



Chuck Fuller, Holly Murray, Rob Martens, Julie Lipp, Clr. Fuller and Aycin Martins (GREENLife Gala)



Sara Backhouse with Marie and Harriet Gordon (GREENLife Gala)



Sara Backhouse (center) with Green Dream students Jacob Tepper, Mike Perrino, Jennifer Hipl, Dominic Argo and Colin Waters (GREENLife Gala)

Beachwood High School Green Dream Marketing/Junior Achievement "GREENLife Gala"

Progressive Corporate Headquarters in Mayfield Village was the perfect venue for the first ever GREENLife Gala, a benefit organized by Beachwood High School's Green Dream Marketing/Junior Achievement class.

"The evening began with a VM reception and private tour of Progressive's contemporary art collection. Beachwood Marketing students were everywhere, greeting and showing guests. Fine dining was provided by Spirit of Life Catering Co.

For dinner, guests enjoyed food stations featuring local eating outlets from Woods, Private Affair Catering, fine local and drink, West Side Bakery of Akron, Jack's Ice Cream, Vegetarian and Beachwood Cafe.

During dinner, the class runs give with performances from area fitness studios including Cheyenne Yoga, Fit Body Boot Camp Beachwood, Purple with Me, Aerial, Max City with Me on Jorja and Modern Belly Dance.

An eco-fashion show followed, by Virginia Marti College of Art and Design, in which model-student VM students' spring designs made of reused materials.

Sara Backhouse, host of Discovery Network's "Flame Green," inspired the program. "The kids get it," Ms. Backhouse said. "They are the ones that will be lowering the cost of us here to go green, save money, energy and the planet."

GREENLife Gal raised more than \$80,000. This money, along with proceeds from The Green Dream's upcoming eco-friendly sherego to be held on April 15, will go toward purchasing local solar that generates electricity to run computers in the existing Green Dream classroom, building a second green classroom and establishing a wellness campaign for students and staff at the high school. STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY LISA FERRERSON