

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TIBET FUND  
REQUEST THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY AT THE

# 11th Annual Tibet Fund Gala

HONORING

**RICHARD GRACE**

*A Philanthropist, Entrepreneur & Founder of Grace Family Vineyards*

**NINA SCHROEDER**

*Art Historian, Farmer & Entrepreneur*

**STEVE SCHROEDER**

*A Freedom Fighter, Businessman & Entrepreneur*

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HOST

**Chef ERIC RIPERT**

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CO-CHAIRS

**Richard & Alejandra GERE**

**Dr. Kazuko Tatsumura-HILLYER**

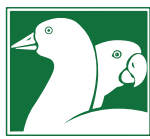
**Diana & Jonathan ROSE**

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Wednesday, October 20, 2021 \* Reception at 6:30pm \* Dinner at 7:30pm

**LE BERNARDIN PRIVÉ**

153 West 51st Street, New York, NY 10019



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THE TIBET FUND



**NINA SCHROEDER**

*Art Historian, Farmer & Entrepreneur*

**STEVE SCHROEDER**

*A Freedom Fighter, Businessman & Entrepreneur*

Our foray into the preservation of Tibetan culture and human rights began with a trip to Tibet as adventure travelers in 1987. Struck by the physical devastation, lack of basic resources and oppression, upon return to the U.S. we committed ourselves to awareness campaigns and political action work with the U.S. Tibet Committee and Rinchen Dharlo, then the exile government's U.S. Representative. Over time, our work became more focused with Steve concentrating his time on the Board of The International Campaign for Tibet and Nina as Co-Founder of the Tibetan U.S. Resettlement Project in Chicago. Initially it was Tenzin Choedak who brought us to Tibet Fund and we are still strongly with it today!

Steve, a businessman and entrepreneur, currently runs a specialty packaging business and most recently Nina, an art historian, founded a community mini-farm to grow organic food for people with little or no access to fresh produce. Nina and Steve live in Chicago with their four adult children who are all also committed to Tibet.



## **RICHARD GRACE**

*A Philanthropist, Entrepreneur & Founder of Grace Family Vineyards*

Dick Grace's personal values and commitments have shaped not only his own life, but those of countless others worldwide.

First as a United States Marine Corps Officer, and then as a senior Vice President for Smith Barney, Dick spent over thirty years cultivating his professional and financial success. According to Dick however, the real story of his success began when he turned his focus outward and embarked on a path of compassionate action.

In the mid 1970's, Dick and his wife Ann started a small winery in the Napa Valley of California. Although the family began their venture with virtually no experience in wine making, The Insider's Wine Line says, "the Cabernet Sauvignons that have evolved from the original one-acre vineyard on the property have now become legend, bringing at charity auctions more money than any other wine made in America."

And it is charity that is at the heart of Grace's personal transformation and the mission of the Grace Family Vineyards. Known as much for its mission statement, "Wine as a catalyst towards healing our planet," as for its prized wine, Grace Family Vineyards raises over a million dollars annually for charitable causes. Among those who have benefited from the profits of the vineyard are organizations caring for children with

cancer, pediatric AIDS organizations, services for abused women, and organizations serving the children of Tibet, the country Grace feels is his spiritual home. Most recently, the Grace's have been involved in relief work directed towards Nepal where the devastating earthquake has altered the lives of millions of people. They have brought both aide and comfort to millions of Nepalese.

Grace is emphatic about his belief that donating money is only one third of the charitable equation. As he explains, "the other two thirds include personal involvement and personal commitment to raising others' awareness of the need to act compassionately."

Therefore, Grace volunteers at Mother Theresa's hospitals in Kathmandu, at the homes of disabled persons, at children's camps, and for a variety of other organizations alleviating the suffering of children and adults who are physically, emotionally, or financially disenfranchised. He also financially and personally supports a number of Buddhist causes including the Tibetan refugees in Katmandu, Nepal and Dharamsala, India, the monks at Shechen Monastery, and many Tibetans seeking both higher education and the opportunity to become productive world citizens.

Grace also commits a significant portion of his time and resources to raising awareness about the need to act compassionately. Grace uses every tour of his winery, every speaking engagement, and every possible personal encounter to share his stories and remind people that active participation in the lives of people in need can be more spiritually rewarding than inward-focused religious or meditative practice. Although his own spiritual path is centered in Buddhism, Grace focuses his practice on the universal importance of caring and compassionate action that unites all religions and spiritual teachings.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama supported Grace's idea to honor those who are rarely acknowledged for their humanitarian services towards underserved people in their own communities. His Holiness attended all the four "Unsung Heroes of Compassion" events, organized by Grace, starting in 2004 where over 200 people from 38 countries have been honored. His Holiness hosted each event and acknowledged every honoree by greeting them onstage and presenting them with Tibetan traditional scarf - *Khata*.

## *Gala Benefit Committee*

Richard & Alejandra Gere, Co-Chair  
Diana & Jonathan Rose, Co-Chair  
Dr. Kazuko Tatsumura-Hillyer, Co-Chair  
Diane Brandenburg  
Jennifer Block  
Saara & Robert Cohen  
Carole Corcoran  
Jodie & John Eastman  
Bennett Shapiro & Fredericka Foster  
Michael Gutwaks  
Shep Gordon  
Olivia Hansen  
Kurt & Nancy Jeffries  
Michael Lemle  
Geoffrey & Sophie Menin  
Dr. Zorba Paster and Penelope  
Josephine P. Pangilinan  
Sheri M. Rand  
Joyce Romanoff  
Nima Binara & Pema Tulotsang  
Champa & Robert Weinreb  
Tsewang Namgyal & Yeh-Yun (Venus) Wu  
Jane & Jonathan Wells

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### FESTIVE ATTIRE

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Musical Performances and Auction of distinguished art and photography, special adventures, and luxury items will be held during the Reception and Dinner.

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For sponsoring a table or purchasing tickets, please contact  
[LNzayul@tibetfund.org](mailto:LNzayul@tibetfund.org) or call 201-362-2605

## *40 Years of Service to Tibetan community*

The Tibet Fund's mission is to preserve the distinct cultural identity of the Tibetan people. Founded in 1981 under the patronage of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, the Tibet Fund is the leading nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting and strengthening Tibetan communities, both in exile and inside Tibet.

During these pandemic times, we have reached out to all Tibetan communities in exile and funded over \$1,850,000 to combat Covid-19. This included non-medical livelihood support of \$630,000 benefiting over 4,900 vulnerable Tibetan households through subsistence relief and livelihood skills training. We helped procure essential medical devices and supplies, including ventilators, oxygen cylinders and masks, heart monitor machines, nebulizer machines and PPE for treatment and prevention of Covid-19. We are happy to inform that 90% of Tibetans in India have received one or two doses.

The Tibet Fund is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization and recipient of both Charity Navigator's highest 4-star rating and GuideStar's Platinum Seal of Transparency. As such your donation is tax deductible to the maximum extent allowed by the law. If you have any questions about our organization, please do not hesitate to call or write to us.



THE TIBET FUND

212-213-5011

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[www.tibetfund.org](http://www.tibetfund.org)

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