

## **Event Recap:**

### **A Fun and Elegant Afternoon Celebrating The Art Deco Society of Washington's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!**

On November 13, 2022, the Art Deco Society of Washington celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> year in elegant style at the renowned Mediterranean Art Deco designed Glen Echo Spanish Ballroom just off McArthur Boulevard in Maryland. Guests were greeted by a new member dressed in formal attire complete with top hat who opened the door as they arrived.

We were fortunate to have a number of sponsors for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. While not a fundraiser, donations were gratefully received in order to allow the ticket price to be set at a more reasonable figure to facilitate a wider attendance. This philosophy proved successful with attendance 30% greater than originally planned (134 vs. 100), including about 40 new members. These new members give us the opportunity for lots of new programming as well as broadening knowledge about Art Deco in the community.

Guests could listen or dance their hearts away for the afternoon to live music performed by the five-piece Con Brio Ensemble playing selections from the 1920's – 30's. During the afternoon event, there was even a special conga line, a specialty of past ADSW Preservation Balls enjoyed by all participants.

During the thirty-minute speaker program, Joanne Aaronson, Chair of the event, provided introductions as well as acknowledgements to all who helped out. Executive Director of the Glen Echo Park Partnership for the Arts and Culture, Katie Boerner, delighted her audience with a talk about the history of Glen Echo and the ballroom Steve Knight, President of ADSW, presented the highlights of the past four decades as well as the perspective for the future. In addition, Kay Brenner organized the 9 members/guests who participated in a narrated mini vintage fashion show. For those not dancing or just walking around and catching up with old friends, a continuous slide show captured ADSW history, helping many new to the era and organization understand more about them.

Our caterer, the award winning The Chef's Table, provided both bar service which began during a cocktail time with the ADSW President in the foyer, as well as delectable passed hors d'oeuvres and stations that were a wonder to look and savor, including smoked salmon, chicken medallions in butter sauce, Russian salad cups, asparagus, brie/cheese platter, just to name a few items. In addition, desert included french pastries as well as a delicious cake decorated with the ADSW logo. The cake was served with a champagne toast by the President and a song sung by the happy crowd present in the foyer. We were fortunate to have Eamonn Knights as our photographer, who as a dancer was happy to come to our event and snap some photos. So if you like what you see, let Eamonn know!

<https://eamonnknights.shootproof.com/gallery/19888282/>

The afternoon event ran from noon until 5pm with something for everyone including a cocktail hour, dancing, food, vintage presentation, mini-fashion show, rotating slide-show and opportunities to visit with old acquaintances and make new friendships. There were lots of rave reviews and tired feet at the end of the day. Afterwards, many people had positive comments and can't wait for the next one!

Joanne Aaronson, Chair, ADSW 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

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