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Miracles for Kids gala raises record-breaking \$1.8 million for families in need

On Saturday, Oct 12, the nonprofit organization Miracles for Kids raised a record-breaking \$1.8 million at its signature Annual Night of Miracles Gala. 100 percent of the funds raised during the evening will go toward the organization's mission to improve the lives of critically ill children and their families in need.

Themed this year "Rock the Miracle," the 2019 Night of Miracles Gala was presented by Xponential Fitness and welcomed over 500 of Southern California's most influential business leaders and philanthropists at the picturesque Monarch Beach Resort in Dana Point.

Guests this year did give back – in unprecedented numbers. In addition to the Geisler's exciting \$250,000 gift, Laguna Beach resident David Heil, Miracles for Kids Board Member and David August Founder, CEO, and Creative Director, and his table gifted \$100,000.



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Submitted photo

Laguna resident David Heil and table gifted \$100K

The exciting live auction broke records with the sale of two eight-week-old Bernadoodle puppies for a total of \$28,000, VIP 2020 Masters Tournament Experiences for \$50,000, a Marvel Black Widow VIP Film Premiere Experience for \$11,000, and three custom clothing packages for a total of \$30,000.

"This year's gala showcased the extraordinary generosity of our community. The Miracles for Kids family is beyond thankful to our group of sponsors, donors, volunteers, and supporters – not only after special evenings like this, but every day," notes Autumn Strier, Co-founder & CEO of Miracles for Kids. "Their generosity and support of our mission allows us to continue to make everyday miracles in the lives of critically ill children and their families in desperate need."

This year's gala stage welcomed Grammy Award-winning singer/songwriter and actress Michelle Williams. Known worldwide as an active philanthropist and supporter of children's causes, she took the "Rock the Miracle" theme to heart by inspiring guests with a powerful musical performance directed by Adam Blackstone and Omar Edwards, whose credits include composing and touring for artists such as Jay-Z, Beyonce, Khalid, J-Lo, and Justin Timberlake.

Williams' moving opening rendition of "This is Me" backed by a 20-person choir set the tone of the evening, which shined a light on the difficult journey Miracles for Kids' families face while fighting for their child's life – including bankruptcy, homelessness, hunger, and depression. Miracles for Kids takes on these challenges and provides meaningful solutions that create financial and emotional stability for the children and families served.

"Miracles for Kids children are facing unimaginable obstacles and it means the world to be able to make even the smallest difference in the lives of these families – this is why I first became involved with Miracles for Kids and why I continue to work hard in support of the organization," notes Smith. "I am honored to be named this year's Miracle Maker and to be a part of the Miracles for Kids team and look forward to continuing to work alongside this incredible organization to positively impact those who need it the most."

Notable guests in attendance included director/producer Joseph McGinty Nichol, known professionally as McG; California State Treasurer Fiona Ma; the co-president of Marvel Studios, Louis D'Esposito; former USC football quarterback and current Fox Sports' Analyst Matthew Leinart; among many other influential business leaders – all gathering to Rock the Miracle for critically-ill kids and families in need.

To learn more about Miracles for Kids, visit <https://miraclesforkids.org/>.