

Realcomm Raises Over \$100,000 For TechBoston!



The original idea for a Realcomm charity event came three years ago from Greg Ausley and Rob Cain of REApplications, who host their annual user group meetings in conjunction with the Realcomm conference each year. Why not have a social event during the conference where we could have a good time, network with clients, talk business, AND raise some money for a worthy cause. This would combine all the benefits of a traditional networking event with a tangible, worthwhile charitable cause. The idea was so successful that it became an annual event!

That first Realcomm charity event in 2005, which consisted of a poker tournament with over 50 players, raised \$9,200 for Elementary Institute of Science (EIS), a local charity in San Diego. In 2006, our event in Dallas supported the After-School-All-Stars, an organization dedicated to

providing computer lab access to at risk children. This event exceeded our attendance and revenue expectations, generating over \$40,000. The other star of that event was Mark Kingston, CEO of Realm, who was not only the highest contributor of the evening, but was also responsible for initiating a flurry of matching donations that inspired others to continue to raise the bar and exceed the original contribution goals.

On June 4, in conjunction with Realcomm 2007, we hosted our 3rd Annual Charity Event -- once again, a Texas hold 'em poker tournament. This year's charity was TechBoston, a division of the Boston Public School System dedicated to providing advanced programs for children interested in math and science. To help promote the charity event, we invited several kids from TechBoston to join us on stage at the opening General Session to show off some of the entries in their Robotics Olympics competition. It was inspiring to see and hear directly from the kids who are so proud of their hard work. **Click here to listen for yourself!**

Spirits were riding high, given that we raised over \$30,000 before the actual poker tournament even started! The crowd was bigger than any other year, and even those who had never played poker decided to participate to demonstrate their support for the cause. Todd Zeldin, the MC for the evening, skillfully challenged one contributor to match another – and at the high point of the evening was able to garner pledges of \$40,000 in less than ten minutes! The excitement and spirit of generosity was contagious, and by

the end of the night, we had raised over \$100,000 – twice our original goal! Felicia Vargas, Director of TechBoston, expressed their sincere gratitude at the overwhelming support, given how difficult and time consuming it has been for them to raise funds on their own. \$100,000 in one evening was truly inspiring.

Realcomm would like to thank everyone who made a contribution to support TechBoston. Every contribution, regardless of the amount, means so much to these kids who represent the future of our country. With U.S. rankings in reading, science, and math dropping every year, we need to

focus more attention and support on this important issue if we expect our kids to maintain the quality of life we have come to enjoy.

We would like to offer special thanks to Mark Kingston, CEO of Realm, who (for the second year in a row) was the highest donor of the night and a catalyst for the extraordinary achievement of collectively raising \$100,000. There is no adequate way to thank Mark for his selflessness and generosity except by joining him in supporting this very important cause.

Realcomm would also like to recognize a number of additional individuals and companies who went way beyond the call of duty and contributed a generous amount of money to TechBoston:

- **Realm**
- **RealFoundations**
- **Yardi**
- **SAP**
- **REApplications**
- **Tommy Russo**
- **ACG**
- **Akridge**
- **Sentre Partners**
- **LoopNet**
- **Boston Properties**
- **Gale International**
- **Cellular Specialties (CSI)**

Again, thank you to everyone that contributed – both large and small. EVERY dollar will be put to great use.

For those of you who were not fortunate enough to be able to attend the charity event in Boston this year, there is still the opportunity to help TechBoston. Just click here to make your donation:

[**Donate \\$25 to TechBoston**](#)
[**Donate \\$100 to TechBoston**](#)

We're sure they will be glad to put your hard-earned money to work for the next generation of leaders!