



Inspirations Notebook

Wendy Singer



Agence Ometz welcomed over 1,000 guests to Place des Arts for their annual fundraising gala **A Chance to Shine**. Quebec celebrity **Jasmin Roy** was honoured for his passion in leading the fight against bullying and violence in schools. Since 2012, **La Fondation Jasmin Roy** has collaborated with Ometz, writer **Camil Sanfacion**, and the CSQ (Centrale des syndicats du Québec) to develop a bilingual toolkit to help schools across Quebec deal with bullying and violence.

Thanks to patron **Herbert Black** and event Chair **Arlène Abitan**, over \$340,000 was raised. Ometz serves hundreds of Montreal children and their families with programs including speech and occupational therapy, tutoring, mentoring and play therapy, and more.

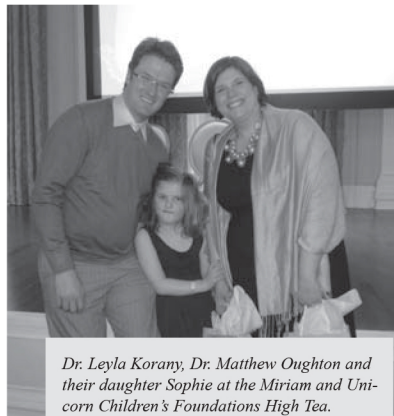
Agence Ometz is celebrating its 150th anniversary! To mark this milestone, Ometz has launched the website www.ometz150.ca which showcases the evolution of delivering services to the Montreal community through a timeline and a virtual tour. Share your stories of how Ometz has impacted your life on this new site.

The **Light a Dream** program is a vital component of the **Lester B. Pearson School Board's** co-op education program that attempts to ease the transition from school to the world of work, build self-confidence and self-esteem, and increase autonomy, amongst other goals. Their venue is a candle store located in Dorval where students come on a part-time basis to gain work experience. Since we last wrote about Light a Dream, they have expanded their product line to include soaps, bees wax chapstick and other hand-made items. Light a Dream is gearing up for their **Casino & Auction Night Fundraiser** on November 15, 2013. To learn more about the event check out page 19 of this edition. Staff and students will be at the tables to greet you, so be sure to stop by and say hello!

Under the impeccable coordination of **Nancy Smith**, **The Miriam Foundation** held two successful fundraising events. In collaboration with **the Unicorn Children's Foundation**, the **Alice in Wonderland High Tea** at the Ritz Carleton, chaired by **Stephanie Hoolahan** and **Rhoda Vineberg** whisked guests into another realm for a delightful afternoon tea that included scones and cream and **DAVIDSTEAs**, music by the **Face Chamber Orchestra** and a touching speech delivered by father of **ABILI-T** student **Sophie**, **Dr. Matthew Oughton**. Funds raised will create new e-learning opportunities that will provide parents easy access to knowledge through the Parent and

the Support Worker Training Series.

The 3rd Annual Miriam Foundation Art Auction at The Sofitel celebrated 40 years of presidency with a tribute to the Foundation's past (and current) presidents. Each was honoured for their accomplishments and their role in the growth of the Foundation. Auctioneer **Rock Fournier** masterfully auctioned off works by renowned artists, raising \$100,000 to help people with autism and developmental disabilities live a full life and develop to their potential. Congratulations to event Chairs **Carol Tryansky**, **Judy Wolfe**, **Franki Yanofsky** and **Jeannette Hoffman-Zaffir**.



Dr. Leyla Korany, Dr. Matthew Oughton and their daughter Sophie at the Miriam and Unicorn Children's Foundations High Tea.

'Speed dating' with AMDI (Avec l'autorisation de Parrainage Civique de Montréal)



Alicia Salama, Howard Berger, Arlene Abitan, Gail Small, Jasmin Roy, Howard Lohner at Ometz's A Chance to Shine. (Photo credit, Vadim Daniel Photography)

Teens and young adults with special needs sing "You lift me up" with their teen friend volunteers. (Photo credit, Menachem Serraf)



Tory Lackman sings "Hey Jude" to a captivated audience at Friendship's Got Talent. (Photo credit, Menachem Serraf)



The Miriam and Unicorn Children's Foundation High Tea committee (Photo credit, Julian Haber)

An epic premier of the 2014 Bentley Flying Spur by **Bentley Montreal/Decarie Motors**, took place at L'Arsenal. The venue was transformed into The Temple of the Flying Spur for the unveiling of the fastest, most powerful four-door Bentley ever built. As with the previous two events, CTV's **Paul Karwatsky** spoke on behalf of the Miriam Foundation. **Joel Segal**, **Cheryl Blas** from Bentley Montreal and **Warren Greenstone**, Executive Director of the Miriam Foundation announced winners of the event's raffle, which collected \$18,500 for the Foundation's "Adopt a Child" program.

REISA is a dynamic organization of community and public partners that work to develop and promote access to English-language health and social services in the east end of Montreal. Established in 2005, REISA assists partnership development in: expansion of local-level services, outreach to new services, and community capacity-building within the youth, seniors, intellectual deficiency and mental health sectors. Funded by the Community Health and Social Services Network, REISA demonstrates an excellent network model that is thriving due to persistence, continuity and passion of a team that is dedicated to its work. For information visit www.REISA.ca.

(Continued on Page 27)