

# N D E C

## NOTRE DAME EDUCATION CENTER SPRING FUNDRAISER HELD MAY 5



*Jim Fowkes  
was  
Guest of Honor*

Rainy, gloomy weather couldn't dampen guests' spirits as the Notre Dame Education Center held its Spring fundraiser May 5 at the fabulous Venezia Restaurant in Boston's seaside Port Norfolk neighborhood.

The event, "Educating for Success," raised money for the Center's adult education programs.

Some 200 people attended the event, which featured a silent auction, a prize wheel, and numerous raffle prizes.

Longtime NDEC volunteer and Board member Jim Fowkes, a South Boston native, was the guest of honor of the evening. Jim received the Mary Shaughnessy Inspiration Award, which NDEC gives annually to someone who best exemplifies the late Mrs. Shaughnessy's compassion, warmth, and generosity.

In his 20-plus years of volunteering at the Center, Jim has taught English for Speakers of Other Languages and Medical Terminology. He created the Medical Terminology course for students who want to pursue careers in the health care field, and he continues to teach it.

Mary Rose Durante, NDEC Executive Director and CEO, said, "We couldn't have picked a better winner for the Mary Shaughnessy Award. Jim's service to NDEC over the years has been invaluable. We feel fortunate to have him as part of the NDEC family."

The silent auction included a winery tour, a tour of the United States Capitol, and Park Hopper Passes to Disney World in Orlando. In addition, the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in Ipswich created and donated numerous gift baskets.

"We had many generous donations from the South Boston business community, too," said Mary Rose.

"Their support, and the support of the community at large, means so much to us. Several of our students attended as Student Ambassadors, and they were great representatives of NDEC. Everything just came together for a wonderful evening."

The Notre Dame Education Center (NDEC) is a South Boston-based 501 (c) (3) non-profit community-based organization devoted to adult education.

Since 1992, NDEC has provided a diverse, caring community in which students are empowered to develop their full potential as scholars, workers, and citizens. Our students are driven to accomplish their individual missions, and NDEC is committed to growing, adapting, and evolving to meet changing needs.

NDEC offers the following four programs:

Workforce Readiness and Career Pathways

Adult Basic Education and HiSET Preparation

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

Youth Services.

In addition, NDEC is the hub for distance and online learning for ESOL students; it also offers citizenship preparation. A variety of customized support complements and strengthens these programs and services.

**For more info please visit our website: [ndecboston.org](http://ndecboston.org)**