



Dorothy Bailey, Christine Sullivan, Jennifer Eckhoff, Janine Hallisey, Katie Shanley, and Michele Bisaccia were a few who made the Rumson Education Foundation's "Celebration for Education" a big success.

A CELEBRATION FOR EDUCATION

By Diane E. Alter

The Rumson Education Foundation held its biggest fundraiser on Friday, November 19 at the Navesink Country Club. Over 250 guests attended to celebrate and support the work and mission of the foundation: to strengthen Rumson's community commitment to education by offering Deanne Porter and Forrestdale students the resources to develop their academic talents and physical and intellectual capabilities.

This event is the foundation's largest event during the school year. Founded over 15 years ago, the foundation has raised over \$1.3 million for the two Rumson schools. The funds are given back through educational grant initiatives, ensuring that students have access to cutting-edge technology and state-of-the-art material.

The evening began at 7:30 p.m. and wound down at around 11:30 p.m. The night included an expansive and delicious buffet, live and silent auctions, a cigar bar, a wine toss, music, and much more. Tables were decorated with unique flower designs of orchids and white ostrich feathers, created by Joanne Bernadette.

Sponsors included Maldjian & Fallon, LLC; Resources Real Estate; the Aglione and Skove Families; the Cushing Family; and the Healy Family. Jennifer Eckhoff was the event chairperson and committee members included Marnie Doherty, Christine Sullivan, Terry Stankovits, Katie Shanley, Janine Hallisey, Michele Bisaccia, and Dorothy Bailey.

The event was not just a fun and festive affair; it was a huge success. "The funds raised tonight, and at other events throughout the year, allow the foundation to put a substantial amount back into our schools in the form of grant initiatives. We successfully completed the building of the new eighth grade science lab at Forrestdale, and held a grand opening this fall. We continue to work to help our Blue Ribbon schools to be the best they can be," said Maura Abad Lowe, vice president of the Rumson Education Foundation Trustees.