



# Hillsides

CREATING LASTING CHANGE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



*John Mahon, Ava Herrera, Stacey Roth, Fritz Coleman*

## **Hillsides Annual Gala, *Artist in Residence - The Gallery*, Raises \$560,000 to Benefit Children, Youth, and Families**

LOS ANGELES – February 28, 2024 – Hillsides, a nonprofit focused on children and youth behavioral health services and foster care and adoption, raised \$560,000 Saturday night at its annual fundraising gala at The Westin Bonaventure Hotel & Suites in Los Angeles. This year's event, *Artist in Residence – The Gallery*, was attended by 335 guests who donated both in-person and online to support Hillsides' work and provide a canvas of hope to help children on their journey toward healing.

Under the vision of gala chair, Ava Herrera, the event space was transformed into a gallery and an exquisite evening unfolded in celebration of art's transcendent power! Guests enjoyed a dynamic performance by artist Amy Burkman and live music from Nancy Wilson of Heart, John Mahon and Davey Johnstone of the Elton John band, Suzanne Falletti formerly of the Metropolitan Opera, Todd Honeycutt, and Kiev Morales.

The evening was dedicated to former Hillsides leader and advocate, John Hitchcock. A special guest, Clifford Sisneros, spoke about his time as a client at Hillsides and how John and others impacted his life well into adulthood and becoming the artisan and entrepreneur he is today.

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Fritz Coleman, a longtime friend and supporter of the organization, announced the creation of the new John Hitchcock Fund which will fund the beautification of Hillside's main campus where hundreds of children like Clifford now call home.

"I am incredibly grateful for our generous gala sponsors and all our donors who bought tickets, raised their paddles, and showed their collective support for the children, youth, and families we serve. The night holds a special place in my heart as we honored the late John Hitchcock, a tremendous leader and my personal mentor," remarked Stacey Roth, CEO of Hillside's.

The gala was made possible by many generous sponsors, including the presenting sponsor, The Donald Zonshine Family Foundation and the Galletly Family, title sponsor USI Insurance Services, and major sponsors Arthur J. Gallagher and Co. and RUSNAK Auto Group. Additional sponsors included The Ayrshire Foundation, Curtis Pollock, Don and Sally Clark, The Franke Family Trust, Ida M. Hitchcock, J. David Hitchcock and Kristin Maschka, Robert A. B. Hitchcock and Casey Hitchcock, Kaiser Permanente, Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Mario and Shelly Fiumani of Pin USA, Sherm and Marge Telleen, and Whittier Trust Company.

The gala committee consisted of Ava Herrera, Chair, Edison Barbosa, Armida Baylon-Stelzer, Cathy Brennan, Donna De Mond, Bill Eichler, Tania Farha, John Gong, Bernie Gore, Sara Jane Guzman, Katie Hamrick, Stacey Hoppe, Sara Jennings, Pamela Mahon, Joan McCarthy, Susan Pinsky, Jennifer Shen, Lyn Spector, Maureen Staley, Chelisa Vagim, and Uyen-Uyen Vo.

[Click here](#) to enjoy photos from the evening.

#### About Hillside's

Hillside's is a leading health and human services nonprofit with programs throughout Greater Los Angeles. For 110 years, the organization has helped children, youth, and families heal through trauma-informed care, behavioral health treatment, and foster care and adoption services. Hillside's also provides support to young adults with transitional housing, life skills training, and job training and placement. Learn how you can help children to heal, grow, and thrive at [Hillsides.org](https://www.hillsides.org).

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