







Reach for the Stars Gala

Thursday, February 22, 2018 The Briar Club





My name is Lauren Dawson, and I am the Associate Director for KNOWAutism Foundation. I am writing to invite you to support our upcoming 2018 "Reach for the Stars" Gala. The event will include a cocktail reception with jewelry presentation by Van Cleef & Arpels, dinner, an auction, and a glamorous fashion show hosted by The Webster. Each year, this event helps put a spotlight on the issue of autism in our community and brings in vital funding for our organization's growing programs.

Autism Spectrum Disorder affects 1 in 68 children in the United States. It encompasses a range of conditions characterized by challenges with social interaction, verbal and non-verbal communication, and repetitive behaviors. It is lifelong and brings with it a heavy financial burden, from the diagnostic testing process itself, to intensive behavioral interventions and therapy, to increased medical expenditures. It also often brings additional stress and emotional strain for families.

At KNOWAutism, our goal is to help reduce the burden of an autism diagnosis and build a community of friends and supporters dedicated to improving the lives of children with autism. Early diagnosis and consistent therapeutic interventions are essential to improving the longterm outcomes for children with autism. KNOWAutism offers education to families affected by autism and provides direct financial assistance for diagnostic testing, tuition for specialty schools and programs, and other fees related to therapeutic treatment.

This year, our goal is to raise over \$360,000 through the Gala to help pave the way for new projects, expanded programs, and the ability to help even more children and families. The live and silent auctions at our Gala are a key aspect of the event's fundraising success. We are currently seeking donations for auction items in the form of products, services, gift certificates, or anything else that makes sense for your business. Donors will be recognized on our website and in printed materials for the Gala.

To donate, please complete and return the enclosed form or contact me at Idawson@know-autism.org. All donations are tax deductible, and your support will help make this year's event even bigger and better than the last.

With your help, together we can transform lives, one child at a time.

Sincerely,

Lauren Dawson **Associate Director**

KNOWAutism Foundation



6430 Richmond, Suite 410 Houston, TX 77057 832-834-6437 www.know-autism.org



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Live/Silent Auction Donation Form

Please complete and return by January 15, 2018

Contact Person:		
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Phone:	Cell:	
E-mail:		
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