



2014 Winter Ball *hits record highs for fundraising*



Nearly \$200,000 earmarked for 'miracles' at Craniofacial Clinic

Friday, Dec. 5, 2014, was an evening of record for the Winter Ball, the gala fundraising event that supports the academic medical center consisting of UMass Medical School and UMass Memorial Medical Center. The sixth annual event, co-chaired by Paula and Eric Dunphy, Elizabeth and David Klein, and Kimberly Malloy-Salmon and Matthew Salmon, raised more than \$750,000 overall through sponsorships, live and silent auctions, and ticket sales.

The featured Fund-a-Need recipient for the 2014 event was the Craniofacial Anomalies Clinic at UMass Memorial Medical Center, which treats children and adults

with skull and facial deformities, such as cleft lip and palate. Nearly \$200,000—at that date the highest amount for a Fund-a-Need recipient in the history of the event—was raised to help families with expenses not covered by insurance during their children's treatment for cleft palate and other birth defects of the head and face (see sidebar).

Nearly 40 local organizations and individuals signed on as sponsors of the event, including Duddie Massad as the first-ever Winter Ball

Platinum Sponsor, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Crothall Healthcare, and Vital Emergency Medical Services in collaboration with MedStar Ambulance.

"Incredible support for the Winter Ball each year comes through the sponsorships. In fact, more than half the monies raised by this event come from those sponsorships," said Eric Dunphy and Matt Salmon, sponsorship co-chairs for the 2014 Winter Ball Steering Committee. "For the sixth annual event, our sponsors collectively donated nearly \$390,000, which was an all-time high for this event. We couldn't be more grateful for their support."

More than 360 people attended the event, which was held at Mechanics Hall in Worcester, with



many guests participating in both live and silent auctions.

“Attendees demonstrated wonderful enthusiasm for and participation in the auctions, which featured many new and exciting items as well as some perennial favorites, thanks to a dedicated planning committee,” said Elizabeth Wetherbee Klein, auction chair for the 2014 Winter Ball Steering Committee. ♦

For more information, please visit www.umassmed.edu/winterball

2014 Winter Ball Steering Committee

Kristen and Jeremy Ahearn

Larry Army Jr.

Judy and Steve DiOrio

Paula and Eric Dunphy
(Sponsorship Co-chairs)

Elizabeth and David S. Klein
(Auction Chairs)

Heather and Justin A. Maykel, MD

Andrew Parvey

R. Norman Peters, Esq.

Nadine A. and Gary A. Premo

Kimberly Malloy-Salmon and
Matthew Salmon (Sponsorship Co-chairs)

Lisa Thompson

Karyn and Mark W. Wagner

Seth Welcom

Honorary Chairs

Maryellen and Michael F. Collins, MD

Mary C. DeFeudis

Catherine E. Jones, MD, and
Eric W. Dickson, MD

Past Committee Chairs

Jodi and David M. Brunelle

Thomas D. Manning

Peter G. Paige, MD

R. Norman Peters, Esq.

Dorothy and Michael P. Tsotsis

Funding a need

Brooke Putelis’ son was born with a cleft palate and was treated at the [Craniofacial Anomalies Clinic at UMass Memorial Medical Center](#). His now picture-perfect smile—which Putelis calls “a miracle”—is the result of the skilled care he received from the clinic’s comprehensive team.

“When I start to cry is when I see the power of the child’s personality scorch through the defect and take over,” said Janice Lalikos, MD, professor of surgery and director of the Craniofacial Clinic.

Through the efforts of Dr. Lalikos and other members of an interdisciplinary team, the clinic was awarded a six-year accreditation in 2014 as a Cleft Palate Team by the American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association and Cleft Palate Foundation. The team addresses all aspects of a patient’s care beyond surgery, including orthodontics, speech therapy and psychosocial support.

“My plastic surgeon [Dr. Lalikos] is my hero,” said 19-year-old Emily Keefner, who was named a Plastic Surgery Patient of Courage by the American Society of Plastic Surgeons in 2013. Keefner has undergone 34 procedures at the UMass Memorial Children’s Medical Center and has been under Lalikos’ care as Craniofacial Clinic director and reconstructive plastic surgeon since 2002.

“The goal is to allow these children to live a fundamentally completely normal life by simply restoring their facial appearance,” said Raymond Dunn, MD, professor of surgery and chief of the division of plastic surgery.

For more information, please visit the Craniofacial Anomalies Clinic at UMass Memorial Medical Center at http://bit.ly/craniofacial_clinic

