/Karyn Hajjar.

Artwork for the invitation, signage, and other event promotional materials was adapted from a floral painting by a five-year old who is autistic. Amick Olsen, the child of Brooke and Lars Olsen, did the painting in a workshop in the spring. B-creative studios graphic designer Brent Lohmann adapted the design for the materials. In addition, Yark Automotive Group donated a two-year lease on a FIAT 500, and Amick's artwork was wrapped onto the FIAT, which may be viewed at ProMedica facilities this week and online at www.tinyurl.com/yarkartfiat. An art bench was also painted with the design by apprentices in the Arts Commission's Young Artists at Work program and will be available for auction at the event.

Among the other live and silent auction items are the following: a one-week stay in a vacation home in Jamaica, artworks by Toledo artists Richard Reed and Jack Schmidt, a second art bench, and a charter plane trip to Kansas City to dine at Chef Tio's restaurant with overnight accommodations.

The event is chaired by Rita N.A. Mansour, Jim Moore, and Sue Hague-Rogers, long-time supporters of both organizations. Honorary chair is George Chapman, CEO, Health Care REIT.

Sponsors for the event include: Health Care REIT, Inc., University of Toledo Foundation, Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP, Lima Memorial Hospital, Merrill Lynch, The Toledo Hospital/The Toledo Children's Hospital Medical Staff, Yark FIAT, and many more.