

	FORUM FOUR : June 18, 2009 - 7:30 am PANELISTS on the TOPIC, EDUCATION 911		
	Robert Bobb <i>Emergency Financial Manager</i> <i>Detroit Public Schools</i>	Doug Ross <i>Principal</i> <i>University Preparatory Academy</i>	Clark Durant <i>Co-Founder</i> <i>Cornerstone Schools</i>

MOCAD Benefit: Elements of Bazaar



The contemporary art scene was in full Technicolor at the The Grand Bazaar, a benefit for the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit.

Photo credit: Christine M.J. Hathaway

3:01 am, May 21, 2009

Bazaar a grand fundraiser for Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit

By [Julie Yolles](#)

The contemporary art scene was in full Technicolor at the The Grand Bazaar, a benefit for the **Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit**.

While this was the fourth annual fundraiser for the museum, the Grand Bazaar theme was a first.

MOCAD was transformed into a souk (Arabic market), featuring vintage clothing for sale, selected by MOCAD board members and fashionistas **Julie Reyes Taubman**, **Linda Dresner** and **Elle Elder**.

Co-chairs Elder and **Linda Powers** were curators to the bazaar, which also included antique jewelry, collectibles and contemporary goods.

Independent dealers, designers and retailers such as **The Annex** of Royal Oak, **Mezzanine** of Detroit and **Detroit Manufacturing** — **Robert Stanzler**'s line of edgy Detroit-themed wearables — also participated.

"We wanted each person to find a treasure and enjoy the entertainment," Elder said. "We also wanted to help local vendors and, in turn, they were supporting us."

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The vendors donated 20 percent of their proceeds to MOCAD.

Even board members got in on the fun, donating home goods, antiques and accessories from their personal collections to the bazaar.

The event continued the next day for the public. Day two featured street-art projects for the kids and a balloon animal artist.

The benefit, which netted \$150,000, was a collaborative effort. Works for sale in the live and silent auctions came from **Cranbrook Academy of Art's** artists-in-residence and alumni, **College for Creative Studies** professors and artists from all over the country.

"It's incredible that people have come from all over the world to see MOCAD's shows," said Reyes Taubman, MOCAD's board chair. "People outside of Detroit have really embraced our programming. I think it's so important for this community to see what exists here. People of Detroit really recognize the value of MOCAD."

More than 200 people attended the patron reception, which included a gourmet dinner by **Epoch Catering** and a live art and travel auction. An additional 100 guests came for the after party. In addition to the shopping element of the evening, there were face readings, a caricaturist, Turkish coffee bar with coffee readings and tarot readings from the **Nuts & Coffee Gallery** in Dearborn, plus dancing to **Lady Sunshine and the X Band**.

Since MOCAD's doors opened Oct. 26, 2006, more than 150,000 people have come to the museum, which so far has presented 250 programs and 11 exhibitions.

"That's pretty amazing for contemporary art," Reyes Taubman said. "I'm happy that we have affected the creative lives of so many. Marsha Miro (MOCAD's founding director) had a vision. Her dedication, intellect, taste and commitment made this all possible."

Admission to MOCAD is free to the public. Support comes from private donations and foundations.

"We're exposing people to and giving value to cutting-edge contemporary art," said Director Luis Croquer, who joined MOCAD in December. "We're promoting critical dialogue to the region and surrounding communities."

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