

West Gainesville

# The Voice

VOL. 3, NO. 30

www.gainesvillevoice.com



**ENTERTAINMENT:**  
Sister Hazel's new album a group effort  
**PAGE 9**

**COMMUNITY  
CITY SPONSORING  
BACK-TO-SCHOOL  
BASH, 2**

**BENEFIT  
NOCHE DE GALA  
TICKETS GO ON SALE  
TUESDAY, 4**

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2009

4 THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2009 » THE GAINESVILLE VOICE « WWW.GAINESVILLEVOICE.COM

## » BENEFIT

# Noche de Gala tickets go on sale Tuesday

By **AIDA MALLARD**  
Special to The Voice

**Y**ou can experience thrills to the mystery and excitement of a Venetian masquerade ball and enjoy opera and Broadway star performances, horse shows, a silent auction, cigar rolling and more for a good cause at Noche de Gala, the premier fundraising event for the Sebastian Ferrero Foundation.

But hurry, because last year, tickets and sponsorships sold fast.

The 2nd annual Noche de Gala will be held from 7 p.m.-midnight Saturday, Oct. 3 at Besilu Collection,

a 642-acre horse farm in Micanopy. Sponsorships are available now and range from \$1,000-\$100,000 and individual tickets are \$250 each, and go on sale on Aug. 25.

A sponsorship of \$100,000 will include six tables with seating for 10 each, limousine service for 60 people, on-stage recognition, many advertising opportunities and many more perks.

Sponsorships of \$1,000 will include two tickets to the event, the name of your business on the event program, and some advertising.

Hosted by Benjamin and Sylvia Leon Jr., the owners

### Foundation benefit

**What:** Noche de Gala, a fundraiser for the Sebastian Ferrero Foundation.

**When:** 7 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Oct. 3.

**Where:** Besilu Collection,

of Besilu Collection, Noche de Gala will feature a Venetian masquerade ball theme.

Linda Michalisin, vice president of public relations for Frankel Media Group, said the gala will feature extravagant live performances by

a 642-acre horse farm in Micanopy.

**Cost:** \$250 each, with sponsorships ranging from \$1,000-\$100,000; tickets go on sale Tuesday.

**Information:** Call 333-2579 or visit [www.nochedegala.org](http://www.nochedegala.org).

Italian opera singers and by Broadway star Ted Keegan, who played the lead role in the Broadway production of "Phantom of the Opera."

Other performers will include the award-winning vocal ensemble group from P.K. Yonge

Developmental Research School and Anthony Offerle, director of the University of Florida Theatre, as well as opera singers Rhonda Tinnin of Jacksonville and Roberta Watson of Gainesville.

Michalisin said the Sebastian Ferrero Foundation was created in memory of 3-year-old Sebastian Ferrero by his parents, Horst and Luisa Ferrero. Sebastian died in October 2007 as a result of preventable medical errors at Shands at UF.

Last year, Michalisin said, Noche de Gala sold out with 720 guests and raised close to \$1 million in sponsorships, ticket

sales, silent auction items, pledges, in-kind gifts, and a dollar-for-dollar match from the Ferreros.

This year, 1,000 guests are expected to attend and the Ferreros will again provide a dollar-to-dollar match up to \$1 million.

The Sebastian Ferrero Foundation advocates and raise funds for a state-of-the-art, full-service children's hospital in Gainesville while promoting excellence in patient safety and ensuring that all families are treated with compassion, courtesy and dignity.

For more information, call 333-2579 or visit [www.nochedegala.org](http://www.nochedegala.org).