17th Annual Golden Heart Awards

By Emmett Findley, Director of Communications

On Monday, October 16, God’s Love We Deliver was thrilled to host the 17th Annual Golden Heart Awards dinner in partnership with Michael Kors, Inc.
Ashley Park, Nicky Hilton, and Tina Leung

The night kicked off with a cocktail hour featuring cocktails and mocktails from the timeless classic Indochine. Guests enjoyed delicious French-Vietnamese fusion bites while enjoying music from DJ Lina Bradford and performances choreographed by Nick Laughlin.
For the dinner and awards presentation, Michael Kors welcomed guests and reminded us that we are here to celebrate goodness and generosity amid so much difficulty in the world.

Michael was then followed by a special performance by Tony Award-winning actor J. Harrison Ghee, currently starring in Some Like It Hot on Broadway. J. Harrison brought the house down with musical numbers There’s New York City and Freeway of Love.
In one of the many surprises of the evening, multi-hyphenate Cynthia Erivo burst on to the stage to introduce and congratulate honoree Ben Platt for receiving the Golden Heart Award for Excellence in the Arts. In her remarks, Cynthia reminded us all how important it is to celebrate all the sides of ourselves while lifting others up.
Ben Platt spoke about using his platform to raise awareness for marginalized voices, stating,

“As an artist, I've been given a megaphone of which I often feel undeserving.” He continued, “I consider it not only my duty, but also my greatest passion and most fulfilling joy to authentically inhabit queer characters, to write songs about grappling with my own queer identity and in celebration of queer love, and to create spaces, films and stories void of oppression and filled with unabashed queer joy.”
Board member David Terveen, Council Member Erik Bottcher, and David Ludwigson spoke about how medically tailored meals from God’s Love can help lower healthcare costs, improve patient satisfaction, and keep people in their homes, where they are healthiest and happiest.
During the auction led by Harry Santa-Olalla, guests bid on items to support the organization’s CONNECTED program, providing medically tailored meals and nutrition education and counseling to former U.S. military members living with a chronic illness, mental health condition, and/or substance use challenge.

In another surprise of the evening, actors Rupert Friend and Matt Damon jumped onstage to introduce Scarlett Johansson and congratulate her on receiving the Golden Heart Award for Philanthropy & Activism.
Scarlett Johansson with Rupert Friend and Matt Damon Photo by Lydia Lee

Scarlett then spoke about her personal experience with food insecurity as a child, and how that experience has always connected her to God’s Love, with the real understanding of what it means to need food, and need help. She told us:

“The struggle to put food on the table can lead to immense hardship and despair and a loss of hope. But organizations like God’s Love We Deliver offer a lifeline to those in need. They go beyond providing meals by connecting individuals with resources, creating community support networks, and advocating for long-term solutions to address systemic issues of poverty.”
Before the night ended, iconic music producer David Foster took the stage to announce the final surprise of the evening, a performance of *Real Love* by Mary J. Blige, which brought everyone to their feet.
Mary J. Blige Photo by Kim Mancuso

The Golden Heart Awards celebration was held just days after we launched our first PSA in twenty years, voiced by iconic New Yorkers Rosie Perez and Zoe Saldaña. (You can view the PSA in English [here](#) and in Spanish [here](#)!)  

**Meet the Clients of God's Love We Deliver**  

Guests departed with gift bags of our famous brownies, goods from Opul Beauty, and a special edition chocolate bar from Tony’s Chocolonely.

This year’s Golden Heart Awards raised more than $3.5 million, funding more than 350,000 medically tailored meals for our neighbors living with and affected by severe and chronic illness.

Thank you to our **Honorary Chairwoman Anna Wintour**, Michael Kors and all of our co-chairs, our honorees and performers, sponsors, guests, and everyone involved for making it a huge success!  

[Donate to The Event](#)  

**View Photos**
Honorary Chairwoman

- Anna Wintour

Co-Chairs

- HUMA ABEDIN
- BLAINE
- ARIANA DEBOSE
- NEIL PATRICK HARRIS & DAVID BURTKA
- JOHN IDOL
- CHRISTOPHER JACKSON
- MICHAEL KORS
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Gold Table

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- SAMUEL N. & DENA M. LOMBARDO

Executive Chef

- WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

Chef de Cuisine

- ACCENTURE
- HQ FOOTWEAR
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- JS CORPORATION
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- CLAUDIA WAGNER & DON LEBOWITZ

Pastry Chef

- ABS IMPRINT – ADRIANA GONZALEZ
- JENS AUDENAERT & AMOL SHAH
- BLOOMINGDALE’S
- MARK BRASHEAR & JIM SHREVE
- ALEXANDER BUSSENGER
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**Special Thanks**

- Producer & Director: Erich Bergen
- Capri Holdings Limited
- Canard, Inc.
- CW Stockwell
- Indochine
- Opul Beauty
- Paul Wilmot Communications
- Tony's Chocolonely
- Wider Gardens & Flowers
On Monday, October 17, we celebrated our 16th annual Golden Heart Awards in partnership with Michael Kors. During the ceremony, awards were presented to Huma Abedin for Outstanding Leadership, Jessica Alba for Outstanding Phi...
15th Annual Golden Heart Awards

On Monday, October 18, God’s Love We Deliver celebrated its annual Golden Heart Awards dinner and honored the extraordinary achievements of Billy Porter and Don Lemon, in partnership with Michael Kors. The event took pl...

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14th Annual Golden Heart Awards

On Tuesday, December 1st, God’s Love We Deliver and Michael Kors hosted the annual Golden Heart Awards via a virtual program featuring an impressive lineup of celebrity appearances and performances. The gala, which was held o...
13th Annual Golden Heart Awards

God's Love was honored to welcome 800 guests to the 13th Annual Golden Heart Awards on October 21 at Cipriani South Street in Manhattan. The Golden Heart Awards are presented annually by God's Love to honor the important cont...