



## Reception for Moscow Mayor's Office delegation successful and well attended

**April 28 at Russian Pointe Dance Boutique**

*Konstantin Petrov, Robert Langlois, Sergey Zverev, Aleksandra Efimova, Peter Oykhman, Vladimir Platonov, Alexander Etman, Emily Etman, Alexander Krutov, Nikolay Figurovskiy*

Over 130 guests gathered to welcome the delegation of parliamentary and economic leaders from the Mayor's Office of Moscow.

Distinguished guests included Prince Piotr and Princess Maria Anna Galitzine; Kohong Jung of the Korean Consulate; Chicago Association of Russian-speaking Physicians President Lev Elterman, M.D.; City of Chicago representatives; Foundation sponsors; and many prominent professionals from Chicago's vibrant Russian-speaking community.

In the elegant setting of Russian Pointe Dance Boutique, Russian Foundation of Chicago President Aleksandra Efimova introduced the delegation and sponsors in a brief speech.



Delegation leader Vladimir Platonov, Moscow City Duma (Parliament) Chairman, spoke about collaboration and cooperation between Chicago and Moscow. The two cities are part of the Sister Cities International program, under the auspices of their respective mayor's offices. Collaborations are under way or planned in a wide range of areas, from education and culture to business and commerce.

Mr. Platonov also praised the efforts of the hosting organizations, for bringing together Russian-speaking Americans who preserve their heritage and work together for common goals of value to the entire community.

In addition to Mr. Platonov, the Moscow delegation included Duma members Alexander Krutov and Sergey Zverev, Duma Press Secretary Nikolay Figurovskiy, and Konstantin Petrov of Moscow's Department for External and International Relations.

It was an unusual opportunity for Russian-speaking community leaders to interact directly with parliamentary and economic leaders from Moscow. "We met them as individuals, not just someone you'd read about in the newspaper," Ms. Efimova explained.

The reception was attended by its sponsors: [TMK IPSCO](#) chairman Prince Piotr Galitzine, who gave a speech about Russian-American collaboration; Laura Sekhar, Evan McKay and Kevin Dages of [Compass Lexecon](#); and media sponsor Emily Etman, CEO of [Svet Russian Media Group](#).

Sponsors joined the delegation for a private post-reception dinner at [Ditka's](#), along with Ms. Efimova, Foundation Vice-President Alexander Etman, and Robert Langlois, chair of the Moscow committee of Chicago Sister Cities. Ditka's was chosen for its authentic Chicago ambience. Owner Mike "Coach" Ditka was present for the dinner, and John Vincent performed. "His selections - especially Frank Sinatra and Louis Armstrong songs - are a good representation of American and Chicago culture," Ms. Efimova commented.





Top to bottom, left to right:

\*Aleksandra Efimova, Vladimir Platonov, Sergey Zverev, Alexander Krutov, Nikolay Figurovskiy, Konstantin Petrov

\*Prince Piotr Galitzine, Vladimir Platonov, Sergey Zverev

\*Emily Etman, Prince Piotr and Princess Maria Anna Galitzine, Aleksandra Efimova

\*Kohong Jung, Emily Etman, Alexander Dukor

\*Alexander Vedenin, Alexander Krutov

\*Dr. Lev and Inna Elterman, Dr. Helen Plavnik, Aleksandra Efimova

\*Dr. Lev Elterman, Konstantin Petrov, Vladimir Platonov, Leonard Mogul

\*Julia Bikbova, Laura Sekhar, Princess Maria Anna Galitzine