



## Change a Child's Story™

### PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**CASA OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**  
**ANNOUNCES 16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL “CASAblanca: DANCING WITH THE LOCAL STARS”**

**Did you know that the Peoria area has its own version of Dancing with Stars? It’s CASA of the Tenth Judicial Circuit’s signature event, CASAblanca: Dancing with the Local Stars! Join us on Saturday, November 6, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the Par-a-Dice Hotel Casino Ballroom** to see the dance competition featuring six Peoria-area dignitaries, business leaders, and celebrities, each paired with a talented instructor. Find out who will win the People’s Choice Award and the Critics’ Choice Award!

The 2021 Dancers helping to make a difference for children who have experienced abuse or neglect are:

- **Sarah de Ramirez, MD, MPH, MSc, Illinois College of Medicine Peoria and OSF HealthCare** with Mike Hinchman, dance instructor
- **Tim Crane, Caterpillar**, with Emma Jarnagin, dance instructor
- **Jamie Harwood, Peoria County**, with Maria Murphy, dance instructor
- **George Ghareeb, TERRA Engineering**, with Emily West, dance instructor
- **Ben Morrow, Roof Tiger and Solar Panther**, with Randee Blickenstaff, dance instructor
- **Ryan Pierson, RSM**, with Lexi Zellmer, dance instructor

Do you have a favorite dancer? The general public can vote for dancers (in the form of dollars donated) to determine the “2021 People’s Choice Award” winner. Each dollar donated equates to one vote. Watch our website (<https://www.casaofthetenth.org/events/casablanca/>) for your chance to vote!

The judges’ scores also count! Combined with one vote per attendee that night, they determine the winners of the Critics’ Choice Award! We’re excited to have some previous dancers and winners as judges:

- **Kelly Giraud**, Butler, Giraud & Meister, PC
- **Miguel Ramirez**, OSF Orthopedics
- **Micah Spayer**, Actor, Filmmaker, Singer
- **Mike Unes**, UnityPoint Health Central Illinois Foundation
- **Mystery Judge**: Winner of Bid to “Be-A-Judge,” a special opportunity for an audience member to be a judge on the night of the event.

The Honorary Co-Chairs are **Adam Hawks** of Hilltop Wealth Management of Raymond James and **Laura Hawks**. Event Co-Chairs are **Teri Cook** of Cook Travel and **Karoline Seitz-Goddard** of CIBM Bank. The evening's Emcees are **Ashley Bradshaw** of Green Ford and **Ryan Hite** of RLI.

Join us for a night of dancing, food and cocktails! Tickets may be purchased for \$200/person or \$1,800/table of ten. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Contact the CASA office at 309-669-2939 or email [casa@peoriacounty.org](mailto:casa@peoriacounty.org) to be part of the fun!

The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual CASAblanca is made possible through the generosity of: PNC, The Bryson Smith Team/Keller Williams Premier Realty, Par-A-Dice Hotel Casino, TERRA Engineering, Hilltop Wealth Management of Raymond James, CEFCU, Gary Deiters Funeral Home, Moehle Swearingen & Lobacz Ltd, Enercon Engineering, WMBD, and Lisa Murphy Web Design.

For more info see:

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

<https://www.facebook.com/CASAoftheTenth/>

**About CASA of the Tenth Judicial Circuit FKA CASA of Peoria County**

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of the Tenth Judicial Circuit is a 501(c)3 non-profit, volunteer organization that advocates for the best interests of children within the Juvenile Court system who have experienced abuse or neglect. Its existence is based on the belief that every child has the right to a safe and permanent home allowing them the chance to reach their full potential in life. The organization has been in existence since 2005, serving children who have experienced abuse or neglect. CASA is supported by Heart of Illinois United Way, VCVA IL Attorney General, Illinois Court Appointed Special Advocates, and generous donors. CASA is a Member of the National CASA/GAL Association.

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