



NUMBER CRUNCH

\$25,000

The cost to “own” a bench with a personalized plaque in the front row at Buckingham Fountain’s renovated plaza. (Benches in the tree grove cost \$10,000; benches on the outside corners cost \$15,000.)

CRYSTAL DELIGHT From left: Baccarat’s clear crystal and 18k yellow gold cuff bracelet, \$15,000, and clear crystal and yellow gold pendant on yellow gold ribbon, \$8,100, both available at baccarat.com.



Show Stoppers!

In France, a diamond truly wows when it’s as “big as a decanter stopper”—a turn of phrase that sparked Baccarat’s latest crystal jewelry collection. Designed by Elie Top, best known for the bombastic baubles he creates for Lanvin, the Bouchons de Carafe collection takes its cues from the fanciful tops on bottles of fine wine and whiskey. “For me, the name Baccarat suggests chandeliers, gleaming facets and French-style luxury,” says Top, whose inspiration came after viewing an exhibit of antique Baccarat carafes. The resulting pieces blend old-school elegance and modernity—a bulb-shaped pendant dangles from a delicate gold ribbon, a sturdy gold cuff bracelet is decked with a doorknob-sized square crystal, and a glittering, Cabernet-colored pyramid sits atop an industrial-looking gold ring. Santé! —Erin Magner

Board Bulletin

The spring party season is in full swing, and Chicago’s society set is abuzz with the latest news from the philanthropic front. Who’s in, who’s out, what’s new? Contributing editor Amalie Drury shares the scoop:

>>> In the first such alliance of its 100-year-plus history, the **Woman’s Board of Northwestern Memorial Hospital** is throwing its weight behind the Evergreen Invitational, the September 11 grand prix horse-jumping event at M.K. Pritzker’s Bristol, Wisconsin farm. >>> Recently spotted lunching while hammering out the details of the new **Friends of Chicago Public Schools** organization, founding members Joe King, Dona Williams and Mary Beth Hopp (along with advisory board members Amanda Puck, Jen

Hansen, Pat Gilroy, Ryan Preuett and Eric Demadara) said the group will provide educational tools and services to underserved students. >>> **Friends of Prentice** is a first-time participating charity of the Bank of America Chicago Marathon, and it’s the only Northwestern Memorial organization involved. >>> A new **Associate Board of the Midwest Eye Bank** has been meeting to plan its first event, a September cocktail party. >>> Jill Garling, wife of Allstate CEO Tom Wilson, has been appointed the new board chairman of **Facing History**

and **Ourselves**, an international organization for educators. >>> The **Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association** recently announced the launch of its new Women’s Board. The board’s first official event will be the October 2 Symphony Ball (formerly known as the Opening Night Gala). >>> Stacey Reineking Sather, a senior VP at Charter One, has been appointed the new chair of the **Parkways Foundation Board of Directors**. Sather is also director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago and the Greater North Michigan Avenue Association.

Clockwise from left: Parkways Foundation fundraiser Galapalooza will fall into the hands of new board chair Stacey Reineking Sather this year; director Riccardo Muti joins the CSO along with the new Women’s Board; CSO players perform. The orchestra will kick off its 2010/2011 season with the Symphony Ball on October 2.

HOME FRONT



Walk through the 1906 vintage greystone home of designer Tom Stringer and Scott Waller on the City Style House Tour, sponsored by CS Interiors.

Lifestyles of the Niche and Famous

If there’s one way that history *doesn’t* repeat itself, it’s in the detailed construction of late 19th- and early 20th-century homes. Stalk the best of this off-the-market real estate at the 22nd annual **City Style House Tour**, this year showcasing six spectacular historical properties near Belmont Harbor. The self-guided tour offers an insider look at privately owned modern art, antique furniture and garden terraces, climaxing with a first-time viewing of an 1893 Queen Anne residence. And it’s lust for a good cause: Proceeds benefit the Chicago City Day School. *May 16. 1PM to 5PM. \$140-\$155. Leaves from CCDS, 541 W. Hawthorne Pl., 773.327.0900, citystylehousetour.com. —Mariea Murlowski*