

Monday, October 13, 2008

Phoenix Ball 2008 celebrates 10th anniversary with awesome show

MISSISSAUGA – The Mississauga Board of Chinese Professionals & Businesses (CPB) put on an extra-special show for over 800 guests to mark the 10th anniversary of the Phoenix Ball on October 4, 2008 at the Living Arts Centre in Mississauga.

With a new venue, and the theme of “Asian Culture – Then & Now”, the Ball presented spectacular and spellbinding performances showcasing the transformation of traditional Chinese Arts with contemporary variations. The performances included a fusion martial arts ensemble and the ancient and magical Chinese art of face changing (*bian lian*). The climax of the evening was a performance by Ma-Anne Dionisio, widely known for her critically acclaimed performances in Broadway musicals such as *Miss Saigon* and *Les Misérables*, who captivated the audience with her rich, strong and spine-tingling voice.

Adding to the festivities, MC’s Ron Lenyk and Derwin Wong had the audience laughing in the aisles as they presented their own unique version of the live auction filled with various costume changes and silly physical comedy skits, including their own interpretation of a Chinese lion dance.

“From the feedback so far, this is the best Phoenix Ball in CPB’s history,” said Gala Chair Amy Tjen, “We really wanted to mark this momentous event as an evening of celebration and fun as we commemorated our past achievements and paved the way forward for the future.”

Based on preliminary calculations, the Ball raised over \$225,000, and with Credit Valley Hospital, Trillium Health Centre, University of Toronto at Mississauga, Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care in Mississauga, and the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto receiving \$10,000 each from the Ball proceeds, CPB has completed its pledge to raise \$100,000 for each of these organizations in their respective capital campaigns.

“We sincerely thank our sponsors for their support; our Gala Chair, the organizing committee and our volunteers for their time and effort; and of course all of our guests for making this Ball a huge success,” said Andre Mak, the Ball’s Honorary Gala Chair.

The winners of the Phoenix Ball Raffle Draw were:

1st Prize: 3-Nights Las Vegas Package: Steven Cheng (Ticket No. 11650)

2nd Prize: SONY 50” Projection HD TV Package: Jessica Fung (Ticket No. 10929)

3rd Prize: ASUS 15.4” Notebook Computer: Choi Ling Seto (Ticket No. 11303)

CPB is a non-profit organization dedicated to linking Chinese professionals and businesses to advance the socio-economic well-being of all residents in Mississauga and the GTA. Launched in May 1998, CPB has developed to be one of the most dynamic and pre-eminent voices for the Chinese professional and business community.

For further information, please contact CPB’s Executive Director, Irene Tse at 905-828-6800.