

A feast of art and appetites

Chefs, artists flex creative muscles for Outreach Center

Palates & Pâté, an annual fundraiser for the Acadiana Outreach Center, once again paired local artists and chefs to help fund the center's programs.

Artists create a unique piece to be auctioned, and chefs prepare mouth-watering offerings for attendees.

"There is a great, positive energy that comes from creating," said Valerie Keller, executive director. "People who give of their abundance, of what they're good at, can make a real difference. Chefs and artists come together each year to let their talents flow out into dishes and art that inspire."

All participating chefs and artists gave of their time for this year's Nov. 14 event.

Palates & Pâté raises money for Acadiana Outreach Center. The center does more than just feed and house people; it also helps them get back on their feet and regain their lives with dignity, said Linda Turner, co-chairperson of the event.

As this year's event comes to a close, the need for funding doesn't stop. So, the Acadiana Outreach Center will continue its mission throughout the year.

Palates & Pâté funds the center's efforts, and hopefully keeps the need in people's minds throughout the year, too, she said.

"Sponsors come back year after year, and support other efforts throughout the year," Turner said.

Without this generosity — from the chefs and artists to the sponsors and donors — this event couldn't happen, she said.

"(The artists and chefs) believe in



"Autumn in Acadiana" by Tony Bernard was auctioned to benefit the Acadiana Outreach Center.



"Bayou Goula Oak" by Steven Schneider was included in the artwork auction benefitting the center.

it enough to give their time, talent and money," Turner said.

While Palates & Pâté offers a night of food, fun and finery, it's all about creating an awareness that continues throughout the year because helping people rebuild their lives is a long-term commitment.

"It's more than one event," Turner said. "We're trying to continue the story."

Look for coverage from this year's Palates & Pâté gala in next month's issue of *L Magazine*.

How to help

To find out how you can help the Acadiana Outreach Center, call 237-7618 or visit www.theoutreachctr.org.



Artists Lue Svendsen and Hope Hebert



Charley G's Holly Goetting with artist Ramsey Ayers



Bojangles Chef Vivavong Prasith with event production co-chair Linda Turner and Bojangles owner Gordon Doerle