



KRAVIS CENTER GALA CHAIRS AND SUPPORTERS COMBINE CREATIVITY AND FRIENDSHIP

When the curtain goes up for the 2018 Kravis Center Gala on Friday, January 12th, performers won't be the only ones receiving a round of applause. That's because two veteran Gala Chairs — Kathryn C. Vecellio and Monika E. Preston — will be joining forces again to produce one of the most popular black-tie events of the season.

Close friends for over a decade, Kathryn and Monika have individually and jointly chaired and produced many of the most exclusive and sought-after special events, including galas, luncheons and receptions. They are teaming up again this season to create another exceptional fundraising event for the Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts.

Gala Vice Chair is Irene Karp, Honorary Gala Grand Broadway Chairs are Sandra and David S. Mack and Honorary Gala Chair is Kravis Center Board Chairman Michael J. Bracco.

WHAT IS THE KEY TO PRODUCING A SUCCESSFUL GALA?

Kathryn Vecellio

It starts with proper planning and keeping a close eye on thousands of details which all contribute to the total success of the event. With the goal to raise funds for the organization's mission, it's imperative to run the event like a business.

Although we want everyone who attends to have an extraordinary time and leave with wonderful memories from the evening, we keep a close eye on the bottom line. In addition, guests who attend the *Kravis Center Gala* can count on an evening with magical surprises and exciting experiences they won't have at any other black-tie party this season.

By knowing our guests' standards and expectations, we are creating a gala that will be a unique and compelling experience for them.

WHY HAS THE KRAVIS CENTER'S GALA GARNERED A REPUTATION FOR BEING ONE OF THE MOST FUN BLACK-TIE EVENTS OF THE SEASON?

Monika Preston

We've worked hard at that goal. This year, the Gala Night of Stars will be a tribute to Broadway, since it's the 10th Anniversary for the popular *Kravis On Broadway* series. Our gala is the only one in town that features a red carpet reception and live celebrity performances in the magnificent Dreyfuss Hall at the Kravis Center. And after the star-studded performances are over, our guests are entertained in a magnificently decorated setting at a phenomenal dinner dance in the Ginepro Ballrooms. It's an amazing production.

WHICH PERFORMERS ARE ENTERTAINING AT THIS YEAR'S GALA?

Kathryn Vecellio

We are proud to announce the Kravis Center will be

presenting its *Legend in the Arts Award* to Oscar and *They Award*-winning artist Angela Lansbury. Joining Ms. Lansbury will be two-time *They Award* winners Brian Stokes Mitchell and Chita Rivera along with Kate Davis, multi-instrumentalist and vocalist; Claybourne Elder from Broadway's *Sunday in the Park* with George; Nova Payton, *Helen Hayes Award* recipient and Bria Skanberg, singer and trumpeter. Lake Frazier will conduct the Kravis Center Pops Orchestra. All under the direction of Robert Pullen.



Irene Karp, Gala Vice Chair



Sandra and David S. Mack, Honorary Gala Grand Broadway Chairs



Michael J. Bracco, Honorary Gala Chair

WHO ARE THE SUPPORTERS FOR THE 2018 GALA?

Monika Preston

We wish to sincerely thank: Sandra and David S. Mack, Netjets, Inc., Stephen Brown and Jamie Stern, Marjorie and Stephen Fiverson, Sharyn and Stuart Frankel, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Irene and Jim Karp, Henni and John Kessler, Dorothy and Sidney Kohl, Jane M. Mitchell, SBA Communications Corporation, Susan and Dom Telesco and Kathryn and Leo Vecellio. My husband, John Preston, and I are also supporters; The Breakers Palm Beach, Laurie Silvers and Mitchell Rubenstein, Dr. Nettie Birnbach, The Miriam and Alec Flamm Charitable Fund, Ingrid and David Kosovsky, Tom and Sherry Barrat, Kay and Peter Bernon, Braman Motorcars, Sherry and Ken Endelson, Lori and Bruce Gendelman, Harless & Associates, Jack and Goldie Wolfe Miller Fund, Publix Super Markets Charities, Martin and Toni Sosonoff, and Lois Silverman Yashar and Dr. James Yashar. Special support provided by Tiffany & Co., with media support provided by *Palm Beach Illustrated*.

WHAT DO YOU WISH MORE PEOPLE KNEW ABOUT THE KRAVIS CENTER?

Kathryn Vecellio

We wish people knew that the Kravis Center is a not-for-profit organization with outreach programs as broad and varied as the community itself. Since it opened in 1992, more than 10 million people have attended a performance at the Kravis Center. One of the main reasons I have supported this cultural institution for so long is it promotes the arts as an experience for everyone in Palm Beach County. This season, more than 60,000 children will benefit from the Kravis Center's performing arts education programs. In addition, more than 3,000 adults are expected to attend *ArtSmart* continuing education classes and lectures.

WHERE CAN INFORMATION BE OBTAINED?

Monika Preston

Please call 561.651.4320 to purchase tickets or visit kravis.org/gala for more information. This year, Gala tickets are \$1000 per person; \$500 for patrons 45 years and younger. Since this gala sells out early every year, guests are encouraged to buy their tickets now. Everyone is welcome to join us at this blockbuster extravaganza at the Kravis Center, where there's always magic in the air.

2018 KRAVIS CENTER'S GALA "NIGHT OF STARS"
A BROADWAY CELEBRATION! ON JANUARY 12TH...

Worth Going

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Taste of Broadway

WEST PALM BEACH — Students Emelne Smith (from left), 14, of Jupiter; Lily Counihan, 13, of West Palm Beach; Reyin Jasmine, 16, of Parkland; Klm Cornell, 13, of West Palm Beach; and Allison Wolfson, 17, of Jacksonville, perform a scene from the musical "Tommy" with Instructor Greg Graham (right) during the Broadway Artists Intensive program at the Kravis Center last Thursday. The three-week summer program is taught by an all-Broadway faculty, including special guest artists. RICHARD GRAULICH/ THE PALM BEACH POST

ALSO INSIDE

Florida PENNYSAVER

» **POLICE BLOTTER:** Adult golfers taunt boys fishing in pond by 18th hole. PAGES 2-3

» **HOME SALES:** PAGES 13-17



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on the SCENE

BY BETTY ANN GRAHAM



STARRY NIGHT

Kravis Center's **Night of Stars, A Broadway Celebration!** VIP reception celebrated the event's commencement.

1. Ted Mandes and Bill Meyer
2. Laurie Silvers and Mitchel Rubenstein
3. Swaley Hunsen and Penny Bank
4. John and Monika Preston
5. Diane and Peter Bengner
6. The glittering atmosphere

THE PARTY Making their way through the sparkling gardens at the private home of gala chair **Monika Preston**, guests were offered a glass of bubbly to kick-start the long-awaited Night of Stars, A Broadway Celebration! gala with a VIP reception. Preston's historic estate was complemented by a starry sky over the expansive loggia to match the theme of the star-laden gala. **THE GUESTS** "Our sincerest thanks to Monika and **John Preston** for opening their lovely home to us this evening, and to Monika for graciously being our gala Night of Stars, A Broadway Celebration! chair alongside **Kathryn Vecellio**," said Kravis Center CEO **Judith Mitchell**. The black-tie gala will include entertainment from the likes of Oscar and Tony Award-winning artists, followed by a dinner and dance. **THE HIGHLIGHTS** The gala's leadership, sponsors and supporters mixed and mingled under the shadow of a glowing full moon.

Society Scene



Palm Beach Dinner
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SunSentinel

Jan. 3, 2018

Society Scene is
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Kravis Center for the Performing Arts

CMYK

Night of Stars boosts Kravis Center arts programming

The Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts continues its tradition of bringing award-winning artists to the stage with its upcoming gala Night of Stars: A Broadway Celebration!, on Friday, January 12, 2018. The gala is chaired by long-time Kravis Center supporters Kathryn Vecellio and Monika Preston. Gala vice chair is Irene Karp, honorary gala grand Broadway chairs are Sondra and David Mack and the honorary gala chair is Kravis Center board chairman Michael Bracci.

The black-tie evening begins with a cocktail reception at 6 p.m., followed by performances by Broadway artists. Entertainers appearing include Oscar and Tony Award-winning artist Angela Lansbury; two-time Tony Award winners Brian Stokes Mitchell and Chita Rivera; Claybourne Elder from Broadway's "Sunday in the Park With George"; multi-instrumentalist and vocalist Kate Davis; Helen Hayes Award recipient Nova Y. Payton; singer and trumpeter Bria Skonberg; conductor Luke Frazier with the Kravis Center Pops Orchestra; and director Robert Pullen. The gala will continue with dinner and dancing in the Gimelstob Ballroom, located in the Cohen Pavilion.

The Kravis Center is a not-for-profit performing arts center whose mission is to enhance the quality of life in Palm Beach County by presenting a diverse schedule of national and international artists and companies, offering comprehensive arts education programs, providing a home for local and regional arts organizations to showcase their work and providing an economic catalyst and community leadership in West Palm Beach, supporting efforts to increase travel and tourism.

Gala sponsors include Sondra and David S. Mack; NetJets, Inc.; Stephen Brown and Jamie Stern, Marjorie and Stephen Fiverson, Sharyn and Stuart Frankel, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Irene and Jim Karp, Henni and John Kessler, Dorothy and Sidney Kohl, Jane M. Mitchell, Monika and John Preston, SBA Communications Corporation, Susan and Dom Telesco, Kathryn and Leo Vecellio; The Breakers Palm Beach, Laurie Silvers and Mitchell Rubenstein; Dr. Nettie Birnbach, The Miriam and Alec Flamm Charitable Fund, Ingrid and David Kosowsky; Tom and Sherry Barrat, Kay and Peter Bernon, Braman Motorcars, Sherry and Ken Endelson, Lori and Bruce Gendelman, Harless & Associates, Jack and Goldie Wolfe Miller Fund, Publix Super Markets Charities, Martin and Toni Sosnoff and Lois Silverman Yashar and Dr. James Yashar, with support also provided by Tiffany & Co. and Palm Beach Illustrated.

Tickets for this year's gala are \$1,000 or \$500 for patrons ages 45 and younger.

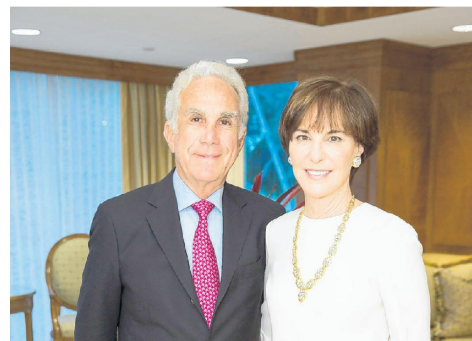
The Kravis Center is located at 701 Okeechobee Blvd. in West Palm Beach. For more information about the gala, visit www.kravis.org/gala. To purchase tickets for the Night of Stars, call the box office at 561-832-7469.



Mike and Colleen Bracci



Sondra and David Mack



Jim and Irene Karp



Kathryn and Leo Vecellio



John and Monika Preston

CAPEHART PHOTOGRAPHY/COURTESY

CMYK




Penny Heidtke, Liv Vesely and Ron Chesnos

The Auxiliary of Jupiter Medical Center made a \$1 million gift to support the new **Anderson Family Cancer Institute**, which will begin construction in early 2018. The Auxiliary is comprised of more than 600 volunteers who provide invaluable support, including managing the hospital's gift shop and off-campus thrift shop. Proceeds and donations from these sources are what allowed the Auxiliary to raise the \$1 million gift, which will be recognized with the naming of the oncology boutique within the Institute.

While many retirees enjoy plenty of well-earned relaxation, others choose to spend their time volunteering. That's the case for 73-year-old **Penny Heidtke**, President of **Jupiter Medical Center Auxiliary**. "At my age, you're not really interested in going back to work, so volunteering is really a great way to spend your time. I was a patient at Jupiter Medical Center and had wonderful experiences with the volunteers. At that time, I realized I wanted to be part of the Auxiliary," Heidtke said.

The Anderson Family Cancer Institute, a 55,000-square-foot, world-class research and cancer treatment center where the boutique will be located, will provide cancer patients with essential and common needs such as wig fittings and prostheses by trained professionals. "We are a not-for-profit medical center, and with the generosity of our donors, including our very own Auxiliary, we are able to provide truly world-class care," said **Liv Vesely**, President, **Jupiter Medical Center Foundation**.

The Institute was made possible in part by a \$25 million gift – the largest, single gift in the Jupiter Medical Center Foundation's history – from the **Anderson Family Charitable**

Foundation, along with a \$5 million contribution from **Peter and Missy Crisp**. Upon completion, the \$50 million Institute will serve as an innovative center of excellence for cancer care, and will be recognized as a leading research and treatment center for the region, offering the most advanced diagnostic services and outpatient treatment. The Institute's unique patient-centered approach will focus on coordinating every aspect of the patient's care, beginning the moment they walk through the door. The Institute will be at the forefront of providing world-class diagnosis, treatment and management of all types of cancer, and is expected to draw patients from across the United States and the Caribbean.

For more information about giving opportunities at the Anderson Family Cancer Institute visit jmcfoundation.org or call 561.263.5728.

For more information on Jupiter Medical Center visit jupitermed.com or call 561.263.2234. 🌟

William A. Meyer has been selected to receive the **Association of Fundraising**

Professional's National Philanthropy Day Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser for 2017. Mr. Meyer will accept his award at the organization's annual Palm Beach County chapter luncheon, scheduled for November 17th. His nomination was presented on behalf of the **Kravis Center for the Performing Arts and Quantum Foundation**. A kickoff reception honoring the award recipients, past

and present, was held recently at The Breakers Palm Beach.

Judy Mitchell, CEO of the Kravis Center, says philanthropy is Bill Meyer's true calling. His parents, **Arthur and Sydelle Meyer** were active philanthropists for decades and passed their values on to their son. He has provided strong and sustained leadership in support of a number of local organizations including the Quantum Foundation, Palm Beach Philanthropy Tank, Jewish Community Foundation, Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County, Historical Society of Palm Beach County, Meyer Jewish Academy, JFK Medical Center, Palm Beach Civic Association and more.

"Bill's passion for arts and culture is exemplary," said Mitchell. "He has tirelessly volunteered his time, leadership skills, expertise and financial resources on behalf of the Kravis Center."



Denise and William A. Meyer

Elected to the Performing Arts Center's Board in 2004, Meyer quickly rose to become its Vice Chairman, and then was elected to Board Chairman from 2007-2013. Following his Chairmanship, Meyer became Treasurer and currently chairs the Operations Committee and serves on the Executive, Finance and Investment Committees and the Corporate Partners Executive Committee.

A resident of Palm Beach since 1978, Meyer is currently Chairman of Meyer Jabara Hotels with offices in Danbury, CT and West Palm Beach. Its portfolio includes 30 hotels with nearly 5,000 rooms in 12 states. He has also formed companies to build and operate Florida-based senior housing communities in Wellington, Tampa and Jupiter. In addition, he has developed a number of real estate projects within Palm Beach County. He and his wife Denise have two adult children.

For more information visit kravis.org. 🌟

SOCIETY INSIDER

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THE SCENE: KRAVIS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS



Sondra and David Mack



Michael Bracci, Tommy Tune and Colleen Bracci



Monika and John Preston



Jim and Irene Karp

REGARDS to Broadway

Night of Stars gala honors
10th anniversary of series

A collaborative performance by some of the brightest lights on Broadway highlighted the annual Night of Stars gala for the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts. A Broadway Celebration! took place Jan. 12.

Kathryn Vecellio and Monika Preston were chairwomen for the evening, which this year was a special tribute to the 10th anniversary of the acclaimed Kravis on Broadway series.

The crowd of nearly 400 began the night with a pre-performance cocktail reception, then took their seats in the Dreyfoos Hall for the ensemble show, co-hosted by two-time Tony Award winners **Brian Stokes Mitchell** and **Chita Rivera**, who also both performed.

The show's highlight was a video montage of Oscar and Tony Award-winning artist **Angela Lansbury**, who was awarded the Kravis Center's "Legend in the Arts" award.

Other performers included **Tommy Tune**, **Claybourne Elder**, **Kate Davis**, **Nova Y. Payton**, **Bria Skonberg** and the Kravis Center Pops Orchestra.

A dinner dance in the Gimelstob Ballroom, transformed into Times



Jamie Stern and Stephen Brown



Kathryn and Leo Vecellio



Sharyn and Stuart Frankel



Stephen and Marjorie Fiverson



Sidney and Dorothy Kohl



Laurie Silvers and Mitchell Rubenstein



Martin and Toni Sosnoff



Henni and John Kessler



Christine Stiller and Brian Stokes Mitchell

Square, followed the performance.

Irene Karp was vice chairwoman, with **Michael Bracci** serving as honorary chairman.

Proceeds assist the Kravis Center in its mission to present a high-quality, diverse schedule, offer arts education programs, and provide a home for local and regional arts organizations.

— sdonnelly@pbdailynews.com

Story by Shannon Donnelly / Photos by CAPEHART



POINT MANALAPAN
DEER WATER ESTATE



Kravis to offer Disney musical training to students from four schools

Ever wonder what it's like to be in a Disney musical?

Students from four Palm Beach County public elementary schools have been selected to learn at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, courtesy of its 2017-18 Disney Musicals in Schools program.

"As part of our ever-expanding arts education programming, The Kravis Center is excited to be announcing the first four local elementary schools to participate in our partnership with Disney Musicals in Schools," the Kravis Center's CEO, Judy Mitchell, said in a statement. "We are honored to receive this generous grant from Disney, and we look forward to collaborating with educators to bring sustainable theater education programs to children in our community who might otherwise not have access to the performing arts."



The program is an outreach initiative developed by Disney Theatrical Productions to create sustainable theater programs in under-resourced elementary schools. The four schools that were

selected are Egret Lake Elementary in West Palm Beach, Forest Park Elementary in Boynton Beach, Glade View Elementary in Belle Glade and Starlight Cove Elementary in Lantana. The schools will participate in a 17-week musical theater residency that's led by a team of teaching artists trained by the Kravis Center and Disney Theatrical Productions, at no cost to them. Each school will receive performance rights, education support materials and guidance from the teaching artists. The program includes a professional development focus through which participating school teachers partner with Kravis Center teaching artists to learn how to produce, direct, choreograph and music direct, culminating in their first 30-minute Disney KIDS musical at their school.



foster positive relationships between students, faculty, staff, parents, and the community. Students and teachers work in teams, developing the wide spectrum of skills needed when producing a piece of musical theater, including: critical thinking, problem solving, ensemble building, communication, self-confidence and interpersonal skills.

Disney Musicals in Schools was launched in 2010. After successfully offering the program in New York City schools, Disney Theatrical Productions began partnering with organizations in other communities across the United States.

Disney KIDS musicals, created in partnership with Music Theater International (MTI), are 30-minute musicals designed for elementary school performers and have been adapted from the classic Disney films "101 Dalmatians," "Aladdin," "The Aristocats," "Cinderella," "The Jungle Book," "The Lion King" and "Winnie the Pooh." ■



The Kravis Center will host a Student Share Celebration, in which each school performs one number from its show in Dreyfoos Hall for an audience of students, teachers, family and community members.

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