

# Around Town

## Philanthropist and Author, Carolyn Farb, Continues to Impact the Community

By Rebecca Maitland

Philanthropist and author Dr. Carolyn Farb, h.c. recently completed two record-breaking events for the Houston-area nonprofits Children at Risk and Stages Repertory Theatre. With our noticeably challenged economy, these successful events are a testament to her fundraising skills, creativity and her continued giving spirit to the community.

At this time, however, there are no new fundraising projects on the horizon for Carolyn. Next up is a children's book about the life and times of her beloved pup, Lucas.

"Lucas came into my life at a very sad time, right after I lost my only son and my beloved dog, Bogie, passed away." Lucas arrived from Manchester, England. A friend brought him back from a trip overseas. "When Lucas arrived, he was five weeks old and shaking all over," Dr. Farb recalled. "Lucas was the ball of energy that revitalized my home."

Lucas is a Lucas Terrier, a rare British breed. According to the Lucas Terrier Club of American Association Web site, in the late 1940s, Sir Jocelyn Lucas of Great Britain, feeling that the Sealyham Terrier was too big to work efficiently and concerned about the increase in whelping deaths, crossed Sealyham Terrier females with Norfolk Terrier males, creating the Lucas Terrier.

The book will focus on Lucas' entertaining trip to America and adjusting to life in America. "Lucas is a very intelligent young man. I think he knows how to tell time. He knows when it is time to go for a walk and when it is time for dinner.



Sofia van der Dys

And he lets me know. He also likes to wear his raincoat when he goes walking," Farb said.

Dr. Farb studied philosophy and journalism at the University of Oklahoma. She has crafted expert press releases and marketing materials for fundraising events, and she writes a number of articles for a host of different magazines. She has written two successful books, *The Fine Art of Fundraising* and *How to Raise Millions Helping Others Having a Ball*. As a mother and a suc-

cessful author, the children's book is a natural next project.

"I wrote the fundraising books to help people trying to make a difference in their communities. I provided them with a template to achieve success," Farb said.

The children's book will entertain, but it is meant to provide guidance on the changes in our lives, and how to adjust to the inevitable.

Carolyn's creative spirit abounds, from fundraising, to her jewelry and clothing designs, to her home décor and art collection, her life is a reflection of her progressive and free spirit.

Carolyn loves mentoring—and being mentored.

"There are many new fundraisers working with different charities, who remind me of myself when I was just beginning to work as a volunteer," she said. "That is thrilling to me."

She also enjoys speaking with non-profit organizations to offer advice and strategies on how to raise funds to fulfill their missions.

Carolyn learns something from every event she undertakes. But the most important lesson that she has always known is people like to be appreciated. Those who have worked with her note they not only felt appreciated, but also valued and respected.

A final bit of advice from the master of fundraising: "Manners are important, and I believe the definition of good manners is making everyone feel comfortable and valued. Respecting boundaries and asking permission or checking with others before moving forward is also very important because it shows people they are important, and they are especially when you are working on a team," Farb said.

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