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A host of honored guests ascended the steps of the Sawyer-Torres home for the 20th annual Shepherd Center benefit beginning at 7 p.m. and lingered long after midnight.

A woman in a white dress stands in a loggia at night, illuminated by a spotlight. The loggia is a covered outdoor space with large columns and arches. The background is dark, suggesting an evening setting.

THE 2009 PATRON PARTY WILL BE HELD AT THE BUCKHEAD HOME OF DOROTHY AND FORREST LEEF—2009 LEGENDARY PARTY CHAIR-ELECT—ON 9/17. “AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS: THE LEGEND OF JULES VERNE” LEGENDARY PARTY WILL BE HELD AT THE RITZ-CARLTON, BUCKHEAD ON 11/7. [SHEPHERD.ORG](http://SHEPHERD.ORG)



Chair Sally Dorsey entered the classically columned loggia “stage” at 8 p.m. to thank the honored guests, patrons and sponsors. She also introduced the evening’s cabaret-style entertainment, featuring performances by Robert Ray, Courtenay Collins and Marsha Dupree, as well as the backup sounds of the Damon Goff Quartet. ➤ Marsha Dupree entertains the crowd with a cabaret-style vocal performance. ➤ With the look of an exotic luxury resort, the back yard was a fitting site for poolside dancing and imbibing. ➤ A smashed potato bar brought the down-to-earth veggie up a notch with an array of unexpected infusions. The creamed russet potatoes—scooped into martini glasses for an elegant presentation—were topped with sautéed mushrooms, sautéed onions, shredded cheese, applewood smoked bacon, fresh chives and whipped butter.

