

## Earth Day Coalition “Instrumental Evening for the Earth”



Scott Sanders, Maggie Busser Malemud, Rebecca Reynolds and Allan Dreyer  
(Instrumental Evening for the Earth)



Linda Mayer-Mack, Pat Conway and Maridele Cohen  
(Instrumental Evening for the Earth)



Darryl Todd and Nancy Nolan Jones  
(Instrumental Evening for the Earth)



Erin Huber and LeeAnn Westfall  
(Instrumental Evening for the Earth)



Anne Marie Bergman and Greg Gantzer  
(Instrumental Evening for the Earth)

Earth Day Coalition's annual fundraiser, Instrumental Evening for the Earth, is much more than a benefit concert. This year the organization returned to West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church with a silent auction and a repeated special challenge grant.

Guests enjoyed hearty hors d'oeuvres and beverages prepared by area restaurants and bid on auction items. Co-Chairs Maggie Busser and Rebecca Reynolds urged bids and described the items up for auction.

Attuned to environmentally sensitive issues, guests meticulously sorted trash into composting materials, degradable paper products and utensils that are used one time but still Earth friendly.

Near the end of the reception, Allan Dreyer, President of Earth Day Coalition, introduced the "Great Lakes Brewing Company Challenge." By making a fully tax-deductible contribution, donors doubled their gifts which were matched by grant sponsors. This money went to Earth Day Coalition's award-winning Climate Change Solutions Programs.

Guests moved to the church's sanctuary which was transformed into a candlelit concert hall where members of the Cleveland Orchestra donated their talents to entertain guests.

Everyone went home with a unique decorative light bulb. With 350 attending, Instrumental Evening for the Earth helped to raise more than \$40,000. STORY BY ART THOMAS. PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROB WETZLER

## Spanish American Committee “Noche de Gala”



Noche de Gala was the inaugural benefit presented by the Spanish American Committee, founded in 1966 as a nonprofit advocacy agency serving Hispanic and Latino families in Cuyahoga as well as five additional Northeast and Central Ohio Counties.

According to Executive Director Rose Rodrigues-Bardwell, attendance was expected to exceed 700 guests, of which 200 were at the VIP



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