BEHIND THE CURTAIN

WITH THE TUTS LEADING LADIES

THE SPRING EDITION

1. *Welcome note from our Leading Ladies Chair — Becky McAndrews*
2. *Save the Date: TUTS Gala Grand Finale After Party (March 27, 2017) & Leading Ladies Luncheon (May 4, 2017)*
3. *Featured Leading Ladies — Anne Bunting & Pattie Dodds*
4. *Cheers: Vine & Dine Event Recap*
5. *Get Involved: Upcoming Opportunities & Events*

TUTS LEADING LADIES

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A LETTER FROM *the desk of* BECKY MCANDREWS

Hello Leading Ladies,

Have I told you all how much I appreciate each of you and what vital components you are to furthering our mission? We could not do any of what we accomplish without your spirit of volunteering and giving to TUTS. THANK YOU!

We have a few exciting events coming up; to highlight a few—

1. On **3/25** we have the **TUTS Gala and Grand Finale After Party**- I hope you will consider attending and also volunteering to help with set up. Please watch for the Signup Genius to volunteer for this spectacular Dreamgirls inspired event. (FYI- I have had a blast co-chairing this event with my husband, Bart, and Paul David Van Atta. Many of our own LL are working on the committee to make this an event to remember!)

2. On **4/12** we will have the opportunity to socialize while we get a **behind the scenes tour** of the costume and wig shop during the run of **Dreamgirls**. Watch for the Evite from Kelly.

3. On **4/18** we have the **Tommy Tune Awards** and will be given the chance to volunteer for the event throughout the day. This is an amazing awards show honoring high school theatre talent in Houston and is a lot of fun to help at!

4. And last but certainly not least, on **5/4** we will have our annual **Leading Ladies Luncheon** chaired by Leticia Jaroski. This is a fabulous, fun and entertaining event you will not want to miss. Mark your calendars now.

As always, if you have ideas or suggestions for our group please reach out to me at bdm1215@aol.com. I would love hearing from you.

A LEADING LADIES PRODUCTION

TUTS LEADING LADIES CAST

Becky McAndrews.....Chair

Leticia Jaroski.....Chair Elect

Michelle Duckett-Hedgebeth.....Events Coordinator

Elizabeth DeFranco.....Events Coordinator

Christine Sofka.....Volunteer Coordinator

Lisa Jakel .....Auction Coordinator

Melissa Kalmans.....Auction Coordinator

Abimbola Farinde .....Membership Coordinator

Debbie Youens.....Membership Coordinator

Sanvita Sample .....Communications Coordinator

TUTS
LEADING LADIES

Newsletter created by Sanvita Sample,
Leading Ladies Communication Coordinator

UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the Date: Leading Ladies Luncheon

Ladies, mark your calendars! The Leading Ladies Luncheon is coming up on Thursday, May 4th at The Hobby Center. This year we have some tricks up our sleeve and plan to make this our biggest and best luncheon to date!

In order to make this event a huge success, **we need you to join us as a member of our Luncheon Committee**. Here are the requirements for each role below:

Luncheon Committee members

- Purchase an individual ticket and attend the Luncheon
- Attend all Luncheon Committee planning meetings
- Work with TUTS staff and brainstorm on event logistics
- Assist with collecting items for the silent auction
- Promote this event to your family and friends

Please contact Kelly Nicholls at kelly@tuts.com or 713.558.2651 ASAP if you are interested

UPCOMING EVENTS

After the Party, It's the After Party!

Join us for THE GRAND FINALE!

SATURDAY, MARCH 25 beginning at 9:30 PM

The first-ever Theatre Under The Stars Gala After Party

Co-Chairs: DAVID PECK and HECTOR VILLARREAL

This exclusive event is inspired by the glamour of Studio 54, and the ONLY NIGHT ONLY Gala – a celebration of the upcoming TUTS production of DREAMGIRLS.

Indulge in extravagant dessert stations, enjoy light bites, drinks, coffee bar by Katz Coffee, and dance the night away to the iconic music of the 70's and 80's courtesy of Richard Brown Music.

GRAND FINALE guests will have the opportunity to participate in the event's world-class silent auction, raffle and wine pull. Tickets are $100 for individuals or $175 for a couple and are available at www.tuts.com/grandfinale

FEATURED LEADING LADIES

SPOTLIGHT ON:

ANNE BUNTING & PATTIE DODDS

Anne Bunting

Pattie Dodds

1.HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH TUTS & LEADING LADIES?

Anne: Pattie and I joined either when or right after Leading Ladies began. My daughter (who is now grown), had been at the Humphreys School and involved with TUTS years ago, and then Pattie's granddaughter started classes and her own involvement. So we wanted to show our support for TUTS!

Pattie: I have been a LL for about 11 years. I joined LL before my Granddaughter entered the Humphreys school. When she did, it became even more fun!

2. WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR FAVORITE SHOW AT TUTS?

Anne: My favorite show was probably Sweet Potato Queens. It's a fun show and the idea of doing recipes and having the author there for the opening was terrific!

Pattie: My most favorite and fun show was Sweet Potato Queens.

3. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF LEADING LADIES?

Anne: The people are my favorite part of TUTS! All the staff and the members are so fun and interesting. Second to that is helping the little kids get on and off the buses for their outings to TUTS. They are so cute! And as always, the TUTS staff. They're amazing!

Pattie: The student matinees are so gratifying to be a part of. The children are so precious, and we are blessing their lives with joy! I do love seeing them all dressed up for the theater. I also love working with the schools that are nominated for Tommy Tune Awards. I love Leading Ladies! My life has also been enriched by the people an experiences of the past years.

CHEERS! VINE & DINE RECAP

Vine & Dine: Around the World took place on Thursday, February 16 at Silver Street Studios. It was definitely a night to remember!

The theme this year was a celebration of Musical Theatre through international wine & food, benefitting Theatre Under The Stars Humphreys School of Musical Theatre (HSMT). The event was chaired by one of our Leading Ladies, Demetra, and her husband, Frank Jones.

10 of Houston's top chefs featured food from around the world with wine pairings. The Lead Chef for VIP tables was Paul Sofka, husband of our very own Leading Lady, Christine Sofka. The HSMT performers provided musicals themed to those regions. The guests also enjoyed a wine pull and silent auction as well.

Vine & Dine raised $135,000 for the Humphreys School of Musical Theatre. Cheers to everyone who was able to attend and hope to see some more Leading Ladies at the next one!

GET INVOLVED!

Volunteer Opportunities

- HSMT/ River Showcase, 3/22
- Student Matinees, 3/21—3/24
- TUTS Gala, 3/24—3/25

For sign up information or other questions, please contact Christine Sofka (csofkamk@gmail.com)

#GOSOCIAL

1. Come to LL Events and take pictures
2. Log on to Facebook, post pictures and tag the Leading Ladies (@tutsleadingladies)
3. Post your pictures and add the #hashtags of your choice

#EDUCATION

#SUPPORTTUTS

#TUTSLEADINGLADIES

#SQUADGOALS

TUTS LEADING LADIES

Questions/ Comments? Please contact Kelly Nicholls (Kelly@tuts.com)