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## Party watch: Vivan Amigos

By SHELBY HODGE Copyright 2009 Houston Chronicle

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James Nielsen Chronicle

Amigos de las Americas gala honoree George Donnelly, from left, gala chairs Irene and Lupe Fraga

### Vivan Amigos

**Who:** George Donnelly, left, with Irene and Lupe Fraga.

**Where & what:** At Hotel ZaZa, where Donnelly

was honoree and the Fragas were chairs of the Amigos de las Americas gala.

**Misc.:** Donnelly received the inaugural Amigos Ambassador Award for his long service to the nonprofit. The Lorena Donnelly Fund, a partnership between the Donnelly family and the Amigos foundation, was announced in honor of George's late wife and her service to the organization.

### Education first

**Who:** Vijay Bhuchar, left, and Swatantra Jain.

**Where & what:** At the Westin Galleria Hotel for the Pratham Houston Gala. Bhuchar is president and Jain is treasurer of the nonprofit, which supports education for all children in India.

**Misc:** Special guest on the evening that raised \$660,000 was film director Apoorva Lakhia, who auctioned off a part in his next film for \$11,000. High bidder was Ash Shah.

### Loving hearts

**Who:** Beth Sanders Moore and Jess Moore.

**Where & what:** At the Houstonian Hotel, Club & Spa, where they were honored at the Loving Hearts Caring Hands dinner benefiting the M.D. Anderson department of chaplaincy and pastoral education.

**Misc.:** Key figures among the 250 guests included honorary co-chairs Janet and Ernie Cockrell and

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Madelyn and Andrew von Eschenbach and honorary co-hosts Windi and David Grimes.

**Literacy champions**

**Who:** Larry Dierker and Hannah Storm.

**Where & what:** At Minute Maid Park, where Storm was honored as a Champion of Literacy and Dierker served as an honorary co-chair of the Literacy Advance fundraising evening.

**Misc.:** Past Champion of Literacy honorees on hand included Oliver Luck, Valerie Koehler and Jana Mullins. Hannah Storen and Bill Kreps served as chairs of the host committee.

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