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'Havana Nights' Is Theme for Opus for Person-to-Person's Spring Gala

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Opus for Person-to-Person has announced that its annual spring fundraiser to support the Norwalk-and Darien-based Person-to-Person will be held Saturday, April 22, 2017 at the newly renovated Tokeneke Club.

The "Havana Nights" themed gala promises to be an unforgettable evening inaugurating Opus' next 20 years of great works.

With the beautifully renovated Tokeneke Club and its breathtaking views of the Long Island Sound as the backdrop, this event calls for elegant cocktail attire. Guests will experience all the glamour and vibrance of the tropics while enjoying Cuban cocktails, a gourmet sit-down dinner featuring Cuban cuisine, and an openair cigar bar.

The dance floor promises to be packed all evening with the nationally-acclaimed Sultans of Swing band

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returning for the second year in a row. Along with the silent auction and raffle, guests won't want to miss the live auction hosted by the ever-entertaining CK Swett.

A wide variety of auction items will be featured including luxury vacation and golf packages, beauty/wellness indulgences, VIP sports experiences, enter-taining couple and group adventures, and other fine goods.

Board Liaison Lisa Bishai with Co-Chairs Melanie Brucker, Heather de Bie, Shannon Doherty, Jennifer Handt, and Danielle Santoro, as well as the entire Havana Nights committee have been hard at work since last summer planning an extraordinary evening.

The spring gala is the largest Opus fundraiser of the year, and Havana Nights promises to be one of the most exciting social events this spring. Last year, the Platinum Ball at Wee Burn Beach Club in Rowayton raised close to \$210,000 for Person-to-Person and we are working towards another successful event again this year.

"We are excited to hold this event at the Tokeneke Club for the first time," said Jennifer Clemow, Opus copresident. "The beautifully renovated space will be the perfect setting to transport our guests to Cuba for a night—all while raising money for a great cause."

Proceeds from Havana Nights will be used to support the P2P programs that directly benefit children, including Campership scholarships for children in need, the Holiday Toy Store, Baby Basics layettes for mothers, and Scholarships for college.

Each year, P2P serves more than 25,000 people from the seven towns of Darien, Stamford, Norwalk, New Canaan, Westport, Weston, and Wilton.

Tickets to Havana Nights will go on sale in early March 2017, and are available to Opus members and non-members, with a discount for members. Details on purchasing tickets and attending the event will be

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available on the OPUS website.

For information on becoming an Opus member, please <u>visit this Web page</u> or email <u>info@opus4p2p.org</u>. Become <u>a fan on Facebook</u> at or follow Opus on Twitter <u>@opus4p2p</u>.

For information about volunteering, making a donation, or becoming a corporate sponsor for the Havana Nights gala, please contact OPUS co-president Jennifer Clemow at jenniferclemow@gmail.com.

About Opusfor Person-to-Person

This year, Opus inaugurates our next twenty years of great works—the goal that inspired our name — Opus means "great works" in latin.

What do we mean by "great works?"

- It's fundraising and public awareness to help Person-to-Person assist more than 25,000 individuals.
- Support for the Emergency Food Pantry providing three meals a day for those in need, and stocking the "store" where clients can shop for clothing and necessities;
- It's scholarship and camp programs to help children fulfill their promise;
- Layettes for babies, and a holiday toy store for families to fulfill their children's wishes.
- Further, its providing emergency financial assistance when rent and utility checks can't be written.

Most of all, it's the lives we can change when we come together with a common purpose.

For more information on this growing organization of close to 300 women and how to get involved, <u>visit the group's website</u>.

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