

Park Lawn's 16<sup>th</sup> annual Zazz date auction and party held on Friday February 11, 2005 turned out to be a remarkable success. Over 600 singles from Chicago and surrounding suburbs gathered at the Ashton Place in Willowbrook to be a part of the hottest singles event in town. Of the attractions offered throughout the evening, the live auction of date packages with bachelors and bachelorettes took center stage. Literally, nine bachelors and bachelorettes dressed in evening gowns and tuxedos took to the runway as they sashayed, pranced, posed and even danced their way across the stage. Auctioneer Keith Jones and his auction assistants worked the crowd to build up excitement and accrue bids to sell the date package to the highest bidder. For some bidders, it took a little persuading and coercing and for others the decision to bid was an easy one. Bids for the exciting date packages of dinner and entertainment ranged from \$150 to \$3,500! For those not interested in buying a date package, options for bidding on specialty items such as Bears tickets, a sunset cruise and a time share condo presented themselves as volunteers dressed in costume to highlight each item up for bid. A silent auction lined the room with tables exhibiting stylish gift baskets, entertainment and theatre packages, sports memorabilia and exciting weekend packages.

The Cupid Corner raffle was open for business as tickets were sold for \$10 each with everyone being an instant winner. The cash raffle offered a hefty cash prize to one single winner and the Red Hot raffle gave 20 lucky winners a certificate for dinner with a bottle of wine.

Because Zazz is a party for singles and a place to meet other singles, the "Meet Market" was set up for individuals to post their picture and their information on the meeting board for others who wish to "silently" meet each other. Individuals would insert their contact information and their picture into an envelope of a person whose interests matched theirs. By the end of the night, the meeting boards were full of interesting facts and faces and envelopes were stuffed with contact names and numbers of people who eagerly await a phone call.

The evening concluded with dancing, socializing and music by Legendz DJ Service.

In the end, the enthusiasm, thrill and excitement raised thousands of dollars to benefit programs for individuals with developmental disabilities at Park Lawn.

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