

Currents

CSO String Project Makes Impact

The Chattanooga Symphony & Opera recently held a fundraising dinner for the CSO String Project. The CSO Board Education Committee, chaired by Gail Chapman, raised \$3,000 this year for two new double basses for the CSO Youth Orchestras. The main project of the committee for past seasons was to raise money for the purchase and repair of string instruments in local public schools and the CSO Youth Orchestras. The CSO String Project strengthens string education for area children, including 200 talented CSO Youth Orchestra musicians, through purchase of instruments, instrument repair and a pilot string program at Alpine Crest Elementary School. The CSO String Project is part of CSO Education & Outreach programs that impact over 20,000 children each year.

See www.chattanoogasympphony.org.



Vision Hospitality's Doubletree Hotel Receives Award

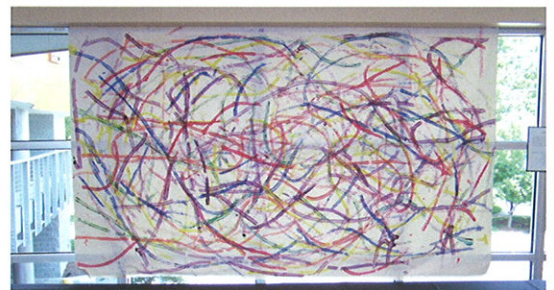
Vision Hospitality's Doubletree Hotel Chattanooga was presented the Environmental CARE Award by Doubletree Hotels in May.

The Doubletree Environmental CARE Award is presented to one of its 225 hotels worldwide that demonstrates an outstanding commitment to implementing and demonstrating sustainability and environmental outreach efforts that impact their guests as well as the local community.

"It's refreshing to work with a wonderful team of professionals who understand and embrace sustainability and set a new benchmark for other hotels to achieve," says Bill Walp, director of Brand Performance for Doubletree.

St. Barnabas Announces New Therapy

St. Barnabas celebrated its new art therapy program recently with "Art to Remember," an art show that showcased residents' art creations. From a wheelchair painting on canvas, self-portraits, shoebox marble art, photography, to a memory quilt, seniors told their stories through artistic expression.



"Art therapy can provide social connection, a feeling of control, and an opportunity to express and manage emotions," says Ashley Brandon, St. Barnabas activities director and art therapist.

"Everyone's an artist; everyone has something to express," says Carrie Ezell, art therapist and activities assistant. Ms. Ezell, who has a master's degree in art therapy, also directs art therapy groups throughout the Chattanooga area. She encourages seniors to discover their artistic side through a variety of media, noting that art therapy decreases social isolation and offers connection and support.

St. Barnabas is Chattanooga's only independent, not-for-profit continuing care retirement community, offering independent retirement apartments, assisted living, short-term rehabilitation therapy, and skilled nursing on two downtown campuses. Visit www.st-barnabas.com