



Business Leaders and Celebrities Embraced Equal Access to Quality Education Mission

Over 40 companies and 19 stars raised nearly BGN 100,000 in support of Teach for Bulgaria teachers at 5th Inspirational Leaders Charity Auction

Sofia, 18 November 2016. For the fifth time in a row **business leaders and popular public figures** embraced the **mission of providing equal access to quality education** to every child during the **Inspirational Leaders Charity Auction** that took place on 17 November 2016 at Hilton Sofia. **Over 100 guests** attended the unconventional auction organised by Teach for Bulgaria and the Bulgarian Business Leaders Forum. Representatives of **over 40 leading companies** across sectors and **19 stars** took part in this year's event that raised nearly **BGN 100,000** that will be invested in the education, development and **support of teachers with the Teach for Bulgaria programme.**

During the auction businesses **bid for two hours of the time of popular and esteemed stars** from culture and entertainment, sports, the media, etc. In support of Teach for Bulgaria's mission the celebrities will be **donating their time by attending various corporate events.** **HP Enterprise, AstraZeneca, Coca Cola, Petar Duchevev Dental Clinic, Vidima Ideal Standard, Lidl, Orgachim, Stanton Chase** were among the companies that took part in the auction.

The cause of providing excellent education to all children has gathered us again for the fifth time. We believe that in today's **economy of ideas** the development of the **enormous potential of young people** is essential to their success. We hope that together we will contribute to growing a generation of educated, capable and skilled young people", **BBLF Chairman Irvan Hira** said at the opening.

"Everything we achieve is a result of **our work with our partners.** We learn from them every day. The most impressive success stories of our teachers and their pupils come from places where they work along with their partners sharing a common vision", **Evgenia-Peeva Kirova, Teach for Bulgaria Executive Director** said.

„The years spent at school are of paramount importance for one's personal growth. This is why it is important for teachers to be motivated and to fulfill their calling so that they stir children's interest", said **Nencho Balabanov**, Teach for Bulgaria's avid supporter who **hosted the event along with Raffi Boghosyan.**

The event also featured actresses **Militsa Gladnishka, Silvia Lulcheva and Lilia Maraviglia**; Olympic champion **Maria Grozdeva**; **HaHaHa Impro Theatre**; music stars **Hilda Kazasyan, Jeremy?, Magi Dzhavanarova and Nora Karaivanova**; **Derida Dance Centre**; Mailbox Tales owner **Geri Turiyska**; Loran Gallery owner **Lavren Petrov**; entrepreneurs **Leona Aslanova, Tsvetan Lazhanski and Kiril Petkov**; author **Katerina Hapsali**; the head of Bulgaria's Antarctic programmes **Prof. Christo Pimpirev**; and H.E. Ms. **Irit Lillian**, the Israeli Ambassador to Sofia.

For more pics from the event please check out the **gallery** below.

The 2016 Inspirational Leaders Charity Auction took place with the **generous support** of **Hilton Sofia, Kinstellar, Vinex Preslav, Japan Tobacco International, AstraZeneca and Special Events Group**.