

Children's Hospital  
LOS ANGELES

# imagine

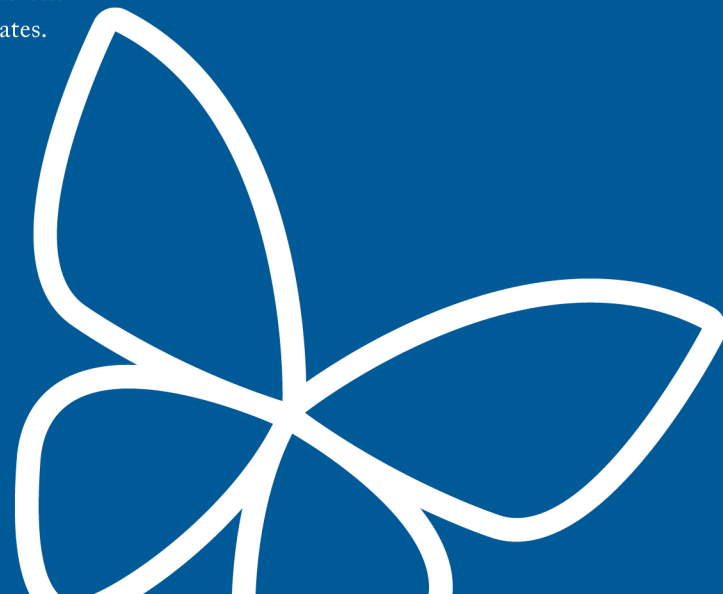
## JAMIE LEE CURTIS: SUPPORTING CHLA IN A MILLION WAYS

How a heartfelt sign-off, 100 tiny sculptures, a global pandemic and the internet helped the movie star and longtime supporter raise more than \$1 million for Children's Hospital Los Angeles through her company, My Hand In Yours.



# WE CREATE HOPE AND BUILD HEALTHIER FUTURES.

Children's Hospital Los Angeles is at the forefront of pediatric medicine, offering superior and acclaimed clinical care to children from across the world, the country and the greater Southern California region. Founded in 1901, Children's Hospital Los Angeles is the largest provider of care for children in Los Angeles County, the No. 1 ranked children's hospital in California and the Pacific region, and is consistently ranked in the top 10 in the nation on U.S. News & World Report's Honor Roll of Best Children's Hospitals. Clinical expertise spans the pediatric care continuum, from newborns to young adults, from everyday preventive medicine to the most medically complex cases. Inclusive, compassionate, child- and family-friendly clinical care is led by physicians who are faculty members of the Keck School of Medicine of USC. Physicians translate the new discoveries, treatments and cures proven through the work of scientists in The Saban Research Institute of Children's Hospital Los Angeles—among the top 10 children's hospitals for National Institutes of Health funding—to provide advanced care to families faster. The hospital is also home to one of the largest training programs for pediatricians in the United States.



## MAKING AN IMPACT ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

At Children's Hospital Los Angeles—whether a child awakens from a lifesaving procedure, a social worker comforts a worried parent, or a therapy dog brightens the day of a young patient—every action has an important impact. The same can be said about our philanthropic community. When you donate to CHLA, your act of generosity has a ripple effect that supports patients, families and team members throughout the hospital.

This issue of Imagine highlights individuals and organizations that have used their own resources and time to help positively impact the care Children's Hospital Los Angeles provides. There is no better example of this than Academy Award-winning actress Jamie Lee Curtis, who has raised more than \$1 million by selling comfort items through her company, My Hand In Yours, and donates 100% of the proceeds to the hospital. We are awed by her creative spirit and grateful for her dedication.

Of course, you don't have to be a movie star to make a difference. As a Junior Ambassador, Caden McMullin, 16, is rallying his friends and family members to donate to the hospital in appreciation for the lifesaving care he received as an infant. Meanwhile, Toni and Oscar Sanchez, who have included CHLA as part of their estate plan, hope to motivate young people to create a proud legacy by supporting meaningful causes like Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

In the following pages, you will also read about the Hearst Foundations, which have been a philanthropic partner for over 70 years and support training for the next generation of pediatric nurses. As the organization's Executive Director, Paul "Dino" Dinovitz, notes, "Nothing happens without nurses."

We are also pleased to share a new collaboration between Los Angeles Unified School District and CHLA to offer telehealth visits on select school campuses. Supported in part by The Rauch Family Foundation, this innovative initiative will help ensure that children with chronic conditions can receive care while remaining at school so they do not have to miss precious academic instruction time.

All the philanthropic partners featured in this issue serve as an inspiration by demonstrating their commitment to helping others, particularly the vulnerable children and families cared for by Children's Hospital Los Angeles. On behalf of everyone at the hospital, and all the children who benefit from your generosity, thank you for helping to create hope and build healthier futures for children.

Warmest regards,



**Paul S. Viviano**  
President and  
Chief Executive Officer



**Alexandra Carter**  
Senior Vice President and  
Chief Development Officer



According to U.S. News & World Report, Children's Hospital Los Angeles is:

- A Top-10 Hospital in the Nation
- Ranked in All 10 Specialties
- No. 1 in California
- No. 1 in the Pacific Region

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## Imagine

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Update: In the Winter 2022 issue of Imagine, the intention had been to include the photo above of indie pop star and "American Idol" contestant Ava Maybee and musician Austin Hayman in CHLA Happenings. We are grateful for their performance at the 2022 Walk and Play L.A.

# A UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP SUPPORTS STUDENTS

*A generous gift from The Rauch Family Foundation provides funding for a new collaboration between Los Angeles Unified School District and CHLA to conduct telehealth visits at school.*

By Sara Jones



**School attendance is the foundation of students' academic success. For many students with a chronic illness, such as asthma or diabetes, absenteeism threatens to derail academic progress and puts them at risk of falling behind.**

Bolstered by a generous gift from The Rauch Family Foundation, Children's Hospital Los Angeles and Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) are launching a unique partnership. Called the Virtual Care at School Program, it allows CHLA care providers to conduct non-urgent visits virtually with students while they are at school.

"We're thrilled to support this first-of-its-kind partnership between Children's Hospital Los Angeles and LAUSD to offer services to students through telemedicine," says Samuel Salen, MD, The Rauch Family Foundation's President and a member of its board of directors.

Based in the Inland Empire in Southern California, The Rauch Family Foundation searches for giving opportunities that are

transformational, evidence-based and cost-effective. Dr. Salen explains that the foundation's philanthropic principles are guided by "the desire to do good things for the society and the world in which we live."

The foundation was established in 1988 by Dudley and Cecilia Rauch, and today it supports projects not only locally, but also more broadly in the United States and internationally. The partnership between Children's Hospital Los Angeles and LAUSD fits into the foundation's philanthropic goals.

"There's nothing wonderful about life in a pandemic, but there are some things, so-called 'silver linings,' that turn out to be useful after a pandemic is over," he says. "Telemedicine appears to be one of those."

## Reaching more children in need

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, telemedicine has become an integral part of health care. At Children's Hospital Los Angeles, telehealth visits have skyrocketed. Prior to the pandemic, approximately 470 virtual appointments

were conducted annually. That number now exceeds 43,000.

Using telehealth to bring the doctor's office to the school setting offers a chance to deliver the care students need—without sacrificing academic progress or their family's well-being.

Students who have a chronic illness or a mental health condition typically need frequent medical visits, which can take them away from valuable school time. In addition, barriers to care, including a lack of dependable transportation or a parent's inability to take time off work, can mean delayed care and missed treatments that increase the chances of poor health outcomes. The Virtual Care at School Program has the potential to address these and other challenges for hundreds of LAUSD students and families.

Thanks to The Rauch Family Foundation's generosity, the program is launching at 20 school sites in collaboration with experts from seven of the hospital's divisions: Clinical Immunology and Allergy;

Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism; Pulmonology; Medical Genetics; Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine; Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics; and Infectious Diseases.

"Treating children requires different skills than treating adults," says Dr. Salen. "What makes this so exciting is that we now have a way to partner with CHLA and LAUSD to make sure these youngsters are 'seen' virtually by pediatricians who are experts in their specific diseases."



Omkar Kulkarni, MPH

"Family-centered care is at the core of everything we do at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, and we know that children with chronic illnesses constantly missing school and caregivers having to leave work early to travel across town for a doctor's appointment are pain points for many of our patient families," says Omkar Kulkarni, MPH, Chief Transformation and Digital Officer

at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. "We've taken these concerns to heart and worked closely with LAUSD to create the Virtual Care at School Program so that our patients can now continue receiving world-class care from California's premier pediatric hospital without having to leave their school campus."

## A legacy of support for CHLA

Dr. Salen is proud to say this is not the first time The Rauch Family Foundation has made a philanthropic investment to support Children's Hospital Los Angeles. Before his passing in 2018, Mr. Rauch was inspired to give to the hospital after a family member came to CHLA for care.

For six years starting in 2014, the foundation funded the innovative PASSAGES Transition Program, led by Thomas Coates, MD, Section Head of Hematology in the Cancer and Blood Disease Institute.

"The program was designed to ensure that when patients who previously would have died in their youth from very rare diseases—but who now with modern medicine survive long into adulthood—age out of

the pediatric health care system, there are adult physicians with expertise in those rare diseases available to treat them," says Dr. Salen.

The Rauch Family Foundation's latest gift is a clear demonstration of its commitment to improving the health of children—and the adults they will become.

"By allowing kids who would otherwise miss school due to their chronic illness or an acute incident to receive care on campus," says Dr. Salen, "we believe we can play a part in assisting more children to prosper through their school years and beyond." 🌈

*"Treating children requires different skills than treating adults."*

—Samuel Salen, MD  
President, The Rauch  
Family Foundation



# JAMIE LEE CURTIS: SUPPORTING CHLA IN A MILLION WAYS



*How a heartfelt sign-off, 100 tiny sculptures, a global pandemic and the internet helped the movie star and longtime supporter raise more than \$1 million for Children's Hospital Los Angeles through her company, My Hand In Yours.*

By Sarah T. Brown

**Jamie Lee Curtis is a force. From her debut as the world's hardest working babysitter in the 1978 horror classic "Halloween," to appearances in more than 80 films and TV shows during her decades-long career—including "A Fish Called Wanda," "True Lies," "Freaky Friday" and "Knives Out"—she has managed a rare longevity and impressive range as an actress. And her career keeps getting better: This year, Curtis received a Screen Actors Guild Award and her first Academy Award—for best supporting actress—for her role in the acclaimed film "Everything Everywhere All at Once."**

Even with all the accolades, however, one of Curtis' proudest accomplishments is her role as an advocate and philanthropist for pediatric health care.

For nearly three decades, Curtis has been a steadfast champion of Children's Hospital Los Angeles and children's health care causes. And while her Oscar is a career high, she has also reached new heights as a philanthropist: She has raised an astounding \$1 million for CHLA through her company, My Hand In Yours, by selling specially designed comfort items.

"When you have a sick child, it is one day at a time, one treatment at a time, one procedure at a time. It brings it all into a very focused point," says Curtis. "The care and treatment of critically ill and injured children is the focal point of My Hand In Yours, with 100% of the proceeds going to Children's Hospital Los Angeles."

**'This is my children's hospital'**  
Curtis first got involved with Children's Hospital Los Angeles in 2004.

"I cold-called the hospital and said, 'Hey, I would like to help you,'" she recalls. And help she did. One of her first efforts was voicing ads in support of the Children's Hospital bond initiative, which supported state funding for pediatric hospitals in California. She has been an unwavering advocate ever since.

For the last 20 years, Curtis has leveraged her recognition and donated countless hours to support CHLA. In honor of

*(continued on next page)*



▲ Jamie Lee Curtis with CHLA patient Eileen Garrido

her commitment to the institution, the hospital recognized her at its 2009 CHLA Gala with the Courage to Care Award. Never one to miss an opportunity to make a difference, when she took the stage to accept the award, she encouraged the event's guests: "We have to work on behalf of these children. They deserve it."

In 2011, she participated in Turn on the Lights, an event to celebrate the opening of the Marion and John E. Anderson Pavilion, a milestone in the hospital's history. A year later, she joined the CHLA Board of Trustees and served as a member until June 2015. Today, she is an Honorary Foundation Trustee at CHLA. Throughout the years, she has regularly shown up on behalf of the hospital for speaking engagements, fundraising initiatives, interviews, advertising campaigns and high-profile events such as the annual Make March Matter® campaign, the Children's Hospital Los Angeles Gala and the Malibu Triathlon.

*"These are my people and this is the city I was born and raised in. This is my children's hospital."*

—Jamie Lee Curtis

Why has she devoted so much energy to CHLA? Her answer is simple. "These are my people and this is the city I was born and raised in. This is my children's hospital."

In addition to public appearances, Curtis comes to the hospital nearly every year during Nurses Week to speak at events and provide thank-you gifts. "I am in awe of nurses and their dedication to their patients," she says. "I want them to know how special they are and how much the institution and the people who support the institution appreciate them."

At this point in her career, Curtis says she's not the most recognizable celebrity to visit the hospital. "Most of the patients don't know me," she says with a laugh. "But when they have a patient who's a teenage girl and loved 'Freaky Friday,' I will show up happily."

And Curtis' talents go beyond the big screen. She is also a prolific children's book author, having written a dozen books that deal with subjects related to childhood. Last year, Curtis did a virtual reading of her latest work, "What Do You See? A Conversation in Pictures," with co-author Barney Saltzberg, for hospitalized patients at CHLA.



▲ Curtis at the 2016 CHLA Gala



▲ Curtis and CHLA patient Ella share a sweet moment at an event launching the 2023 Make March Matter campaign.



▲ Left to right: Alexandra Carter, CHLA Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer; Jamie Lee Curtis; Paul S. Viviano, CHLA President and Chief Executive Officer; Dawn Wilcox, Associate Senior Vice President, Development and Corporate Partnerships at CHLA; and actor Matt LeBlanc

Curtis' tireless commitment to Children's Hospital Los Angeles does not go unnoticed.

"Every time CHLA needs Jamie Lee Curtis, without fail, she is there to support us," says Paul S. Viviano, President and Chief Executive Officer of Children's Hospital Los Angeles. "She's our hero, and we are all incredibly fortunate to count her as a dedicated advocate for pediatric health and for Children's Hospital Los Angeles."



*"Every time CHLA needs Jamie Lee Curtis, without fail, she is there to support us."*

—Paul S. Viviano,  
President and Chief Executive Officer,  
Children's Hospital Los Angeles

**A little idea becomes a big accomplishment**

During the early days of the coronavirus pandemic, while medical professionals were risking their lives to care for patients, and a good number of the rest of us were learning to knit or nursing a sourdough starter, Curtis added another accomplishment to her long list: philanthropic business owner. (Don't worry, her godson, actor Jake Gyllenhaal, kept her supplied with sourdough bread.)

Curtis' journey to launching My Hand In Yours started when she commissioned 100 tiny sculptures from Anne Ricketts, an artist whose work she'd collected for years. "I called her and asked her to make a sculpture of two hands holding."

The inspiration for the sculpture—and the concept behind the company—came from Curtis' own saying. "I write the words, 'My hand in yours' to comfort someone in a crisis moment; as a way of saying, although I'm not with you right now, imagine what it would feel like with my hand in yours," she says. "It's how I sign letters: *My Hand In Yours, Jamie.*"

Curtis thought she might sell the sculptures and make some money to donate to Children's Hospital

(continued on next page)

Los Angeles. She also thought if they didn't sell, she would be "giving them away as Christmas presents for the rest of my life," she says, laughing. But she underestimated the power of the internet—and how much the message would resonate with people, particularly during the isolation of the pandemic.

She had intended to sell the sculptures on Instagram but ended up expanding to a website and adding several additional

artisan-made items for sale. Curtis promoted the site to her more than 5.3 million Instagram followers and was pleasantly surprised when people actually bought things. Then she started visiting daytime talk shows to promote "Halloween Kills." After one appearance on "The Talk," things took off.

"I brought the My Hand In Yours sculpture and a few of my other items," she says. The daytime TV audience loved

it. "I think we had a \$65,000 day at the company," Curtis recalls. She was shocked by the success and made sure to talk about My Hand In Yours on every talk show she visited. The orders were rolling in—but things were about to go nuclear.

"Then, a miracle happened," says Curtis. She shared the My Hand In Yours products at a luncheon with her longtime friend, "Halloween" and "Halloween Kills" costar Kyle Richards, in an episode of

"The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills." Castmate Dorit Kemsley's enthusiastic response to the merchandise went viral after the show aired, and the orders went off the charts.

### A community of giving

My Hand In Yours has done so well that by January 2023, less than three years after the company was founded, it passed the \$1 million mark in donations to CHLA. Curtis, who underwrites the business and runs it with two employees, credits much of that success to friends and collaborators who helped source and supply items to sell.

"I wanted to create something that would make me part of a community of giving," says Curtis. She's surprised and delighted by how successful it has been. "It's just been this beautiful expansion of friends and colleagues coming together to support My Hand In Yours."

"Through her amazing creativity and persistence, Jamie has accomplished something truly remarkable," says



*"Through her amazing creativity and persistence, Jamie has accomplished something truly remarkable."*

—Alexandra Carter, Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer, Children's Hospital Los Angeles



▲ Betty Porto, co-owner of Porto's Bakery and Café, and Jamie Lee Curtis hold specially designed butterfly cookies made by Porto's to support Children's Hospital Los Angeles during the annual Make March Matter campaign.



▲ Top: A My Hand In Yours classic cap  
Bottom: The "Always" sculpture designed by Anne Ricketts for My Hand In Yours

◀ Curtis, wearing a My Hand In Yours silver pendant, says her company "has turned into this beautiful representation of team support."

Alexandra Carter, Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer at CHLA. "She has harnessed the goodwill of her fans, admirers and those who simply want to join her in helping—and she has made a significant philanthropic impact. We are grateful to be the beneficiary of this outstanding endeavor."

Giving back is something Curtis feels strongly about. She remembers a Greek proverb she once heard that felt especially poignant: *A civilization flourishes when people plant trees under which they will never sit.* "Without that, it's anarchy and selfishness," says Curtis.

As for the future of her company? It may not continue forever, though she's sure her support for CHLA will. "My husband and I have, are and will continue to be financial supporters of Children's Hospital," she vows, referring to actor/writer/director Christopher Guest, whom Curtis married in 1984.

And she'll keep My Hand In Yours going as long as she can find products to sell and people who want to buy them. "What started organically as a way to connect people," says Curtis, "has turned into this beautiful representation of team support." 🌈

*"I wanted to create something that would make me part of a community of giving."*

—Jamie Lee Curtis



# THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL LOS ANGELES GALA: A MAGICAL CELEBRATION

*The glittering event raised over \$5.6 million for the hospital's leading pediatric health care, research, education and community impact.*

By Marla Lehner

Proudly Presented by 



The stars aligned on Oct. 8, 2022, for one magical event: the Children's Hospital Los Angeles Gala. More than 1,300 community members—including local dignitaries, business leaders, entertainers, philanthropists and hospital team members—gathered to honor the lifesaving pediatric care delivered at CHLA.

The CHLA Gala, held at Barker Hangar in Santa Monica, marked the return of the biennial event for the first time since the pandemic. The evening was filled with touching stories of hope, moments of exuberance and a celebration of the generosity that makes Children's Hospital Los Angeles so special.

Thanks to all the sponsors, guests and philanthropic partners, the event raised a record \$5.6 million for the hospital's

leading pediatric health care, research, education and community impact.

At the Gala, the hospital presented the Courage to Care Award to Panda Express, which has been an invaluable corporate partner for more than two decades, and to longtime supporters and patient parents Kristin and Jeffrey "Jeff" Worthe. The award recognizes individuals and organizations that are champions of children and child-related causes and whose humanitarian efforts are exemplary.

Other highlights of the evening included father-son co-hosts—actors Robert Pine and Chris Pine—who brought heart and humor to the evening; Mission Ambassadors Leo Mascarenhas, MD, MS, and James Stein, MD, MSc, who shared a tribute to a patient they treated;

Grammy-winning singer, songwriter and actor Justin Timberlake, who had the audience on their feet with his spectacular performance; and moving stories of the exceptional children and families who come to CHLA for care.

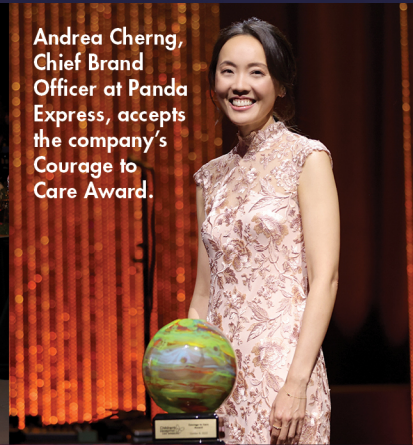
The event also included appearances by actors Jessica Biel and Nikki DeLoach, Chair of the CHLA Foundation Board of Trustees, and KOST 103.5 FM radio host Ellen K, who serves as a CHLA Foundation Trustee.

Children's Hospital Los Angeles is grateful to each and every attendee and sponsor of the CHLA Gala for supporting our mission to create hope and build healthier futures. 🦋

[OPEN FOR MORE EVENT PHOTOS ▶](#)



Jimmy Kimmel and his wife, Molly McNearney



Andrea Cherng, Chief Brand Officer at Panda Express, accepts the company's Courage to Care Award.



MLB star Justin Turner, a member of the CHLA Foundation Board of Trustees, with CHLA patient Ella



Grammy-winning artist Justin Timberlake



Left to right: Paul S. Viviano, President and CEO of CHLA, Trisha Cardoso, a member of the CHLA Foundation Board of Trustees, and producer, writer and director Chuck Lorre



Robert Pine and Chris Pine



DJ Dense gets the crowd dancing at the Gala after-party.





CHLA Foundation Trustees Nancy Meidel (left) and Brooke Josephson



Left to right: Nena Brogan, a member of the Pasadena Guild of Children's Hospital, actor Matt LeBlanc and Kevin Brogan, CHLA Board of Directors Chair



Left to right: Terry Fancher, Stephen Pilch, Marielle Alexander and Jackie Fancher



Cheryl Kunin Fair, a member of the CHLA Board of Directors, and her husband, Don Fair



Left to right: Rebecca and Eugene "Mitch" Mitchell, a member of the CHLA Board of Directors, and her daughter, Mackenzie, and Cynthia Stumbo



Joe and GiGi Schubeck



CHLA President and CEO Paul S. Viviano (center) with Kourtney and Justin Turner, members of the CHLA Foundation Board of Trustees



Left to right: CHLA President and CEO Paul S. Viviano with Lynda Boone Fetter and Arnold J. Kleiner, members of the CHLA Foundation Board of Trustees



Grammy-winning artist Justin Timberlake with CHLA patient Ella



Elisa and Michael Schenkman, members of the CHLA Foundation Board of Trustees



CHLA President and CEO Paul S. Viviano presents the Courage to Care Award to Kristin and Jeff Worthe, a member of the CHLA Foundation Board of Trustees and Board of Directors.



CHLA Foundation Trustee Mary Adams O'Connell and Kevin O'Connell



Bottom row, left to right: Vince Chau, Panda Express Creative Manager, with his son, CHLA patient Dylan, and wife, Angela  
Top row: Ethan and Brandon Chau



Left to right: Paul S. Viviano, CHLA's President and CEO; Skye Hoppus, a member of the CHLA Foundation Board of Trustees; and her husband, Blink-182 musician Mark Hoppus



Mission Ambassador James Stein, MD, MSc



Actor Jessica Biel



Actor Chris Pine (center) greets CHLA patient Florence and her parents, Rich and Eugenia



The Worthe family, left to right: Genevieve, Jeffrey A., Elaina, Jeff, a member of CHLA Foundation Board of Trustees and Board of Directors, Kristin and LouLou



Left to right: Kevin Shalon; CHLA patient Nathan Shalon; Sivan Shalon; CHLA President and CEO Paul S. Viviano; Samantha Shalon; Ava Shalon; and James Stein, MD, MSc



CHLA President and CEO Paul S. Viviano (left) with Sharon and John Tesoriero



Left to right: CHLA Foundation Trustee Alex Chaves Sr. with his wife, Nadine Chaves, and CHLA President and CEO Paul S. Viviano



Left to right: Alexandra Carter, Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer at CHLA; KOST 103.5 radio host Ellen K, a CHLA Foundation Trustee; and Paul S. Viviano, CHLA President and CEO



Actors Matt LeBlanc and Garcelle Beauvais



# A FORMER PATIENT TURNS PHILANTHROPIST

*After receiving lifesaving care at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Caden was determined to give back. He's now raising funds for the hospital as a Junior Ambassador—and hopes to inspire others.*

By Eunice Wallace

On Oct. 22, 2022, Caden McMullin walked up to the podium at the Witherbee Auditorium on the grounds of the Los Angeles Zoo. He was there to give the keynote speech at the Children's Hospital Los Angeles Junior Ambassadors Conference, reflecting on a period of his life he doesn't remember, because he was too young.

The story he shared was a remarkable one: Had Caden, as a fetus and newborn, not received treatment at the hospital, it's unlikely he would have been standing there that day.

Before he was born, Caden was diagnosed with a fast-growing tumor called a cervical teratoma on his neck. At birth, the tumor was larger than his head and weighed one-third of his small 6-pound frame. But experts at Children's Hospital Los Angeles were ready for him. While Caden was in utero, a multidisciplinary



▲ The McMullin family, from left to right: Natalie, Eric, Candace and Caden

team of specialists had created a highly orchestrated plan to safely and swiftly move Caden from the nearby hospital where he was born to CHLA.

"There were probably no less than 20 providers in the operating room, ready to handle any contingency or emergency that could happen," recalls Caden's mom, Candace. "It was a very well thought out plan."

## A roller coaster of emotions

Candace and her husband, Eric, had several months to prepare for that moment. During a routine 20-week ultrasound, the technician noticed something unusual and urged the couple to see a specialist. They started asking around for recommendations and chose the Fetal-Maternal Center at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, where a team led by Director David Miller, MD, diagnosed the teratoma and began to oversee and coordinate Candace's prenatal care.

With the due date approaching and the tumor rapidly growing, it became clear Candace would need a special Caesarean section called a modified exit procedure. Two days before the Fourth of July in 2007, Caden was removed from the womb with the umbilical cord still attached to the placenta, which allowed oxygen to continue to flow as neonatology, respiratory therapy, and ear, nose and

*(continued on next page)*

*“The best part is representing Children’s Hospital Los Angeles and sharing my story to show what a special place it is.”*

—Caden McMullin

► Caden delivers the keynote speech during the 2022 CHLA Junior Ambassadors Conference.



“I basically owe my life and overall good health to CHLA,” says Caden.



An active high schooler, Caden loves all sports, especially baseball, skiing and hiking.

throat experts worked quickly to open the airway that was being compressed by the tumor.



**Philippe Friedlich, MD, MSEpi**

“This type of multidisciplinary collaboration is something done at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles all the time. You have to plan for every possible scenario and be ready to act on a solution just right for that patient,” says Philippe Friedlich, MD, MSEpi, MBA, Chief of the Division of Neonatology and co-Director of the Fetal and Neonatal Institute, who was part of Caden’s care team. “It’s what we do best.”

Once an airway was secured, the umbilical cord was cut, and Caden was transported to Children’s Hospital Los Angeles to undergo surgery. The procedure to excise the tumor went smoothly, and a sample of the cells was sent to the laboratory for testing. Then, the pathology results came back.

“We were told it’s rare to have this type of tumor in the first place but then to find out it was cancerous? It was unexpected and just a roller coaster of emotions,” says Caden’s dad, Eric.

**Overcoming cancer**

Head and neck teratomas occur in 1 out of every 40,000 to 50,000 births. “Only a small percentage of them are malignant,” says Leo Mascarenhas, MD, MS, Deputy Director of the Cancer and Blood Disease Institute at CHLA. “What made Caden’s case highly unusual was the tumor’s large size, its location and the dramatic way that he had to be delivered. Furthermore, targeting cancer in a newborn comes with extraordinary challenges of its own.”

Dr. Mascarenhas started Caden on chemotherapy right away, developing a treatment plan that was strong enough to destroy the cancer but one that a tiny baby could tolerate.

Caden completed two rounds of chemo in the hospital—handling the treatment better than anyone expected—and was

able to go home for the first time in his life shortly before Halloween.

To completely wipe out the cancer cells, two more outpatient rounds of chemotherapy followed before the lab work came back clean.

For years, the McMullins visited Children’s Hospital Los Angeles for Caden’s annual checkups. A decade went by without any complications, and when he was 10 years old, Caden was officially in remission.

Candace and Eric marvel at how far their son, now 16, has come. He’s an active high school sophomore at Loyola High School—just a few miles south from CHLA’s Sunset campus—who loves all sports, especially baseball, skiing and hiking. And they’re especially proud that he’s giving back to the hospital by raising funds and awareness in his community through the CHLA Junior Ambassadors program.

“The best part is representing Children’s Hospital Los Angeles and sharing my story to show what a special place it is,” says Caden. “I hope people will appreciate the one-of-a-kind care that results from so many different specialists working together, plus the cutting-edge research that happens at the same time.

“For me personally,” he adds, “I basically owe my life and overall good health to CHLA.”

**Where amazing things happen**

Supporting CHLA is a family affair for the McMullins. In 2022, they participated in the hospital’s community fundraiser Walk and Play L.A., and before Caden became a Junior Ambassador, Candace was a member of the hospital’s Spiritual Care Guild for several years. These days, she and Eric donate to two areas that hold a special place in their hearts: neonatology and oncology.

“To help an institution like this in your city, where these amazing things can happen, is a fairly easy thing to do,” says Eric.

“Had we not gone to Children’s Hospital,” says Candace, “I believe that would have diminished Caden’s chance at survival.”

Even after all these years and treating hundreds, if not thousands, of patients since then, doctors still remember Caden and light up at the mention of his name. Working at a pediatric medical institution means clinicians often watch families go home with their child, but they don’t always know how that patient is doing later on in life.

Seeing Caden in his purple Junior Ambassador shirt and out in the community on behalf of Children’s Hospital Los Angeles has been tremendously gratifying for his care team.

“It doesn’t get any better than that,” says Dr. Friedlich, who holds the Teresa and Byron Pollitt Family Chair in Fetal and Neonatal Medicine. “His family had so much courage during this frightening ordeal, and to know that Caden is now healthy and has a bright future, that is a true message of hope.” 🦋



“To help an institution like this in your city... is a fairly easy thing to do,” Eric says of CHLA.

# HOW A DEVASTATING DIAGNOSIS INSPIRED A GENEROUS GIFT

*By establishing multiple charitable remainder unitrusts, Toni and Oscar Sanchez have created a legacy at Children's Hospital Los Angeles.*

By Scott Busiel

**Toni and Oscar Sanchez both grew up in families that struggled to make ends meet. So when they got married, they were determined to create a financially secure future for themselves. They found well-paying jobs—and began investing in real estate. Over the next two decades, they built an impressive portfolio of properties to help them reach their financial goals. But as they neared retirement, Oscar received a devastating diagnosis: He had cancer.**

The news spurred the couple to reexamine their priorities. They wanted to reduce the burden of being landlords, ensure lifelong income—and create a philanthropic legacy to support organizations they care deeply about, like Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

## A new perspective on life

In the fall of 1998, Oscar began experiencing persistent back pain and bloating. After consultations with multiple doctors, they found tumors in Oscar's pancreas.

"The symptoms, to me, didn't seem that serious," says Oscar. "But this diagnosis really made me stop and think about our future."

Oscar immediately underwent surgery to remove the tumors, but unfortunately

the procedure was unsuccessful. Doctors gave him six to 18 months to live and placed him on radiation treatment and chemotherapy. Together, Oscar and Toni began to think about what was important to them and how to minimize the stress of maintaining the multiple apartment complexes they owned.

in charitable remainder unitrusts (CRUTs). By creating CRUTs, the couple would avoid capital gains taxes from the sale of the properties and receive steady income for the rest of their lives. This solution would alleviate the burden of property management and provide them with the resources to travel. At the end of their

*"We hope our generosity will inspire today's kids to give back one day. That's the kind of legacy we're hoping to leave."*

—Oscar Sanchez

"We wanted to make the most of our limited time together," says Toni. "We wanted the freedom of traveling and seeing the world."

They also wanted to use their success to help others. "We thought, 'Well, we have all of this property—we have all of this money—let's share it with people who don't have the resources,'" says Toni.

The couple met with a financial adviser, who recommended placing their properties

lifetimes, the remaining money will be distributed to Children's Hospital Los Angeles and other charities of choice.

## A special place

Toni and Oscar hold Children's Hospital Los Angeles close to their hearts and considered their connection to CHLA when determining the beneficiaries of their philanthropy.

When Toni was a young girl, one of her family members was treated at



Oscar and Toni Sanchez

Children's Hospital after a terrible accident. The child spent months undergoing plastic surgery, and Toni has always been grateful to the doctors and nurses who provided endless compassion and support to her family.

When Oscar was 11 years old, he stayed at a convalescent home in Los Angeles for three months to recover from an illness. During this time, Oscar participated in and won the "Little Tyke" cattle-naming competition run by the Las Hermanas Guild, which supports Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

In addition to the couple's fond memories of CHLA's caregivers and their commitment to every patient, Toni and Oscar prioritized giving back to organizations devoted to supporting underserved families in Southern California. Children's Hospital

Los Angeles was a perfect match for their philanthropic goals.

## Cementing their legacy

One year following Oscar's initial radiation treatments and chemotherapy, doctors found no masses or traces of cancer in his body. "My tumor markers returned to normal levels," recalls Oscar. "It was a miracle!"

Even after Oscar's recovery two decades ago, he and Toni have continued to give back.

Charitable remainder unitrusts have created stability for the couple, allowing them to spend time together and providing reliable resources to continue their travels. Their planned gifts are also creating an enduring legacy of support for future children and families in need of care at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. They hope to inspire others to give generously in their own ways.

"Oscar and I were very poor growing up, and we know a lot of people are still experiencing financial hardships," says Toni. "Our investments are meant to give children and families a chance to get ahead. We want them to know people are out there willing to help."

"While it's impossible to predict the future," adds Oscar, "we hope our generosity will inspire today's kids to give back one day and never forget the help they received at Children's Hospital. That's the kind of legacy we're hoping to leave." 🌈

For more information on making a planned gift to Children's Hospital Los Angeles, contact Steven Adamian, JD, Associate Senior Vice President of Planned Giving, at 323-361-1749 or visit [CHLA.org/PlannedGiving](https://www.chla.org/PlannedGiving).



# HEARST RESPONDERS: BUILDING A PIPELINE OF NURSES

*With the aftereffects of the pandemic creating nursing shortages nationwide, the Hearst Foundations have provided critical contributions to support the RN Residency in Pediatrics at CHLA.*

By Jeff Weinstock

**If all politics is local, all philanthropy is personal. Consider the relationship between the Hearst Foundations and Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, rooted in the friendships that Hearst Foundations Executive Director Paul “Dino” Dinovitz has with two of the hospital’s senior leaders: Arnold Kleiner, Foundation Board of Trustees member, and Alexandra Carter, Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer.**

Dinovitz goes back 45 years with Kleiner, from the time they were competing television sales managers in Philadelphia, and his bond with Carter developed through their interactions soon after he joined the Hearst Foundations in 2005.

Overlapping the professional with the personal is no coincidence, Dinovitz says. He describes the connection between the work CHLA does and the integrity of its leadership. “When you have sick kids in need of medical care, that hits a soft spot,” he says. “And then when you have people who are involved in it like Arnie and Alex, people of that character in an organization like Children’s Hospital, that’s the real deal.”

The ties between the Hearst Foundations and Children’s Hospital Los Angeles date back to 1952, the year the organization made its first grant to the hospital. Since that time, nearly the entire length of the Hearst Foundations’ existence, the organization has continually supported CHLA.

A good portion of its giving has been directed to the hospital’s RN Residency in Pediatrics, which trains new graduate nurses for the world of complex pediatric care. In 2002, the Hearst Foundations established an endowment that the hospital draws from annually to support expenses associated with operating the program.

“Nothing happens without nurses,” Dinovitz says. “It’s a special, special field.”



▲ The Hearst Foundations support training for nurses to provide complex pediatric care.

The funding from the Hearst Foundations has allowed the program to continue to innovate, according to Jennifer Baird, PhD, MPH, MSW, RN, Director of Clinical Services Education and Research at CHLA.



Jennifer Baird, PhD

“It’s really helpful to have that money for when those costs come up that our educators identify will enhance the program in some way,” Dr. Baird says. “Funds like this enable us to do the work we need to do.”

Additionally, the Hearst Foundations have committed several grants that have supported areas the hospital designated as most in need. The most recent grant of \$200,000, made last year, helped to cover the salaries of half a dozen nurse residents for the duration of their time in the RN Residency. The new grant came at a particularly crucial time, as health care institutions across the nation experienced

*“Nothing happens without nurses. It’s a special, special field.”*

—Paul Dinovitz  
Executive Director, Hearst Foundations

a shortage of nurses, many of whom left the profession during the pandemic.

Thanks in part to philanthropy, the RN Residency at CHLA has been able to substantially increase the number of new nurses it trains. The program did so by adding a third cohort of graduate nurses annually. Prior to the pandemic, the program held two cohorts per year, training 90 to 100 nurse residents. Adding another cohort has meant the number of nurses trained annually has jumped to nearly 160.

“Any funds we receive that help to offset those costs are incredibly valuable,” Dr. Baird says, “because we, sadly, don’t anticipate an end to this increased need for new nurses.”

*(continued on next page)*



CHLA trains nearly 160 nurses a year through the RN Residency in Pediatrics.

*“Children’s Hospital is a pillar institution in L.A., serving kids with health needs.”*

—Paul Dinovitz,  
Executive Director,  
Hearst Foundations



**Shared values and goals**

Along with the impact of his regular interactions with the hospital’s leaders, Dinovitz says his visits to CHLA’s Sunset campus always remind him of the remarkable things being done with Hearst’s funding. “One of our guidelines, pre-pandemic, is that prior to a grant being recommended to the board for approval, a site visit has to be made. And this is really important.”

One visit stands out. Dinovitz watched a video of a CHLA heart surgeon operating on a baby in the womb to correct a cardiac issue before birth. “I remember seeing the video,” he says. “There’s no way your eyes don’t well up seeing that and knowing that a kid who would basically have had minimal chances to survive had great chances because of the procedures that were undertaken at the hospital. It was an ‘Oh wow’ moment.”

Dinovitz says the alliance between Children’s Hospital Los Angeles and the Hearst Foundations has endured for more than half a century because the organizations make natural partners,

sharing the same values and goals. Of the Hearst Foundations’ four funding priorities, three of them are education, culture and social service. The fourth is where CHLA dwells: health.

“Children’s Hospital is a pillar institution in L.A., serving kids with health needs,” Dinovitz says. “All we ask for is just to be good stewards of our funds, which the hospital is.”



CHLA’s nurses are integral members of expert, coordinated care teams.



**Charitable Gift Annuity Rates Have Gone Up!**

The news keeps getting better for the gift that pays you: a charitable gift annuity (CGA). The payout rates have increased twice in the last 12 months. They are higher than they have been in more than a decade, making now a great time to consider this gift that benefits you and Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. This amazing gift provides you with stable, regular income—regardless of the economy. With a CGA, you make a donation using cash or marketable securities, and we, in turn, pay you and/or another individual a fixed amount for life. After your lifetime, the remaining amount becomes part of your legacy at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, allowing the hospital to thrive far into the future.

Rate Chart (One Recipient)

AGE	NEW RATE	OLD RATE
60	4.9%	4.5%
65	5.4%	4.8%
70	5.9%	5.3%
75	6.6%	6.0%
80	7.6%	7.0%
85	8.7%	8.1%
90+	9.7%	9.1%

For more information, please contact Steven Adamian, JD, Associate Senior Vice President of Planned Giving at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, at **323-361-1749** or [sadamian@chla.usc.edu](mailto:sadamian@chla.usc.edu).



At Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, philanthropic partners play a crucial role in our mission to create hope and build healthier futures. Highlighted in the following pages are just a few happenings over the past several months where our supporters’ impact could be felt at the hospital and out in the community.

**Junior Ambassadors Conference ▼**

Kids and teens of all ages comprise CHLA’s Junior Ambassadors program, which offers participants the chance to work together and become hospital advocates and supporters. On Oct. 22, 2022, the Junior Ambassadors Conference was held at the Los Angeles Zoo and featured interactive sessions to learn about leadership, volunteerism and fundraising. The event also included a keynote speech from Caden McMullin, who was treated at CHLA as a newborn (see page 18 for his story). The Junior Ambassadors have set an ambitious goal to raise \$1 million over the next several years.



▲ Left to right: Castille Lee, Maximilian “Max” Wiseman, Angelina Chung, Beatrice Kumble and Harlow Rocca



Leo Helmy



Nathan Joung



Katelyn and Eleanor Vanderbilt with Gordon, one of CHLA’s therapy dogs



◀ Sophie Haaz and Vivian Jonson



▼ Blake “DJ Blake” Meidel



▲ Saira and Javen Rahemtulla



▲ Left to right: Blake Miller, Janice Moon and Seneca Weiss



▲ Sydney Hall and Natnapin “Maddy” Olson

**Holiday Card Drives ▶**

The hospital's annual Halloween and Valentine's Day card drives were a sweet success, thanks to the community and our philanthropic partners. Patients received 40,000 messages of encouragement and goodwill for each special celebration. The Child Life team, with help from many other team members, distributed cards, balloons and goodie bags to patients throughout the hospital. Thank you to everyone who took part in the festivities, particularly Delta Air Lines, which supported the Halloween campaign, and Hasbro, which supported the Valentine's Day drive.



▲ Child Life team members helped distribute the fun cards to patients throughout the hospital.



▲ South Bay Auxiliary members Barbara Miller (left) and Norma Patmore help staff the guild's Holiday Boutique on Dec. 6, 2022, at the Palos Verdes Golf Club.



▶ In December 2022, Henry (left) and Charlie, sons of Children's Chain member Alyssa Given, dropped off books at CHLA's Sunset campus. The brothers hosted a book drive at their elementary school to support the hospital's Literally Healing program.

**◀ A&A Events**

For more than 100 years, the Associates and Affiliates have supported projects designed to enhance patient care at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. Throughout the year, each A&A group hosts fundraisers, and CHLA is grateful to all the members for their commitment to raising funds and awareness in their communities.



◀ Amy Kessel (left), co-Chairperson of the Pasadena Guild's signature fundraiser, Treasures & Trivia, at the event with Alexandra Carter, CHLA's Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer, on Oct. 28, 2022



▶ Comedienne Wendy Liebman (left) with Healing Arts Reaching Kids (HARK) member Ross Pendergraft. Liebman hosted Rock for HARK—an annual event featuring dinner, comedy, music and dancing—on Nov. 13, 2022.

**Thanking the Turners ▼**

On Jan. 26, 2023, Children's Hospital Los Angeles hosted a dedication event honoring the longtime philanthropic partnership of MLB star Justin Turner and his wife, Kourtney, who are both members of the CHLA Foundation Board of Trustees. The Turners most recently pledged a substantial gift for the hospital's Blood Donor Center. In addition, to mark Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month in September 2022, two CHLA cancer patients decorated the Adidas cleats that Justin wore during a game—a tradition he started six years ago. "These kids can't leave the hospital to come to the game. But by putting their names and colorful illustrations on my cleats, I can honor them and bring them with me when I take the field," he says.



Justin and Kourtney Turner



▲ Left to right: Alexandra Carter, Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer at CHLA; Lara M. Khouri, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at CHLA; Justin Turner; and Paul S. Viviano, President and Chief Executive Officer at CHLA



▲ Kaylene, 17 (left), and Arthur, 12, transformed Turner's white striped cleats into one-of-a-kind masterpieces.



Make March Matter 2023 ▼

Every spring, businesses across Southern California come together on behalf of Children's Hospital Los Angeles to achieve our goal of raising \$1 million during the month of March. We thank all the participating partners and supporters who made it a success. Here are a few highlights from this year's Make March Matter® campaign.



▲ Academy Award-winning actress Jamie Lee Curtis helped kick off this year's campaign during an event at the hospital on March 1. Back row, left to right: Alexandra Carter, CHLA Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer; Paul S. Viviano, CHLA President and Chief Executive Officer; Megan, mother of CHLA patient Ella; Ella's dad, Marcus; and Dawn Wilcox, Associate Senior Vice President, Development and Corporate Partnerships at CHLA. Front row: Jamie Lee Curtis and Ella.

On March 28, shoppers helped raise funds at an event held at designer Cynthia Rowley's Bel Air store. Pictured left to right: Riley Green, Jillian Green, Associate Vice President of Corporate Partnerships at CHLA, Cheryl Green, Zoey Green and Deborah Green. ▶



Actor Ashley Greene hosts a charity fitness class on March 12 with Barry's in Hollywood.



▲ Actor Austin Butler (left) and model Kaia Gerber (far right) spend time with patients at the hospital as part of the Make March Matter campaign. Pictured here with CHLA patient Francisco and Kaia's friend, Sarah Dolan.



▲ The Los Angeles Kings, a longtime supporter of CHLA, visit the hospital's Sunset campus during the Make March Matter campaign. From left to right: Kings captain Anze Kopitar; CHLA patient Sierra with her parents, Tony and Rubi; Kings player Drew Doughty.



▲ Left to right: Shaina Rae Julian, Nikki DeLoach, Chair of the CHLA Foundation Board of Trustees, Cassandra Troy and Maureen Barrett attend the March 7 Irene Neuwirth shopping event held at the jewelry designer's Melrose Place boutique.



◀ Alfred Coffee—which has been a steadfast partner since the campaign launched in 2016—donated \$1 for every lavender latte sold at all locations and collected donations at the register throughout the month.



**GOFARR Funfest ▶**

On Nov. 13, 2022, the 7<sup>th</sup> annual GOFARR Funfest was held at Pinz Bowling Kitchen + Bar in Studio City, California. The event—which featured bowling, an amazing auction, food trucks and fundraising to support kidney-related clinical programs and research at CHLA—was hosted by Elisa and Michael Schenkman, members of the CHLA Foundation Board of Trustees. Since 2005, the Schenkman family has raised more than \$10 million for nephrology care and research. At this year’s GOFARR Funfest, the family also surprised CHLA Kidney Transplant Coordinator and nurse practitioner Gwen Green-Brown with the GOFARR Award for the dedication, love and compassion she has for her patients.



**Michael Schenkman, Gwen Green-Brown, Elisa Schenkman and Shelby Schenkman ▼**

**▲ Michael, Elisa and Shelby Schenkman (front row) with team members from the GOFARR Laboratory, which focuses on developing new stem cell therapeutics and other techniques for organ regeneration**



**▲ Clockwise from back left: Ian Koniak, CHLA team member Jessica Savage, Andrew Berard, and CHLA team members Scott Busiel, Shannon Goff and Annie Cornforth**

**◀ Los Angeles Marathon 2023**

On March 19, 2023, runners hit the streets for the 38<sup>th</sup> annual Los Angeles Marathon. Many chose Children’s Hospital Los Angeles as the beneficiary of their fundraising, resulting in nearly \$75,000 raised for the hospital. We thank Shamrock Capital for its generous sponsorship of the CHLA team.



**▲ Runners approach CHLA’s Sunset campus on the 26.2-mile route.**

# WHAT’S AHEAD IN 2023

*There are so many ways to support Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. We hope you’ll participate in one of these upcoming events that benefit the hospital’s world-class care.*



**September 8–10, 2023**

**65<sup>th</sup> Portuguese Bend National Horse Show**

The theme for the Peninsula Committee’s signature fundraiser this year is “Jumping for Joy in Support of the Best Care for Kids.” Bring the whole family to the Ernie Howlett Park Equestrian Facility in Rolling Hills Estates for an exciting weekend of competitions, with proceeds benefiting Children’s Hospital Los Angeles.

*For more details, visit [pcch.net](http://pcch.net).*

**September 30–October 1, 2023**

**Malibu Triathlon**

Swim, bike and run (or make a donation in honor of those who do) to support pediatric cancer research at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles.

*Email [triathlon@chla.usc.edu](mailto:triathlon@chla.usc.edu) to register or for more information.*



**October 27–29, 2023**

**Treasures & Trivia**

Check out the Pasadena Guild’s legendary annual rummage sale, featuring more than 25,000 square feet of gently used home goods, designer clothing, fine art and more—all benefiting Children’s Hospital Los Angeles.

*To learn more, visit [Pasadenaguild.org/treasures-trivia](http://Pasadenaguild.org/treasures-trivia).*



**November 28, 2023**

**Giving Tuesday**

Support the hospital on the day dedicated to giving and tune in to KOST 103.5 FM to hear radio host Ellen K share stories from team members and families impacted by Children’s Hospital Los Angeles.

*Visit [CHLA.org/give](http://CHLA.org/give) to support the hospital.*



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