



MEMENTOS: Sculptures, a painting and candlesticks are among Donna Goldstein's purchases during travel.



PHOTOS BY MARCIA FREIDENREICH / FOR THE MIAMI HERALD

Doctor's orders: unique events

■ A world traveler, psychologist and cross-cultural specialist opens a business to help South Floridians plan culturally authentic parties.

BY MARCIA FREIDENREICH
Special to The Miami Herald

For years Donna Goldstein, Ed.D., of Hollywood, has been a familiar local figure, known to people as Dr. Donna.

The petite red-haired dynamo has a master's degree in psychology and a doctorate in human resource development with a cross-cultural focus. She has worked as a life coach for years as the director of her Hollywood-based company, Development Associates International.

Her interest in travel prompted her to study the music, art and entertainment of different cultures.

That led to the recent opening Goldstein's other business: World Arts Now, which provides authentic ethnic entertainment for corporate events,

SMART BOX

TO FIND OUT MORE

- **What:** World Arts Now, a business that plans culturally authentic parties.
- **Where:** Based in Hollywood, but will travel around South Florida.
- **Cost:** Varies widely based on budget, size of party, entertainment and accouterment.
- **Information:** For details, visit www.WorldArtsNow.com; performances can be viewed online. Call 954-893-0123 or e-mail DrDonna@worldartsnow.com.

weddings, bar and bat mitzvahs, quinces, graduations and birthdays.

Goldstein can provide music such as African drum-

AVID COLLECTOR: Donna Goldstein, left, places masks in a case in preparation for a presentation. Her Hollywood office is decorated with masks from around the world.

ming, calypso, Middle Eastern and jazz as well as entertainment like flamenco, ballroom and belly dancers, dance bands and mime.

Dancers often serve as instructors to get the crowd moving.

Goldstein was born in New Jersey and lived in Atlanta for years before moving to South Florida in 1988.

While still in Georgia, she hosted a number of exchange students in her home, which sparked her interest in learning about other cultures.

Through her meticulously researched and planned

events, Goldstein brings the world to South Florida.

"We bring themed events to people who may not ever be able to travel to a particular country, but through our parties they can experience the authentic dance, music, art and cuisine of a place," said Goldstein.

She planned a recent event for managers of BankAtlantic at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts after getting a call from the vice president and manager of event operations, Donna Swenson.

Goldstein booked entertainer Larry Robinson, who

dressed as the title character of Shakespeare's *Othello* for a reading from the play.

Robinson also impersonated Louis Armstrong with a rendition of *Hello Dolly*.

"She really knows her entertainers and how to give the client exactly what they are looking for as far as atmosphere for the event they are planning," said Swenson, who had wanted her event to have a theatrical angle.

Another recent corporate event for KFC at Parrot Jungle Island in Miami featured calypso, a big hit among the guests.

A wide world of Cultural and Educational Programs, Speakers and Diversity Presentations are also available at www.WorldArtsNow.com. We specialize in coordinating a truly unique experience for occasions of any kind.