

Party photos of the week: Public School, National Ballet School and Globe Style Advisor

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National Ballet School Gala: An Affair to Remember at the Carlu, Toronto

The National Ballet School's 2015 gala on March 6 took its inspiration from *An Affair to Remember*, a now classic film released in 1957, just two years before the NBS was established. Females channelled their inner Deborah Kerr by embracing crinoline skirts, polished, up-swept hair and glistening costume jewels, while the Cary Grant types inside The Carlu exuded masculine mid-century glamour. The evening may have had a throwback theme, but the school's work is most definitely focused on the future. The annual event, presented this year by RBC Royal Bank, raises funds that assist the NBS, a world leader in dance education and the only ballet school in North America that provides its international students from grades 6 to 12 with expert dance training, academic teaching and housing. NBS is also using the art of movement to better the health and wellness of others through community outreach initiatives for all ages, including Dancing with Parkinson's, the Sharing Dance program and Movement to Music for seniors living with dementia. Following dinner, the highly anticipated student performance presented by Ivan Fecan and Sandra Faire commenced, after NBS artistic director and CEO Mavis Staines thanked gala goers for helping to "prepare students to perform their craft at the highest level." And what a performance it was. The highlight for many, myself included, was a moving piece choreographed by a 14-year-old student of the school who, moments before, performed The Dance of the Little Swans from Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*. Post performance, dinner guests – including Hon. Petra Newton, Hon. Margaret McCain, NBS gala chair and RBC wealth management VP/head of

brand and marketing Rebecca Mooney, RBC capital markets CFO Troy Maxwell (also the evening's honorary chair), the Canadian Opera Company's director of production Peter Lamb, NBS alumna Veronica Tennant and First Nations Bank's corporate director Urban Joseph – joined the young patrons' circle in a 1950s-themed casino and lounge where they wagered for the cause well into the night.



From left, Bruce Zinger, Laurie Westman, Veronica Tennant and Peter Lamb. (Photos by Ryan Emberley)

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