

Mardi Gras

2010-2011 Mardi Gras Charity Ball

Nearly 500 guests at this year's Mardi Gras Charity Ball enjoyed an elegant evening filled with sweet dreams by the flicker of candle light. The 72nd annual ball was held again this year at the beautiful Quad City Waterfront Convention Center on March 5, 2011.

"Bombay Dreams" was the theme of the evening. Guests were transported to an enchanted evening in India with silk drapery, flower garlands, warm candlelit lanterns and stunning floral centerpieces. Guests danced all night long to the music of the band, Top Five and deejay Jonny O. The night included a fabulous silent auction which raised more than \$13,000 to support Junior Board's continued service to the Nest programs and our community's children. This night would not have been possible without the dedication and tireless devotion of our members.

Tom Thoms, long-time supporter of Junior Board served as our Master of Ceremonies. Tom announced this year's honored guests Steven Pressly and Jo Ellen Swedberg Maurus as our majestic King and Queen of the Mardi Gras Ball. These two outstanding individuals generously contribute to many organizations throughout the Quad Cities. Tom also presented this year's Mardi Gras court which included:

Attendants:

- Sarah Diamond
- Emily Ducey
- Alexis Girot
- Emily Hoogerwerf
- Haley Johnson
- Alexandra Keefe
- Linnea Lardner
- Abby West
- Katie Williams

Pages:

- Jake Carlin
- Garrett Miner
- Alex Pearson
- Tyler Pearson
- Brendan Rafferty
- Austin Schoeck
- Tanner Wood

Crown bearers:

- Lucy Rector
- Henry Thompson

The Mardi Gras Charity Ball is the principal fundraising event for the Junior Board in its mission to improve the lives of children in the Quad Cities. All money raised will go toward funding Junior Board's NEST program, Trinity VNHA's child welfare programs and other worthy child-related programs.

The Junior Board would also like to extend a heartfelt **thank you to the businesses and individuals** who generously donated to our Silent Auction at the 72nd Annual Mardi Gras Charity Ball "Bombay Dreams". It is their support that allows us to continue our commitment to the children of this community.