



EV co-founder Marie-Claude Thompson with the Rev. Bryan Hehir, cabinet secretary for Health and Social Services for the Archdiocese and Harvard Kennedy School faculty member who welcomed Harvard alumni back to St. Paul Church for a celebratory EV Mass sponsored by EVpartner, the Harvard Catholic Center.



Longtime EVfriends Paul Cravedi and Vin Stanton



Sophia Tzeng, Eric Thompson, Latoyia Edwards, Gala Co-Chair Diana Rodriguez, Uri Berenguer



EVtutor Chris Higgins '11, Alan Khazei and Acting Executive Director Sophia Tzeng



Brenda Sheridan toasts her sister, Rebecca Malone '86 who helped start the Tutoring Program in 1985



EVkid Shaniece '15 and her mother share the moment



Gala sponsors Brian and Jenny Lovett



EVkids Ashley '13, Moise '15, Derrick '12 and Kathy '11 helped out



EV alumni Marianna Fassinotti '01 and David Browne '01 reconnect with George Bard, Jr.

Many thanks to Robert Hare Photography for all the fine Gala photos. Visit the Earthen Vessels (EV) Facebook page for the full gallery of Gala pictures.

Celebrating 30 Years of Planting Seeds of Hope!

EV's 30th Anniversary Gala celebration was a resounding success. Over 200 Harvard and EVkid alumni, current tutors and tutees, sponsors, and supporters filled the ballroom of the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square to share in EV's accomplishments and spirit.

The evening started as guests were greeted by EVkids, registered by EVtutors on a set of laptops donated by Gala sponsor Computer Recycling USA, and ushered into the reception area by the sweet stylings of a New England Conservatory student jazz quartet. Everyone had fun mingling, bidding on dozens of silent auction items, and meeting the founder of City Year and Be The Change Inc., **Alan Khazei**, who was signing copies of his new book, *Big Citizenship*.



View the new EV video and a digital version of the Lifetime of Giving photo mosaic at evkids.org.

EV Awards

The delicious dinner from the Charles Hotel kitchen was accompanied by an inspiring program hosted by NECN news anchor and EVkid alumna **Latoyia Edwards** with an assist from **Jim Braude**, WTKK talk radio and NECN news show host. EVkid alumnus **Uri Berenger**, the youngest Major League Baseball play-by-play announcer and most recently co-host of NESN Daily, was honored with an **EV Achievement Award**; he thanked EV for helping him overcome early challenges. EVtutor alumnus **Scott Murphy**, now U.S. Congressman from New York, was given an **EV Service Award**; he thanked EV for helping shape his personal commitment to public service. Co-founders **Marie-Claude** and **Brian Thompson** were then honored with an **EV Lifetime of Giving Award**, a three by four foot mosaic composed of over a thousand photographs from EVcamp and EVtutoring over the last 30 years.



Marie-Claude and Latoyia



Keynote by Alan Khazei

In an inspiring keynote address, **Alan Khazei** applauded EV for illustrating the power of public service to change those who benefit from services as well as those who serve. After a moving EV video produced by **Latoyia Edwards** at NECN, the serious bidding began on our donated live auction items, including Celtics luxury box seats. By the time the evening ended with a camp sing-a-long, more than \$50,000 had been raised!



Jim Braude calls for bids

EV is...

Staff

Sophia Tzeng, Acting Executive Director
Lauren Ravello, Program Director
Nancy Jiménez, Educational Coordinator
Marie-Claude Thompson, Tutor and Alumni Relations Director, Camp Director
Brian Thompson, Communications, Camp Co-Director

Student Leaders

Francisco Alvarez '11
Fuyio Nagayama '11
Anthony Staccione '13

Board

Eric Thompson, President
Beth Bolyn
Carlos Cedeño
Alex Danahy
John Danahy
Carla Ofodile
Brian Thompson, Co-Founder
Dan Thompson
Marie-Claude Thompson, Co-Founder
Jaime de Zengotita

EV Giving

Please join the **EVfamily** in sustaining EV's work over the *next* 30 years.

- **Founders' Circle** — annual pledge of \$10,000+
- **President's Circle** — annual pledge of \$5,000+
- **Mentors' Circle** — annual pledge of \$2,500+

Monthly or annual pledges of *any* amount are welcome and will help us immensely in our planning. All donations are tax-deductible.

- Checks may be sent to EV at 170 Appleton Street, Cambridge MA 02138.
- You may make a secure one-time or recurring donation via credit card online at: evkids.org

• We welcome referrals of companies, institutions or other entities who need to recycle computers or electronics. Our green partner, Computer Recycling USA, will share ensuing revenues with us for years to come.

- Contact us at info@evkids.org

EV Websites

evkids.org

Now on Facebook: [Earthen Vessels \(EV\)](#) and Twitter: [evkid](#)



Measuring Success

Lauren Ravello, Program Director

An exciting new partnership for EV is with the Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development at Tufts University. Supported by the Thrive Foundation, the Tufts team has been researching the theory that youth thrive when they develop strong positive goal management skills with the help of a supportive mentor. By participating in the Tufts study, EV is providing EVtutors with the latest tools to empower EVkids to recognize their potential, make informed academic and personal decisions, and accomplish their short and long-term goals.

EVtutors have been trained to help guide their EVkids through a process designed by Tufts to nurture growth of these “GPS” goal management skills (Goal Selection, Pursuit of Strategies, Shifting Gears in the face of challenge).

A GPS system for life goals

These skills when internalized act as a navigational system much like the GPS that we depend on when taking road trips. Attaining high GPS skills is correlated with youths’ positive development and a reduction in risky behaviors.

Our collaboration with Tufts through the GPS project also provides EV with a useful measure of child progress. EVtutors and EVkids will be completing multiple online assessments tabulated by the Tufts team as the year progresses. These assessments will measure EVkids’ abilities to select positive and realistic goals, their capacity to use multiple strategies to achieve their goals, and their ability to adjust when goals may prove difficult to accomplish. The collaboration with the Tufts Research team is a positive alliance in our goal of serving and empowering youth and their families.



My EV Camp Visit

EVtutor Alumna Diana Rodriguez '89

I had the opportunity to visit Vermont this summer and as always was inspired by the incredible work that camp-directors Marie-Claude and Brian do to support both the EV kids as well as the counselors. I realized that one of the reasons the kids love EVcamp so much is that it is often the first place where they have felt truly safe not only to be themselves but to improve on themselves. It is also the first place where they are surrounded by people who believe they can “do it.”

I had the privilege of sitting in on the violence workshop meant to help the kids with conflict resolution. It was very interesting to listen to the campers express themselves about a camper who was being incredibly difficult to everyone. Once they understood that she suffers from ADHD and impulsive behavior, they all rallied together to be more understanding and inclusive in order to help the troubled camper. There was such a sense of community in the room that it makes you believe that obstacles can be overcome and world peace is possible.

The counselors, including two recent Harvard graduates, came from interesting backgrounds: two Mexican-American students from California, one Ecuadoran-American about to enter law school at Berkeley, a recent graduate from California, and three French students including a medical student, an architecture student, and a Franco-Puerto Rican student about to begin MBA studies in Montreal. At EV, though, those differences seem to melt away as everyone comes together to form the EV family.

A safe place to be yourself among people who believe you can “do it”



From José Tello '95

“Earthen Vessels cemented and strengthened in me my life’s goal of making a positive difference in people’s lives. I strive to continue that sense of purpose that was honed during my years with [EV]. As an attorney in Los Angeles, I provide free legal services to low-wage workers. And I see my work as a continuation of the work I started doing with Earthen Vessels.”



From Millicent Hartgering, Lesley '94

“Joining EV was the most important and the best decision I made throughout my college years. I knew I was going to teach, but it was those Wednesday afternoons at [EV] that ignited my passion for urban education. Fifteen years later, I am teaching at an inner-city school in Dorchester, and have sent many of my students to EV tutoring and camp.”



From Jessica (Goldman) Kenworthy '89

“My volunteer work as a tutor and camp counselor with Earthen Vessels was probably the most significant and formative experience of my college years. . . [EV] helped me discover my true passion for education. It also deeply enriched my spiritual life and my sense of service. [A]s a teacher in a Catholic prep school . . . I know how the seeds I plant will sprout and bear fruit some day, and that gives me a great sense of satisfaction and joy.”



Help EV Expand from Harvard to Boston College

Sophia Tzeng, Acting Executive Director

EV is a hidden treasure. It has grown organically over 30 years in response to the great need for hope among children and teens from Boston’s most disadvantaged neighborhoods. Consistent with available research, EV’s experience proves that long-term, one-on-one supportive relationships are key to making academic and personal success achievable for the young people we serve.

In recent years, the economy has devastated the communities we serve. EV now has a waiting list of children and families seeking help. To meet this need, EV plans to welcome in Fall 2011 our first cohort of tutors from Boston College through the BC student group **4Boston**.

We are committed to making this necessary growth possible without sacrificing the *personal depth of relationship* unique to our work. Our success—and the success of every EVkid—depends on the weekly, multi-year, one-on-one sessions between EVtutors and EVkids; school and family visits for every child; the creation of individualized tutoring plans; tutor trainings to handle the deep issues confronting EVkids; and weekly transportation for EVkids to tutoring, among other program strategies.

Relationships are the key to EV’s success

Please consider giving hope to more EVkids with a special gift or monthly recurring donation (that can be changed at any time) through our secure online portal at evkids.org. Your monthly pledge helps EV budget and plan based on actual anticipated revenue, and helps us streamline our administration and processing. As a volunteer organization, EV doubles or triples the impact of every dollar given in support of children in need. At this crossroads for EV, facing this special opportunity to multiply our impact, your support is especially critical and appreciated.



New EVpartner, Tufts researcher Ed Bowers and wife Rachel (r) with Dr. Lucy Bayer-Zwirello