On Friday, March 1st, 250 guests attended the 2nd Annual ATS Red & Black Blast at UC’s Nippert Pavilion. Donors ignited the blast with their generous giving and raised $80,000! The University of Cincinnati’s ATS programs depend on philanthropy and these contributions will provide life-changing health & wellness, employment, and educational opportunities for people with disabilities.

The Red & Black Blast was chaired by Shelley Goering and this exciting evening also honored Donna Mayerson, Cincinnati’s Philanthropist of the Year and UC Distinguished Alumni, with the Champion for Inclusion Award and Sue Radabaugh, life-long community advocate, with the Chuck Altenau Outstanding Service Award. Both Donna and Sue have made remarkable contributions to people with disabilities, and have helped shape the ATS mission.

Master of Ceremonies, Michael Flannery, kept the celebration going throughout the evening. The blast began with a lively cocktail hour with a performance from Melodic Connections and a Jazz Combo from the School for Creative & Performing Arts. Then top Aramark chefs, along with UC’s Larry Johnson, Dean of the College of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services, competed in a Chef Throw Down providing guests with a delicious dinner by the bite. Aramark’s executive chef, Jonathan Hunt, and his talented team volunteered their time and energy to make this evening a huge success and Dean Johnson took the winning prize for the best dish!

The evening culminated with the Giving Blast when patrons made pledges to fuel the great work of ATS. A generous donor matched the funds raised in the room by 10-1!

Impact Autism was the presenting sponsor and other sponsors included The Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati, Aramark, Deloitte, Fifth Third Bank, Hamilton County Sheriff, Gries Financial, The Mayerson Academy, Volio Imports, and Warren County Educational Service Center.

To learn more about how you can support the ATS programs, please visit http://cech.uc.edu/education/ats.html.

The Blast was EXPLOSIVE!