



Stars shine for 'Evening'

Written by Cathy Kightlinger
Sep 18, 2010

Indianapolis City Ballet's "An Evening with the Stars" came and went Sept. 11 at the Murat Theatre at Old National Centre with a string of big-name arts supporters among the audience of more than 2,000.

Indianapolis philanthropists Jane Fortune and Robert Hesse hosted the elegant event, which brought dancers to Indianapolis from the American Ballet Theatre, Boston Ballet, Berlin Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Bolshoi Ballet, Valentina Kozlova Dance Conservatory of New York and the Parsons Dance Company. Fortune and Hesse were co-chairs with William Fortune and Joseph Blakley.

One of the show's highlights was a world premiere dance to Hoosier Cole Porter's "Night and Day," said Jane Fortune. Margo Sappington, who has worked for the Joffrey Ballet as well as Broadway productions, choreographed the piece, which was presented because another Hoosier, Mag Cole Russell (Porter's cousin), helped get the ballet permission to use the tune.

Actor Chris Stack, the witty son of Dr. Chris and Ann Stack, served as the show's master of ceremonies.

And sprinkled in the audience was a who's who of Hoosier philanthropists and notables, including Bren Simon; Richard E. Ford; Randall Tobias and his wife, Deborah; Wayne Zink (who hosted a before-and-after-the-ballet party at the Conrad); Frank and Katrina Basile; Alpha Blackburn; Mary Clare Broadbent; David Hochoy and Jan Virgin.



Jane Fortune, Indianapolis City Ballet vice-chairman, and its Chairman Robert Hesse, right, were all smiles Sept. 11 with the dancers who performed in "An Evening With the Stars." Here, they are posing with Ivan Vasiliev and Natalia Osipova, both of the Bolshoi Ballet, and Miguel Quinones, of the Parsons Dance Company.



Friends Jim Hogan, of Charlottesville, Va., and Penny Fortune stopped by a reception following the ballet performance on Sept. 11.



Always stylish, philanthropist Wayne Zink and his assistant, Fran Zore, were spotted at the Indianapolis City Ballet's "Evening With the Stars." Zink hosted a party before and after the event at the Conrad.



Deborah Flanagan Tobias and her husband, Randall Tobias, attended the Indianapolis City Ballet's "An Evening with the Stars."



Ballet themed cookies: The Whimsical Whisk whipped up ballet-themed cookies for the Indianapolis City Ballet's "An Evening with the Stars" Sept. 11. The treats were offered as favors at a reception following the performance.



Actor Chris Stack, left, served as the master of ceremonies for the Indianapolis City Ballet's "An Evening with the Stars." Afterward, he spent some time with his parents, Ann and Dr. Chris Stack.