

5TH ANNUAL

### Music & Memories

# GALA

Together We SHINE a Light on Dementia

1.19.2024 7:00 PM – 12:00 AM

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huhre

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# The Board of Trustees of Act Now Foundation together with Renee Bettinger, Gala Chair

Present the 5th Annual

# Music & Memories GALA

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In the Fight Against Dementia



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# Music & Memories GALA

#### Our Mission

To raise awareness, advocate, and educate New Jersey about Alzheimer's disease prevention, and early detection in order to improve the quality of life of those living and suffering from Alzheimer's Disease & related dementias.

#### Our Promise

To reduce the impact of Alzheimer's disease in New Jersey, to promote public awareness of Alzheimer's, and to engage communities to build supportive, capable, and Alzheimer's educated environments.

#### Our Pledge

To offer programs and services that decrease the emotional, physical and financial tolls on families, caregivers and communities.

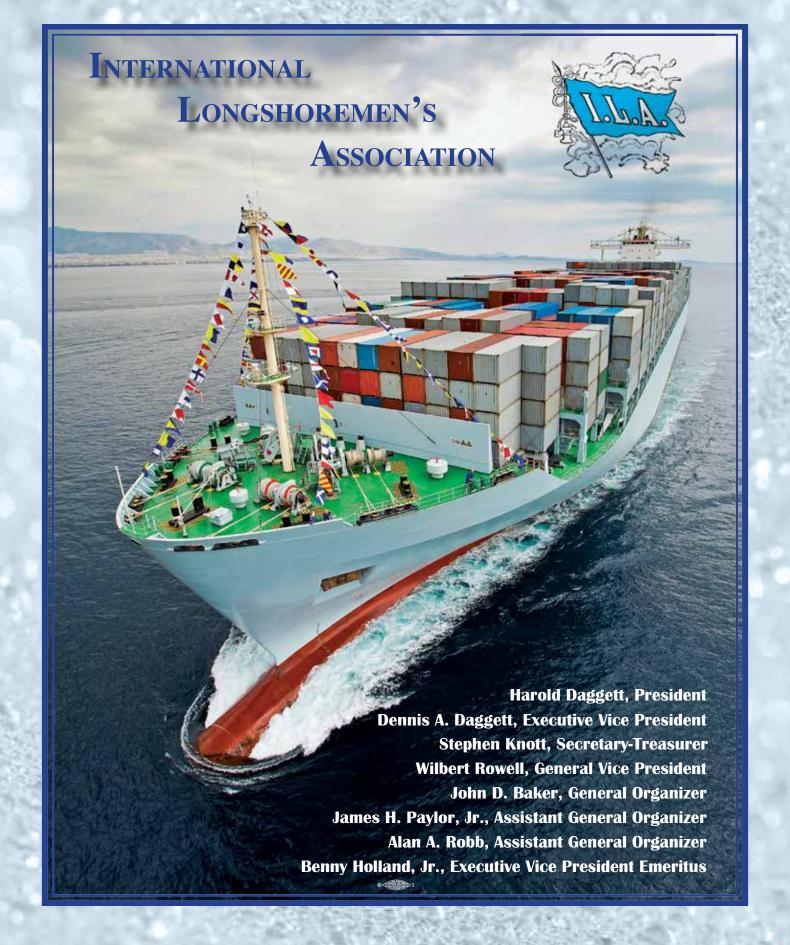


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Act Now Foundation, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, receives operating support in part from Hudson County office on Aging, Hudson County Office of Inclusion & Accessibility, Bergen County Division of Senior Services, Essex County Division of Senior Services, CDBG Hudson County & Bergen County, CDBG & CSBG Jersey City, CDBG Hoboken, Office of Faith Based Initiatives, Ponce De Leon Bank Foundation, Eisai Pharmaceuticals, and other Corporations, Foundations, and Private Donors.



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# Music & Memories A I A

#### A Message from our Co-Founders Kristine Allen & Cary Lopez

Dear Friends,

On behalf of our Board of Trustees, our Gala Committee, and the entire staff at Act Now Foundation, we would like to thank you for attending our 5th Annual Music & Memories Gala.

Our mission has always been clear: to provide unwavering support to those affected; and strive relentlessly towards a world without dementia. Together, we have made significant strides. Yet, the battle is far from won.

We implore each of you to stand with us tonight in this fight. Whether you're a donor, a volunteer, a caregiver, or someone who has been touched by dementia, your role is crucial, and your dedication fuels our progress.

We are at a pivotal moment. By banding together, we can turn the tide against dementia. Each action, no matter how small, is a step closer to a world where this disease no longer robs individuals of their memories and dignity.

Tonight, we SHINE a light on dementia in hopes of raising awareness about a disease that affects us all.

Tonight's proceeds will benefit Act Now Foundation's programs and services that support, educate, screen, and advocate for families who are living and struggling with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias.

I urge you to join us in our unwavering commitment to defeat Alzheimer's. Together, let's create a future where families are no longer burdened by this devastating illness.

Thank you for your ongoing support and dedication. Together, we are making a difference.



Kristine Allen President



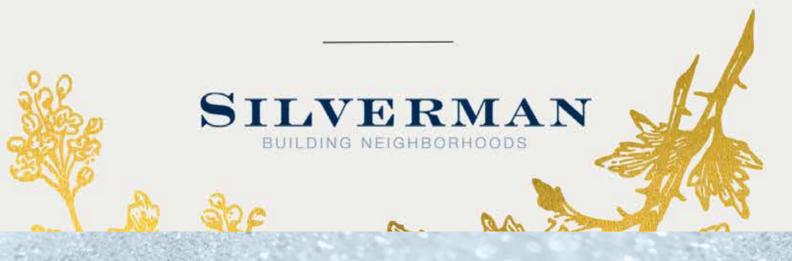
Cary Lopez
Executive Director



### Congratulations

ON THE SUCCESS OF THE MUSIC & MEMORIES GALA

THANK YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS TO RAISE AWARENEESS ABOUT ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED DEMENTIAS.



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### Music & Memories

# GALA

Acknowledgements

#### THANK YOU!

#### Gala Committee

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Arnold Bettinger

Lisa Catanio

James Cruz

Ellen Gelber

Al Harary

Pete Oneglia

Wendy Paul

Myra Stith

#### Act Now Board of Trustees

Kristine Allen, Board Chair Cary Lopez, Vice Chair James Sidor, Treasurer Pete Oneglia, Secretary Patti Russell, Trustee Maureen Skea, Trustee

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Cary Lopez, Executive Director
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# Music & Memories GALA

#### A Message from Gala Committee Chair Renee Bettinger



Dear Friends of Act Now Foundation:

It is my honor and privilege again to Chair the 5th Annual Music & Memories Gala to benefit the life changing work of Act Now Foundation. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the entire committee for their hard work, enthusiasm, and dedication in making this event a success.

My personal thanks to Kristine Allen and Cary Lopez for their motivating force to advocate and educate all of us on Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias. I personally have experienced their countless hours in providing emotional support to all the caregivers in our time of need. Act Now Foundation is not just comprised of these two selfless women. They are blessed with an amazing group that includes Stacy Hutsell, Jessica Vega-Conza, Nalaevy Ortiz, Alba Sepulveda, Ellen Gelber, Linda Lembo & Vivian Matias, as well as many volunteers and interns who donate their time.

Finally, amidst the glamour and celebration, I'd like to thank all of our sponsors, donors and guests. Please relish the knowledge that you are not just a spectator, but a crucial part in making this fundraiser a success. Thank you for being the driving force behind our collective journey towards a brighter, more compassionate future.

So tonight, we celebrate your generosity and the impact magnified by your selfless giving. Now enjoy the music to make wonderful memories of your own!

Sincerely,

Renee Bettinger

Renee Bettinger, Gala Chairperson





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# Music & Memories A I A

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### Congratulations To The Act Now Foundation



Enjoy This 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Music & Memories Gala!

# Hudson County Executive Craig Guy

# Music & Memories

Acknowledgements

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Kathleen Nowack

# Music & Memories GALA

Act Now Foundation's program priorities are driven by the needs of the community.

Our mission is to improve the quality of life of those suffering from Alzheimer's disease & related dementias and those that care for them – our Dementia Care Heroes!

To be successful in this we listen closely to the concerns of our clients and community partners and design programs based on specific needs. Daily interaction with local seniors and caregiver's is the basis for Act Now Foundations programming.

Our Board reviews findings and prioritizes recommendations based on our field discoveries and Community Needs Assessment and includes the following programs:

- Evaluations Testing and Early Diagnosis
- Long-Term Care Planning
- Support Groups
- Crisis Management
- Care Coordination
- Educational Workshops for Family Caregivers
- Training for Professionals Including First Responders
- Resources and Advocacy for families
- Diversity & Outreach Programs
- Brain Health Initiative

#### BUILDING AWARENESS ONE MIND AT A TIME!

# Music & Memories GALA

Isa Legacy Award Honorees

#### Champions for Change – Distinguished Advocates In the Fight Against Dementia

In the symphony of our Music & Memories Gala, we take a moment to honor extraordinary individuals whose unwavering commitment has resonated far beyond the notes of our melodies. Tonight, we celebrate these distinguished advocates who have become beacons of hope in the relentless fight against dementia. These surprise honorees embody the spirit of our Music & Memories Gala through their dedication, passion, and commitment to our cause.

Tonight, we express our deepest gratitude for their unwavering commitment to creating a world where dementia is met with compassion, awareness, and effective support. As we unveil these surprise advocates, we celebrate not only their dedication but also the unexpected pathways through which they've contributed to the fight against dementia.

Let us join in expressing our heartfelt gratitude for their dedication and support, enriching the tapestry of our Music & Memories Gala and leaving an indelible mark on our hearts. May their unexpected journeys inspire us to continue the fight with renewed vigor, creating a world where compassion and understanding prevail."

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#### Congratulations on Your 5th Annual Music & Memories Gala

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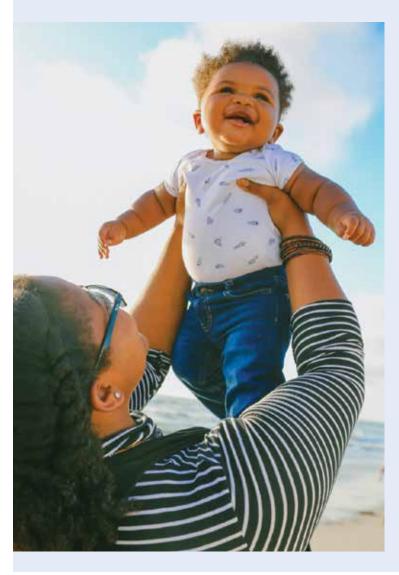
Kathleen Nowak

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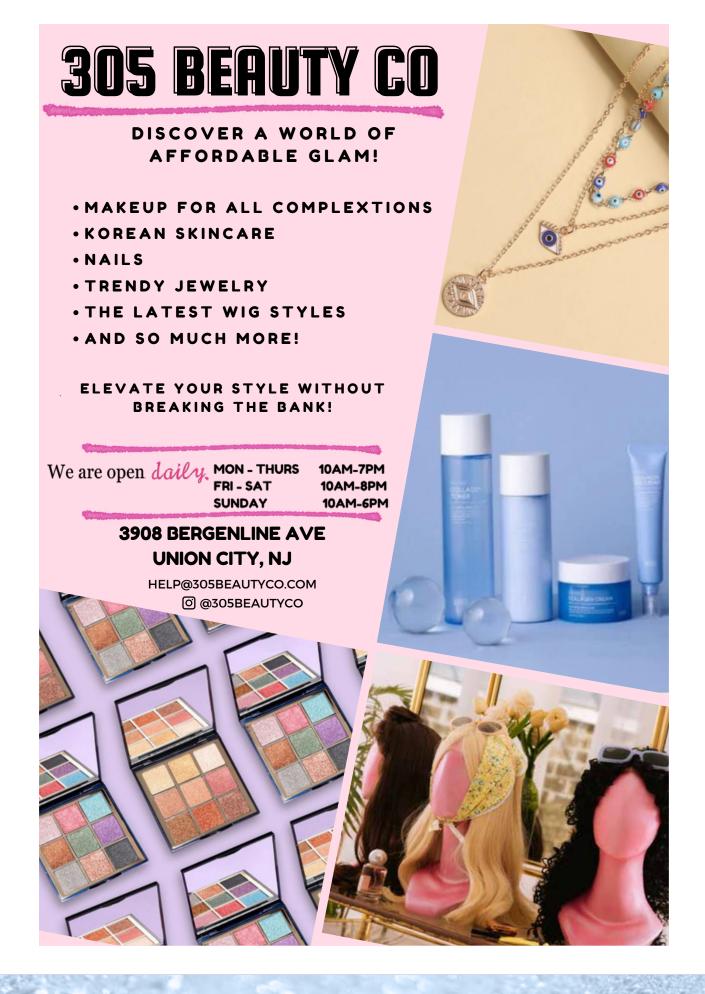


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28



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434 Ridgedale Avenue East Hanover, NJ 07936 (973) 515-3433 (800) 753-4009 Senator Bob Gordon and Gail Gordon proudly sponsor Act Now Foundation's Music & Memories Gala in honor of her father James Balph. (1929-2022)





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#### From: Commissioner William O'Dea



Congratulations and Best Wishes to ACT NOW FOUNDATION

On the Occasion of Its
5TH ANNUAL MUSIC & MEMORIES GALA

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Thank you to our friends at

Act Now Foundation

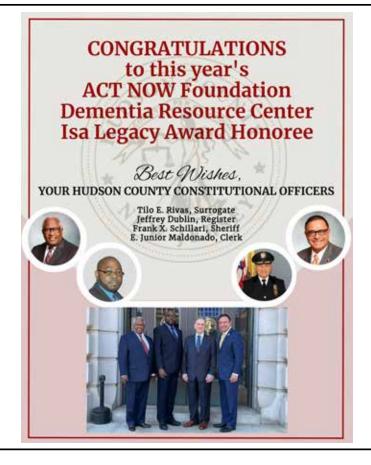




www.gardenstatecdc.org

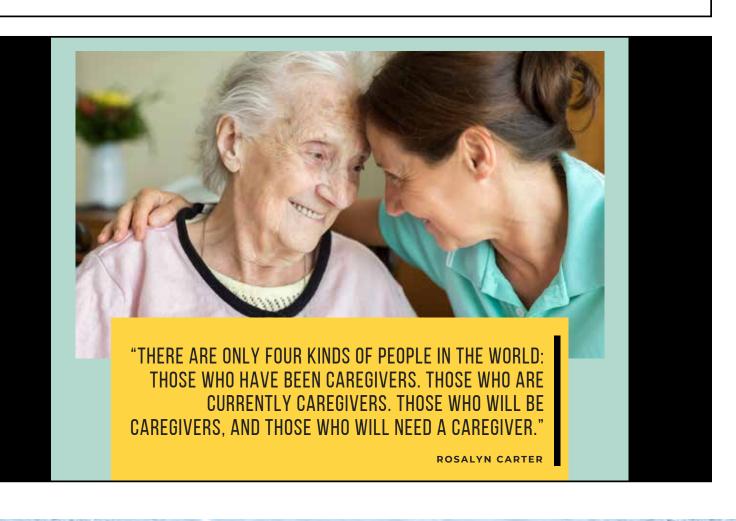
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# In Honor of Renee Bettinger For Her Support of ACT NOW FOUNDATION

### With love, Nancy & Nathan Sambul



### Our Co-Founders & Act Now Foundation made Insider NJ's Policymakers Power List for the 2nd consecutive year!!

INSIDERNJ

**INSIDER 100 POLICYMAKERS 2023** 

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

### 50 Kristine Allen & Cary Lopez

#### **Act Now Foundation in Hudson County**

Both excel at navigating the politics there to further their policy goals – which in its own right is laudable – increasing Alzheimers awareness, care, and funding. They combine policy chops with an on-the-ground understanding of the reality of the issue, advocating in the Statehouse, while caring directly for those afflicted – patients, caretakers, and families.



### OUR CO-FOUNDERS & ACT NOW FOUNDATION MADE INSIDER NJ'S OLICYMAKERS POWER LIST 2022!!

# 5 KRISTINE ALLEN AND CARY LOPEZ

ACT NOW FOUNDATION IN HUDSON COUNTY

The pair have built and expanded their non-profit, Act Now Foundation, into a leading Alzheimer's care and awareness organization advocating for those afflicted with the disease – including patients, caretakers, and family. Having been part of Statehouse legislative efforts in the past, they combine policy expertise with a real-world understanding of the reality of Alzheimer's.





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Fifth Annual Gala



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03

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04

#### **Donate Your Time**

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#### **ACT NOW FOUNDATION**

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