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**TWILIGHT GALA "GATEWAY TO GREEN" RAISES FUNDS FOR
SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RUSS PITMAN PARK**

*ABC News Channel 13 KTRK News Anchor Tom Koch Served as Master of Ceremonies
at the Nature Discovery Center's 21st Annual Twilight Gala*

[Houston, TX, – December 1, 2015] The Hana and Arthur Nature Discovery Center, a not-for-profit organization that offers nature education classes and access to the much-loved nature park nestled in Bellaire, recently raised \$113,000 at its 21st Annual Twilight Gala, "Gateway to Green."

As the Center's largest annual fundraiser, proceeds from the gala support the Center's operations, including on-site school group tours and outreach programs for preschool through 5th grade students, with a targeted emphasis on Title 1 schools. The Center also offers seasonal camps. Winter Break Day Camps, featuring topics like Art in Nature and Animals in Nature, are now in session. To register for classes visit www.naturediscoverycenter.org.

The event, held on Friday, November 20, 2015 at the Houstonian Hotel, featured Master of Ceremonies Tom Koch, who is a ABC News Channel 13 KTRK news anchor and as well as a member of Nature Discovery Center's Advisory Board. Lisa Kornhauser of John Daugherty Realtors served as the gala chair and over 300 guests attended the event. The live auction was emceed by auctioneer Ed Phillips and featured an original painting created during the event by contemporary Houston artist Taft McWhorter.

"The Greater Houston community has rallied in a big way for the Nature Discovery Center," said Henry Owen, Executive Director of the organization. "Today kids spend an average of 7 to 11 hours in front a screen. In a fast-growing city where many families lack easy access to nature, we should pay attention to these statistics and do everything in our power to make sure kids gets outside and have the opportunity to form memories playing in the dirt, climbing trees, and investigating life on the ground and in the trees. With the help of our passionate champions, we can continue to help facilitate these experiences."

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ABOUT THE HANA AND ARTHUR GINZBARG NATURE DISCOVERY CENTER

Founded in 1988, the Hana and Arthur Ginzburg Nature Discovery Center sparks interest in nature and science through high-quality educational programming and its four-acre outdoor classroom, the Russ Pitman Park. The 501(c)(3) organization aims to stimulate a desire to explore, discover, learn, nourish the inquiring mind, and keep a sense of wonder alive for all ages.