

AZ Insider: Benefit for EKR Foundation Grew Successful Wings

Written by Kathy Shayna Shocket reports on the people who make a difference.
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It was the first annual fundraiser for the **Elisabeth Kubler- Ross** Foundation - a grassroots effort that sprouted wings to become a successful intimate evening!

In fact, Chilean officials in Washington, D.C., insisted the Consulate of Chile in Arizona, change his travel plans to attend. That's because the \$15,000 raised will help build and operate Chile's first standing pediatric hospice and create the Santiago-based Casa Sagrada Familia Foundation.

The EKR Foundation's president from Mexico also flew in for the "Passages " party, showcasing some of photographer Ken Ross' travels to 95 countries.

Pictured above from Mexico, are **Hernan** and **Alicia Hinojosa**, Dr. Kubler Ross' daughter **Barbara Rothweiler**, **Lourdes Reyes** and **Ken Ross**, Dr Kubler-Ross' son and president of the EKR Foundation.



The Grace of Wings Award was presented to **Micheline Etkin**. The model was honored for her numerous contributions and leadership in serving many local and international charities focusing on children. She is pictured above with husband **Dr. Bruce Etkin**, the event's premier sponsor.

Pictured below left is **Mary Reid**, who co-chaired the event with Ross.



The EKR Foundation is dedicated to furthering the legacy and work of pioneering legend Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross.

Oscar de las Salas, the master of ceremonies spoke about his appreciation for Elisabeth Kubler-Ross' legacy. He is pictured above right with Micheline, the Consulate of the Republic of Chile in Arizona, the Honorable **Kenneth Smith** and wife **Mignon**; and **Shalom Hakim**, one of the event's major sponsors.

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Among the guests who mingled amidst the photography exhibit at the Fiat Lux Gallery in downtown Scottsdale were (pictured above left)) **Nivine Sakkal** and **Nahia Choueiri** and (pictured above right with Micheline) **Jennifer Johnson** and **Barb Young**.

Partygoers also enjoyed cocktails and hors d'oeuvres thanks to other sponsors; Avanti's, Pati's Rum Cakes, Tito's and Fogo de Chao, and watched a video message from actress **Melina Kanakaredes**, who is currently creating a feature film on the life of Dr. Kübler-Ross.

And a special shout out goes to **Tina Curan**, the volunteer event producer!

Kathy Shayna Shocket is a freelance Writer, and TV- Field Producer. The former TV-Reporter has written for publications such as **TIME** Magazine, **MONEY** Magazine, **PEOPLE** Magazine, **The Hollywood Reporter** and The **NEW YORK TIMES**. You can reach her at redcarpetgirl@aol.com