

VOICES & VISIONS

May 31, 2017 | Seaport World Trade Center



Background Information

Early Origins

This unique annual exhibit dates back to 1989 when it was literally a small display of artwork by the young children at our former Knight Children's Center in Jamaica Plain. Encouraged by our supporters, The Home developed the project into a gala donor appreciation event and moved it to a downtown location. Voices & Visions is now The Home's signature fundraising event, attracting a growing number of corporate and individual sponsors and consistently raising over \$1 million to support The Home's programs.

Event Format and Program

The event begins with a cocktail reception, an auction, and an opportunity to view the children's artwork. Guests are encouraged to leave comments alongside each work; these comments are treasured by the children and serve to build their self-esteem. A dinner and program follow, which includes the presentation of the Sabino Marinella Award to an individual or group to recognize personal achievement and/or dedication to The Home's mission. The evening concludes with an awards presentation to an individual for their philanthropic commitment.

Event Theme

Each year's event has a specific theme and forms part of a yearlong creative arts curriculum at The Home's programs. Many of the children who come into our care have had devastating experiences with abuse and neglect. Introducing them to the creative process through art and writing has proved to be extremely therapeutic and a valuable tool in the healing process. Past themes have included My World Today; Who Am I?; I Dream a World; Celebrating Heroes; A Journey through the Ancient Past; and Cultures of the World. Through portraits, poems, 3-D pieces of artwork and stories, the children find myriad ways to share their voices and visions.

The Voices for Children Committee

Each year, The Home works with a committee of dedicated volunteers who agree to sponsor the event, encourage other sponsors, and help fill the room with old and new friends to support our vital work with children in need. Members of the Voices for Children Committee are crucial to The Home's success in building the sponsor base and annual tradition of this special event by setting a leadership example and adding a personal touch to The Home's own publicity and outreach efforts.

How does Voices & Visions help?

The incredible generosity of individuals, foundations and corporations throughout New England has enabled us to provide many additional services for our children that otherwise would be financially impossible. Some examples of how we have used the proceeds of Voices & Visions include: expanding the arts program at our special education schools, implementing a health and wellness initiative, increasing vocational education programs, and providing children with summer recreational activities.

