



Dress for Success Palm Beach

Inside this year's luncheon with Style Icon awardees Tommy and Dee Ocleppo Hilfiger.

March 18, 2024 by Sharon King Hoge

Fashion, in a sense, is personal décor, and Dress for Success is a nonprofit organization which empowers women to achieve economic independence by dressing them for job interviews. At this year's annual gala lunch in Palm Beach the group introduced one of the outstanding women of over 800 they have mentored in the past year and saluted this year's Style Icons Tommy and Dee Ocleppo Hilfiger.

VIP guests gathered in the Kravis Center Dreyfoos Lounge, sipping pink champagne and mingling with the Honorees. A longtime Connecticut resident, recently relocated to Palm Beach, Tommy confessed he misses New England's "fall, the leaves and crisp air around Halloween and Thanksgiving." He and Dee signed copies of their books.



VIP Reception in the Dreyfoos Lounge



Style Icon Awardees Tommy and Dee Ocleppe Hilfiger



Tommy and Dee Ocleppo Hilfiger with Heather Mahoney and Courtney Siders



Honorary Co-Chairs Mark Badgley and James Mischka



The Hilfigers signed their books



Colorful footwear on shoe designer Dee Ocleppo

Guests were dressed for “social” success in a variety of colorful ensembles.



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After a session of spirited silent auction competition, over 300 participants proceeded to the luncheon and program. A video described the Dress for Success program which includes career coaching, styling, and mentoring to help women break the cycle of poverty and work toward financial independence.

This year's featured client Rose Audrey Clark described how the program helped her evolve from living in a van with her six children to reinstating her real estate license, which has led to a recent new job with **RE/MAX**. Before two abusive marriages, she had aspired to model and her first runway job happened to be modeling a Tommy Hilfiger outfit. In a felicitous coincidence, the Hilfigers styled her appearance at the luncheon.

Accepting their award, the Hilfigers commended the organization and held a discussion with news anchor Shannon Cake describing to the crowd how they met and how they work together on their separate successful design businesses.



Browsing the silent auction



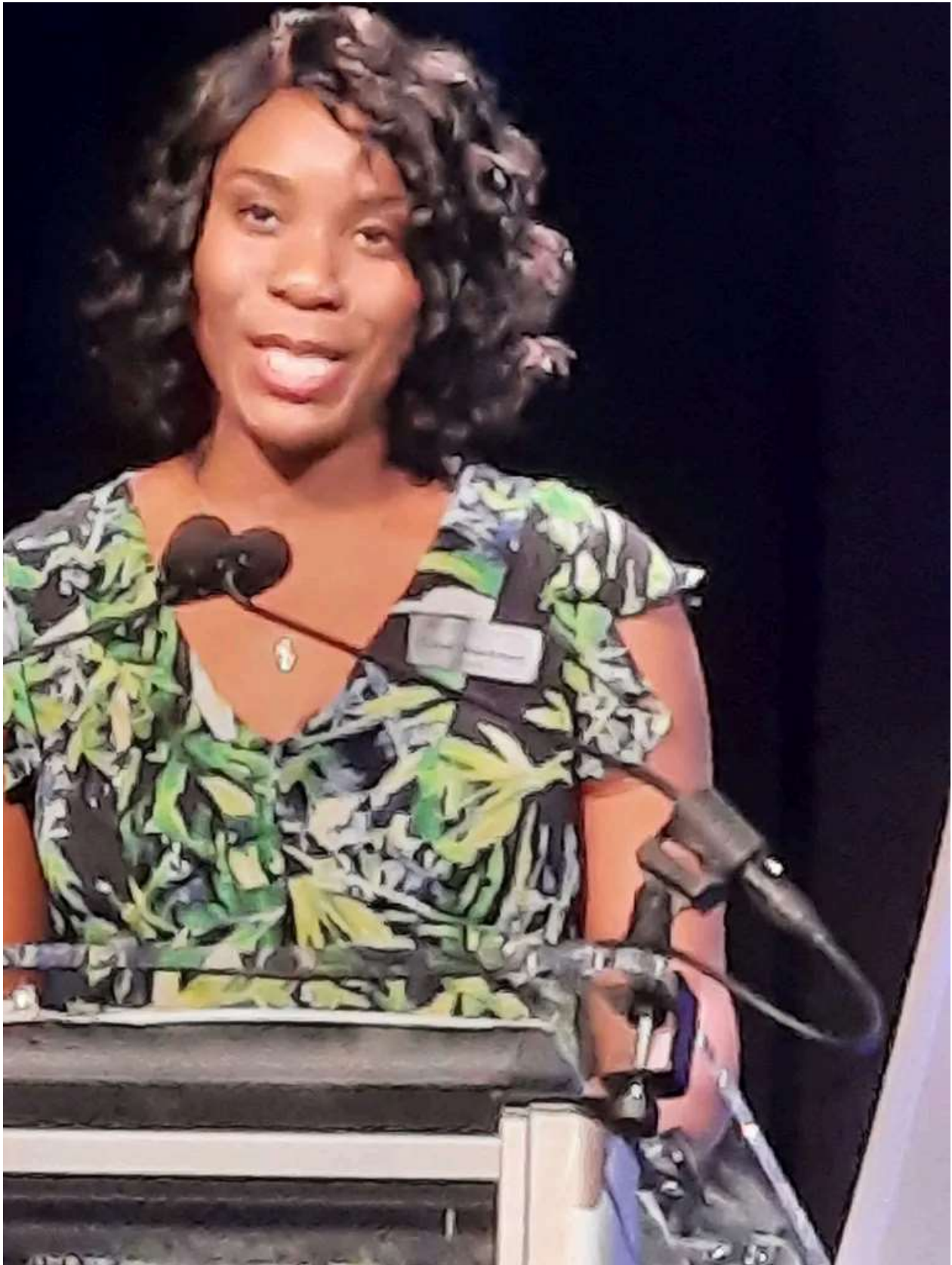
Luncheon guests filled the room



Tables were pre-set with Caesar salad



Tequila centerpieces were sold to benefit the nonprofit's work



Board chairman Lana Blackman welcomed the group



DFSPB Executive Director led the 10th Anniversary Toast



Event Co-Chairs Denise O'Sullivan and Esther Perman acknowledged sponsorships



Featured client Rose Audrey Clark describes her Dress for Success transformation



Co-Chairs Joannie Danielides and Nancy Rizzuto describe Circle of Impact



Jo Ann Fletcher introduces Tommy and Dee Ocleppo Hilfiger



A chance to hear about the Hilfigers

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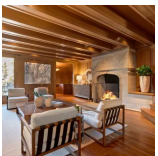
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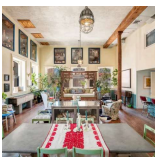
Dress for Success Palm Beach



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