

The premier community resource for people with disabilities and their families

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# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 22, 2014

More information Heather Varney, (518) 587-0723 ext. 1266 hvarney@saratogabridges.org

# Saratoga Bridges' "White Party" NETS over \$113,000 and sells out!

A record amount of \$113,774 (NET) was raised at Saratoga Bridges Annual "White Party" Gala on Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> as Elizabeth Alexander & Heather Straughter, Gala Chairs and their committee greeted over 600 guests at the prestigious FASIG TIPTON. Heather Bohm-Tallman Photography captured many memorable moments at their largest fundraiser and extended an offer of FREE downloads to guests at hbtphoto.com. Guests enjoyed a wonderful buffet catered by Mazzone Hospitality Catering, cocktails were courtesy of DIAGEO & Ketel One Vodka, live and silent auctions, festive décor by Fine Affairs, beautiful floral arrangements donated by The Posie Peddler, entertainment from Gravity and a cigar roller from James & Sons Tobacconists.

The LIVE Auction, held in the famed auction house, combined with the Silent Auction brought in close to \$34,000 for the agency's programs and services.

Sammy, The Bugler, started the Live Auction off with the sounds of summer in Saratoga before Chad Beatty, President of Saratoga Bridges Foundation Board and Beth Alexander & Heather Straughter, co-chairs of the event, started the bidding. Here are some of the items and winning bids:

- Bonacio \$10,000 Home Project Makeover: Donated by Bonacio Construction
Winning Bid: \$17,000 by Ryen Van Hall

- A Wine Dinner for 10 at Prime at Saratoga National: Donated by Mazzone Hospitality & Prime at Saratoga National

Winning Bid: \$2,100 by Lisa Moser

- David Yurman Cushion On Point Necklace in Sterling Silver with Faceted Black Onyx and Diamonds: Donated by Frank Adams Jewelers

Winning Bid: \$1,100 by Stacie Arpey

- The National Man - Our friends at The National, Saratoga National Golf Club, Prime at Saratoga National, Hair Creations and James & Sons Tobacconists have created a treat for the guys!: Donated by The National, Saratoga National Golf Club, Prime at Saratoga National, Hair Creations and James & Sons Tobacconists

Winning Bid: \$2,100 by Giovani Tedesco





More information
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A Masterpiece Portrait on canvas from Kramer Portraits: Donated by Kramer Portraits, New York

Winning Bid: \$1,850 by Tom Qualtere

- Travers Day at the Races with Saratoga Bridges - Table for 10

Winning Bid: \$2,100 by Todd Smolen

- VIP SPAC Concert Package for 6 for Rascal Flatts with Sheryl Crow & Gloriana: Donated by Sidney Frank Importing

Winning Bid: \$2,600 by Wilame Piteri & Charles Cronin

- A Weekend of Luxury at the Pavilion Grand Hotel: Donated by Pavilion Grand Hotel, Mingle on the Avenue and All Good Things

Winning Bid: \$1,800 by Erik & Sarah Whittle

The auction ended with Saratoga Bridges' Creative Endeavors artists, David, Adam, Mary and Shannon showing bidders the three pieces they donated. The guests saw the confidence the artists have gained and just how important art has impacted their lives. With an estimated value of \$270, the winning bid was for \$2,500 by Michele Riggi. Visit Creative Endeavors Artists on the web at creativeendeavorsartists.com for more information on how this program is changing the lives of the individuals they serve.

The organization also raised an additional \$11,176 in the silent auction and raffle. This year's raffle included a "Basket of Cheers" filled with wines rated 90PLUS valued at \$1,500 from Crush & Cask Wine & Spirits. The winner was Pier Bruno.

Saratoga Bridges is most grateful to their 2014 White Party Sponsors:

**Title Sponsors:** Ketel One Vodka, Mrs. Marylou Whitney & Mr. John Hendrickson and Michael W. & Stacie H. Arpey **Lead Sponsors:** The Adirondack Trust Company, Bonacio Construction, Inc. - Julie & Sonny Bonacio, CDPHP, Coca-Cola, Constance & Thomas D'Ambra, Ron & Michele Riggi and Vincent & Patty Riggi, Stewart's Shops **Featured Sponsors:** D.A. Collins Companies, Jim LaVigne & Mary Gavin, Hampton Inn & Suites Saratoga Springs - Heather & Brian Straughter, Hattie's Restaurant - Jasper & Elizabeth Alexander, Northwestern Mutual - Erik T. Whittle, Rama Interiors

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As one of the largest non-profit organizations in the county, Saratoga Bridges has been providing programs for people with developmental disabilities and their families for more than 55 years. Throughout its' history, family members, staff and volunteers have been committed to ensuring that the individuals they serve are able to realize their goals, hopes and dreams. They remain steadfast in their ability to offer the highest level of lifetime services to 800 people, by promoting their abilities, contributions and achievements in every aspect of community life. Saratoga Bridges' philosophy is that every day is full of possibilities!

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