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Plus-Size Result: \$522,000 for Big Brothers Big Sisters

Gourmet Bash Fetes Ducks COO Ryan for Kids Work

By **SHERRI CRUZ**

Sunday, December 4, 2011



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County raised \$522,000 at its 47th Annual Gourmet Dinner.

About 360 people attended the black-tie gala and auction, held recently at the Balboa Bay Club & Resort in Newport Beach. Keith Rhodes, chief executive of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County, presented Tim Ryan, executive vice president and chief operating officer of the Anaheim Ducks and chief executive of Anaheim Arena Management LLC, with the Joel K. Rubenstein Award for more than 11 years of

service to Orange County children.

Some of the auctioned items included an Acura TL and an Anaheim Ducks Suite and signed jerseys.

Sponsors of the event included Honda Motor Co.; the Anaheim Ducks; Honda Center; Irvine-based auction.com; the Albert J. Crosson Family; Long Beach-based Farm-ers & Merchants Bank; and the Newport Beach-based Share Our Wine Foundation.

Irvine-based Human Options Inc. netted \$220,000 at its annual fall fundraising luncheon at the Balboa Bay Club.

Human Options helps abused women and their families through early intervention and prevention programs. It also provides emergency shelter and transitional housing.

The fundraiser's keynote speaker was actor Victor Rivas Rivers, author of A Private Family Matter, and spokesperson for the Verizon Wireless Community Champion's National Network to End Domestic Violence.

Rivers was introduced by Steve Churm, chief executive of Newport Beach-based Churm Media Inc. and chair of Human Options' Men's Task Force. The event was co-chaired by Jennifer and Louis Bojorquez and Julie Demlow Sofferman and Jeff Sofferman.



Sherri Cruz

Attendees donated used cell phones, which were collected for Verizon's recycling program that serves victims of domestic violence.

An advertisement for Cox Business. It features a man in a dark suit and tie with his arms crossed. To his right, the text reads "Find out how your business can benefit" above the "COX Business" logo.

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Santa Ana-based Boys & Girls Club of Orange County raised \$195,000 at its biggest fundraiser of the year, held recently at Disney's Grand Californian hotel.

The money raised at the 18th annual gala will fund programs at the main club and five satellite sites.

Board President Wayne Pinnell, managing partner of Haskell & White LLP in Irvine, chaired the gala. Anne MacPherson West and Shannon Tucker were co-chairs.

The event honored philanthropists Mike and Charlene Immell.

Guests were greeted by teen volunteers from the Boys & Girls Club. Guitar students from Orange County High School of the Arts in Santa Ana entertained about 250 guests.

Live auction items included trips to Maui, Caribbean and Mexico.

Sponsors included Haskell & White; Irvine-based Taco Bell Corp.; Santa Ana-based First American Financial Corp.; Costa Mesa-based Rutan & Tucker LLP; Santa Ana-based Fairhaven Memorial Park Inc.; Santa Ana-based CH2M Hill Cos.; Irvine-based Newport Diversified Inc.; Children's Hospital of Orange County; Rancho Santiago Community College District in Santa Ana; Santa Ana Unified School District; the Immells; Shannon and Frank Tucker; Anne MacPherson West and Peter West.

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