



April / May ISES Austin News

Upcoming Meeting Details

In This Issue:

- *May Meeting Details*
- *2007–2008 Board*
- *February Meeting Recap with Pictures*
- *CulinART Success*
- *Upcoming Event Details*
- *New Member Spotlight*
- *New Members*
- *Letter from the President*
- *Facts About ISES & Membership Information*
- *Got News?*

2007-2008 Board

Robert DuVon, CSEP, President

EventPro@austin.rr.com

Jennifer Dorsey, VP Membership

jddorsey@sbcglobal.net

Nancy Hoffmann-Allison, VP Education/Programs

planner@allisonsevents.com

Julia Prince, VP Communications

japrince@omnihotels.com

Tanya Posavatz, Immediate Past President/Treasurer

Tanya@clinkevents.com

Diane Lyerly, Director of Development

bhlyerly@earthlink.net

Alanna Reed, Director / Recording Secretary

Alanna@KeepAustinBeautiful.org

Michelle Bromley, Director at Large

Michelleheretohelp@yahoo.com

Tara Humphrey, Director at Large

tarah@cmusic.com

Kate Fullilove, Director at Large

mylipsshallpraisethee@yahoo.com

George Bates, Director at Large

gbates@littlefield.com

Stephanie Topoligus Rice, Director at Large

s.t.rice@mail.utexas.edu

Kathie Millen, Director at Large

Kathie_millen@yahoo.com

The Mission of ISES is to educate, advance and promote the special events industry and its network of professionals along with related industries.

The Mission of ISES Austin is to inspire and educate special event professionals through programs and networking opportunities.

February Meeting Recap & CulinART Success

Don't Squat with Yer Spurs on!!!

The February 7, 2008 ISES Austin meeting at Dave & Busters Restaurant was centered on the theme of networking and team building. Laughing Out Loud Productions, an Austin based Comedy Troop donated the talents of their staff to teach us interactive team building one laugh at a time, Texas Style. Fifty-Five ISES Austin members and their guests proudly wore their best cowboy boots, hats, bandanas and even some chaps and everyone joined in the fun of trying to lasso their leadership skills. Everyone was divided into teams to accomplish the difficult tasks of hula hoops, mind games, poetry writing, cheerleading and conga lines, just to name a few. The competition was so tuff that the winning team leaders had to break the tie with a dance off. The event was a great success.

Haley Haecker and the management of Dave & Busters restaurant went above and beyond the call of duty by donating their private party room including a lavish dinner buffet with dessert parfaits and two free drinks per guest. Their service staff worked overtime to make this meeting perfect with outstanding service and attention to detail. Our gratitude goes out to Dave & Busters for their generous donation to ISES. We thank Damon Holditch of Marquee Rents for his donation of chair covers, sashes and linens. Michael Akila of Floral Renaissance once again stepped up to the plate and donated his fantastic talents and Flowers to finish out the look of the room. As ISES members please show your appreciation to these dedicated vendors by recommending and utilizing their services, they do it for that reason as well as the satisfaction of giving. Without them our meeting would not be the great success that they are.

Submitted by: Nancy Hoffmann-Allison



CulinART
A FANTASY OF THE HEALING ARTS

Our annual fundraiser, CulinART was held on March 6th at the UT Alumni Center. For the second year in a row, we almost doubled the previous year's revenue. Attendance at CulinART was 250 people, surpassing last year by over 100. After all expenses and fees were deducted, ISES wrote a check to The Wright House for \$12,000.

The event was considered an enormous success for The Wright House and raised almost three times as much as any other single fundraiser they have held. Special recognition needs to be given to the following individuals who made this event such a great success: Diane Lyerly, Brenda & Gene Richardson and the staff from 360 Production Group, Tracy Infante, Stephanie Rice, Susan Harris, Kristin Stephens, Shaley Hoover, Pam Korte, Michelle Bromley, Jennifer Dorsey, Cindy Lo, Nancy Allison, Cheryl Smith and Lauren Acerra

**Save
the
Date**

*Lifetime Achievements and Awards Banquet
Thursday, June 5, 2008
Reniassance Hotel*

New Member Spotlight



Mary J Baird-Wilcock
The Simplifiers Event Planning & Personal Concierge
www.thesimplifiers.com
512-695-7744

Event Planners are not normal people. We're problem solvers, project managers, customer service gods/goddesses, keen negotiators, logistics superheroes and rockstars of organization. Calm, cool and confident. And naturally, we love what we do.

That's at the root of why I started The Simplifiers back in 2003.

Coming from the concert promotions and media event planning side of things, I started in commercial radio, working at various stations across Texas including locals KAMX, KGSR, and KROX either on the mic or behind the scenes, planning and executing events. Later, those skills came in handy while at Direct Events, handling the local marketing plans for nationally touring shows like Seal, Los Lonely Boys, Ani DiFranco and 50+ other shows routing thru Austin Music Hall, Antone's, La Zona Rosa and the Backyard.

Event planning is my passion and music was the platform that allowed me to spring board off, starting something where I could make a difference, helping people simplify their lives. While our personal concierge team assists clients with home reorganization & staging/make-ready, house-sitting, grocery shopping, and being all-around lifesavers, our event planning team handles all the little details in event coordination for their big fundraiser, soiree, or wedding. In short, The Simplifiers exist to help people.

Besides, let's face it...we all need a little help now and then. Who better than a Simplifier in your time of need?



Welcome New Members

February 2008 - March 2008

Rachel L. Akeman
Goodwill Industries of Central TX
rachel.akeman@austingoodwill.org

Kelly Barber
Truluck's
kelly@trulucks.com

Aubrey L. Byfield
Student
aubreybyfield@gmail.com

Rachel Davidson
Texas Old Town
info@texasoldtowntown.com

Amy E. Dodenhoff
Student
amydodenhoff@yahoo.com

RJ Johnson
Music4Life DJ's
djrl@music4lifedjs.com

Lara A. Lowrie
Student
lara.ann@gmail.com

Nerly Martinez
Student
nerly@excite.com

Karen Pinera
Student
kpinera@gmail.com

Jessica Spann
Student
jessica_spann@yahoo.com

Mark Tidwell
Austin Woman's Club
tidwellmark@hotmail.com

Gina W. Wilson
Clink Events
gina@clinkevents.com

A Note from the Chapter President...



ISES Austin Members,

It is officially Spring and we hope you are getting out there and making the most of it! Spring marks the transition from winter into summer and is seen as a time of growth, renewal, of new life (both plant and animal) being born.

Great things are happening in ISES Austin! Our meetings and programs this year have been over-the-top! This year's 2008 Southeast Regional Leadership and Educational Conference took place here in Austin, the Live Music Capital of the World. We are very proud of the success of our recent CulinART 2008 charity fundraiser that helped people and was the best ever! Our ISES Austin CSEP candidates are studying hard and getting ready to sit for the Certified Special Events Professional certification exam. Thank you, ISES Austin members and volunteers for making great things happen.

Your ISES Austin officers and board believe in the individual worth of each member and genuinely care about each member's success and quality of life. This Spring offers new chances for each member to make the most of his or her membership in ISES Austin. It is our policy that ISES members are encouraged to make every effort to do business with other ISES members first. Benefits of an investment of time and membership in ISES are directly proportional to participation and involvement, attending meetings, joining a committee, or serving in a leadership position. If you've been sitting on the sidelines waiting to be asked to get into the game, please consider this an invitation for you to come on in and be an active member of our team! We need you!

Nominations are being accepted for the 2008-2009 officer and board member positions and you are strongly encouraged to nominate for consideration any individual, including yourself, whom you feel would be an asset to ISES Austin in a leadership position.

Act now- the nominations deadline is April 3.

The term "Spring" is used as a metaphor for the start of better times. There is no better time than now to leverage our membership in ISES Austin as a prime opportunity to advance our careers and promote our business success. So "Spring" to life, get involved with ISES, and great things can and will happen!

May all your events be special,
Robert DuVon, CMP, CSEP
ISES Austin 2007-2008 President

ISES Esprit 2008 Awards May 1st 2008 deadline is fast approaching!

ISES

ESPRIT
AWARDS

Did you produce a fabulous event between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2007 that deserves recognition? Were you an integral part of an ISES event team whose efforts produced exceptional results? Did you meet a unique event challenge with an inspired solution that went above and beyond the expectations of your client?

If so... then ready those acceptance speeches, because YOU belong on the ISES Esprit stage! The ISES Esprit Awards are among the most esteemed in the special events industry and recognize the newest designs, the freshest marketing ideas, the most creative efforts, the greatest spectacular technical achievements, and the most creative individual and group efforts. For more information and to apply now, visit

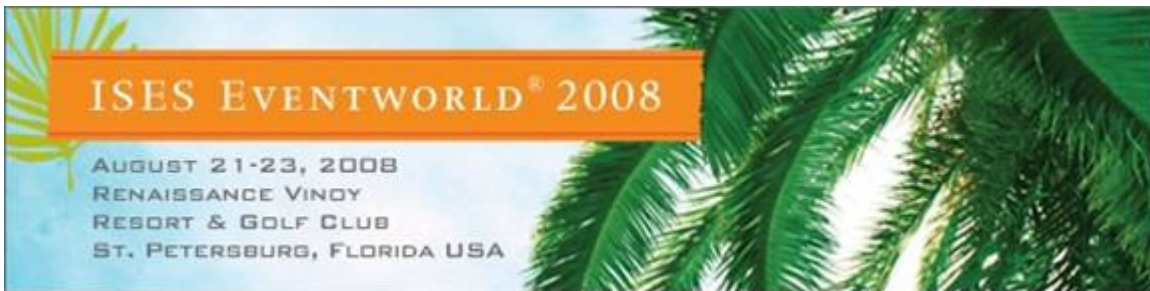
www.ises.com/industryawards.

About ISES

The International Special Events Society (ISES) was founded in 1987 to foster enlightened performance through education while promoting ethical conduct. ISES works to join professionals to focus on the "event as a whole" rather than its individual parts. ISES has grown to involve over 4,000 members active in 41 chapters throughout the world. Membership brings together professionals from a variety of special events disciplines including caterers, meeting planners, decorators, event planners, audio-visual technicians, party and convention coordinators, educators, journalists, hotel sales managers and many more professional disciplines. The solid peer network ISES provides helps special events professionals produce outstanding results for clients while establishing positive working relationships with other event colleagues.

~ from the www.ises.com web site

Visit www.ISESaustin.com to fill out an application to join ISES today. Don't miss our Membership Event on May 8th at the Mansion on Judges Hill.



Got News?

**Do you have news you would like to share with your fellow ISES Austin members?
Has your company just launched a new product or just produced a spectacular event?**

Would you like to be a part of the Communications Committee?

Contact Us!

**Vice President of Communications:
Julia Prince ~ japrince@omnihotels.com**

