HEARTS to Hold Event at Sullivan's Quay on Jan. 19

Port Washington's newest community organization "HEARTS" (Helping Enrich the ARTS) continues its push for community involvement and fundraising for the arts in Port Washington schools with a fun-filled event at Sullivan's Quay on Jan. 19.

Says HEARTS founder, Damon Gersh, "We're hoping to create some excitement and grass-roots involvement in this very exciting, new organization, which seeks to enrich the music and arts programs in our schools, the same way the AAPW has been able to do for our wonderful sports programs. The response has been overwhelming and we want to celebrate that with this event."

Christine Panico, organizer of the event, added, "We are equally excited that Sullivan's has opened their doors and offered up their karaoke machines, so we can all sing our HEARTS out – we think it will be a great low-key, break-from-the-work-week way to get involved, make a contribution and let loose!"

The ads around town reflect the organization's efforts to bring in young parents, kids, businesses and all of the members of this community who are committed to strengthening Port Washington's arts programs and setting us apart as a community willing to look the economy and the school budget crisis in the eye and do something about it.

The copy on the ads reads, "Here's what \$25 gets you: You, a karaoke machine, and the song of your choice... will the crowd go wild? How will you ever know if you don't come and sing your HEART out? And when Port Washington makes the news for having the greatest grass-roots, save-the-arts movement going, when our students act their HEARTS out, sing their HEARTS out, write their HEARTS out and put Port Washington on the map, you can say, 'Yeah, I did that.' Oh, and we'll throw in appetizers and a cocktail... as if you needed anything more."

This event comes on the heels of the very successful SHOP Your HEARTS Out! event, which was held on Main Street on Dec. 15. Many local merchants participated in a holiday shopping day, making donations to HEARTS based on their sales that day. This is all part of an effort to make HEARTS a true community endeavor. The organization is committed to building meaningful and constructive partnerships with merchants and community organizations in the area.



Pictured here is HEARTS founder and lead singer of local band, Rock Steady, Damon Gersh. The HEARTS Executive Board has voted for Damon to please wear this outfit to the Karaoke event. Do you agree? Find HEARTSPW on Facebook and let them know!

Open to all, this "fun-raising" event will be held at Sullivan's Quay, 541 Port Washington Blvd., starting at 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 19. The \$25 donation goes to HEARTS PW and includes appetizers, and one cocktail. There will also be a raffle for gift baskets and other items donated by some local, HEARTS-friendly merchants.

If you're interested in making a raffle contribution for the event, you can contact Christine Panico at aljoenat@optonline.net.

In addition to the evening's fun and prizes, the organizers of HEARTS will discuss their plans for a local music and arts festival ("PortFest") scheduled for May 19, 2012. For general information about HEARTS and to get involved with their cause, visit the HEARTS website at www.heartspw.org.

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