

An Evening for Autism

Barry Saywitz's annual event raises more than \$200,000



It came, it went and it most definitely entertained. The 2nd annual "An Evening for Autism" attracted over 600 guests to the home of real estate entrepreneur Barry Saywitz and raised more than \$200,000 with tickets sales, silent and live auctions, and various sponsor donations. Rolling out the red carpet was just the beginning for guests as they arrived to the event's front doors. Greeted by tropical melodies resonating off steel drums, attendees made their way toward the main event floor and were welcomed by the sights of a stunning stone pool, aqua-toned table settings, and a sea of food, refreshments and reggae music.

If the tables lined with appetizer samples didn't stop guests in their tracks, the silent auction tables showcasing paintings, sculptures, photographs and countless other items did. Midway through the night a set of motivating presentations gave a more intimate perspective of how those with varying levels of autism have been living their lives while inspiring others in their communities. Saywitz was also awarded with a "resolution certificate" from the State of California by Senator Lou Correa of Santa Ana for his dedication to helping raise funds and awareness for autism programs and research over the past five years.

In closing, the night had a line-up of engaging live music, including the up and coming band "Arrest My Sister" who's lead singer and songwriter is an autistic (musical) savant. Scott Siegel has written and copyrighted over 300 songs through the Library of Congress in less than a one year span and having wrapped their first EP in May of this year, AMS was excited to participate in promoting awareness for autism. From start to finish it was a glorious evening for friends, families, celebrities and community/business leaders from across the Southland to show support for a great cause.

Caption: Event host Barry Saywitz with Senator Lou Correa of Santa Ana