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& hunger since 1983

## An Intimate Evening With Jazz Pianist Diane Schuur Benefits Aid For AIDS



Aid For AIDS supporters and jazz fans alike gathered for an Intimate Evening with Diane Schuur on Sunday, January 20th. Graciously hosted at the beautiful home of Tom Gregory and David Bohnett, underwritten by The David Bohnett Foundation, the benefit for AFA began with delicious cocktails and hor d'oeuvres, followed by an exciting performance from vocalist/pianist Diane, aka "Deedles," and her backup band. With a recording career spanning three decades, including eleven album releases and two Grammy Awards, Diane's performance sparkled and shined from start to finish. We'd like to thank our sponsors — Kerry Hotels, Pink Vodka, Elite Transportation, and The Magic Castle Hotel, and of course, Tom Gregory and David Bohnett for their overwhelming support and contributions to Aid For AIDS. [See Event Photos.](#)

## Happy Valentine's Day! Purchase a Memorial Plaque For A Loved One



Valentine's Day, February 14, is the perfect time of year to create a lasting gift and loving tribute to a lost loved one. Honoring a beloved individual with a bronze plaque along The West Hollywood Memorial Walk, which lines Santa Monica Boulevard from Fairfax to Doheny, serves not only as a tribute to life but provides support to the community in the struggle against HIV/AIDS. Revenue from the plaques allows Aid For AIDS to continue providing our services to our clients. To learn more about purchasing a memorial plaque and giving your loved one a lasting tribute as part of this historic landmark in West Hollywood, [click here.](#)

## Dine Out Los Angeles - Our Most Delicious Event!



Plans for Dine Out Los Angeles 2008 are already in the works! This year, our 14<sup>th</sup> annual dine out event will take place on April 17, 2008, so get ready to make your reservations! Participating restaurants throughout Los Angeles County will donate 20% or more of their day's proceeds to Aid for AIDS.

Treat friends, family, co-workers, or yourself to a delicious meal, and help us give our clients the assistance they need. We're always on the lookout for new restaurants, so let us know if you have a favorite spot that should be invited to participate! Check out [www.dineoutla.org](http://www.dineoutla.org) for updated information soon.

## AFA Partners With The City Of West Hollywood For World AIDS Day 2007



On Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, Aid For AIDS partnered with the City of West Hollywood for World AIDS Day to commemorate those affected by the disease and to remind everyone that the battle is not over. Angelinos gathered at West Hollywood City Hall for an emotional reception with inspiring speeches from Chuck Stallard, ACT-UP photographer, Tony Braswell, AFA Board member, Reverend Neil Thomas of the Metropolitan Community Church, Councilmember Jeffery Prang, and West Hollywood Mayor John Duran. Inspiring and evocative photographs were displayed on the walls of the City Hall lobby, featuring images of Los Angeles AIDS Activism from 1987-2007.

The evening continued with an annual candlelight vigil down Santa Monica Boulevard along the West Hollywood Memorial Walk, from City Hall to the Metropolitan Community Church. The crowd moved past bronze plaques lining Santa Monica Boulevard that were decorated with beautiful flowers, donated by Michael Niemeyer of Micky's, memorializing those who have passed on.

The Paul Starke Warrior Awards were presented at the Church to nominees from local agencies honoring those who have made major contributions to the HIV/AIDS community. Portions of the national AIDS Quilt lined the walls of the Church. AFA was proud to nominate and honor Tom Pardoe, the director/producer/choreographer of Best In Drag Show, AFA's most important fundraiser. This past year, the show raised

## Aid For AIDS' Volunteer Voice

Happy New Year everyone!

AFA is no stranger to extensive mailing projects, and this holiday season was no exception. Harry Cohen and Lionel Levin, two outstanding volunteers, helped get our Holiday Appeal letters out. The Holiday Appeal is extremely important for increasing the amount of donations to AFA, and volunteers are crucial for completion of all special projects like this one.

Also, we thank our World AIDS Day volunteers, Mic Mendula and Eleanor Lipat-Chesler. They assisted in distributing pamphlets, buttons, and candles prior to the candlelight vigil along Santa Monica Boulevard on Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. Special thanks goes to Michael Niemeyer for his donation towards the beautiful

community. Portions of the national AIDS Quilt lined the walls of the Church. AFA was proud to nominate and honor Tom Pardoe, the director/producer/choreographer of Best In Drag Show, AFA's most important fundraiser. This past year, the show raised over \$340,000 for Aid For AIDS. Through Best In Drag Show, Tom has provided an enormous amount of time leadership to help fund AFA's services. He has been involved with every aspect of the show — and when witnessing Best In Drag Show's magic, his hard work shines through. Photos from West Hollywood's World AIDS Day events can be seen [here](#).



## Spa Day 2007 - Thank You!



On November 8th, fifty spas and salons participated in our 5th annual Spa Day, generously donating 20% of their day's proceeds to Aid For AIDS. This year, Spa Day expanded to 9 national areas, including Northern

California, Southern California, Arizona, Atlanta, Chicago, Southern Florida, New York, Michigan and Virginia. Thank you to everyone who helped make Spa Day 2007 such a success by making an appointment or purchasing a gift certificate, as well as to all our sponsors — Jane Iredale, Spa Magazine, Angeleno, Spa-Addicts, The Atlantian, Orange Blossom Spa, Splendor, Pretty City, HOME Fort Lauderdale, HOME Miami, Riviera Magazine, CS Magazine, and Miami Magazine.

An extra-special thanks goes to Steven Rukhman and Gabriella Philips of Euphoria Face and Body, our West Hollywood neighbors, who presented AFA with a check for \$1,000 during a special ceremony on November 20th. Joel Wilsey, Director of Membership and Events for West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, Tim Sullivan, Treasurer of Aid For AIDS Board of Directors, and the Aid For AIDS Development staff were honored to receive the check — and are extremely grateful for Steven and Gabriella's enthusiasm for the community and loyalty to Aid For AIDS! [www.spaday.org](http://www.spaday.org)

## Making Holidays Brighter, One Toy At A Time



This holiday season, Aid For AIDS coordinated its annual Holiday Toy Drive, benefiting our client's children, as well as children from low-income families served by 10 of our partner agencies throughout Los Angeles County, including Women Alive, AIDS Services Center, Tarzana Treatment Center, Bienestar Hollywood, LA Family Housing, Salvation Army/Alegria House, Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team, and Womens Care East.

American Public Media Group, The Blue Hawaiians, China Bialos, Jose Cedillo, Forest City Residential, La Casa Blue, Luxury Link, and Windermere Real Estate were among those organizations and individuals who donated toys to hundreds of deserving children, from newborns to teenagers. Aid For AIDS was grateful to be able to provide not only the wonderful toys, but a message of hope and joy to the children. The agency wants to thank all those involved.



## Upcoming Sister B-I-N-G-O! February 10th



Join the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence for a BINGO game with a sassy attitude on the second Sunday of the month. Fubar, 7994 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, while Micky's undergoes renovations/repairs. Win a trip or cruise, and many other prizes, while all proceeds benefit Aid For AIDS. Thank you to the Sisters and Interactive Male for their continuous

support — the next Sister BINGO takes place on February 10<sup>th</sup>.

Friday, November 30th. Special thanks goes to Michael Niemeyer for his donation towards the beautiful flowers.

With your help we can continue to provide the best possible services to our clients. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Yesenia Navarro, Special Events Coordinator at ext. 2119 or [y Navarro@aidforaids.net](mailto:y Navarro@aidforaids.net).

## AFA Provides Delicious Holiday Dinners To Clients



Along with our annual Toy Drive, Aid For AIDS was fortunate to provide 238 clients with delicious holiday dinners, complete with a 10-12 pound turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, and gravy. Funded by the Stern family, The James M. Stern Holiday Meals were delivered throughout the month of December, sending a caring and hopeful message to our clients, and allowing them to take part in one of the best parts of the season — the food! Many of our clients chose to share their dinner with friends, and they were delighted to be able to give back to those who have supported them throughout the year.

## A Big Thank You To Gelson's Markets!



Aid For AIDS would like to thank Gelson's Markets for their donation of \$2,500

through their Food For All program. Food For All is a voluntary effort of the food industry. It was created to alleviate hunger and malnutrition by fostering long-term, self-help solutions both in the United States and globally. Gelson's recognizes Aid For AIDS' related mission on the local level. Pictured from left to right, Tim Mahoney, Senior Director of Store Operations, Romel Montero, Store Director of Gelson's West Hollywood, and Terry Goddard II, Aid For AIDS Executive Director.

Connections, AFA's E-Newsletter, is written, edited, and produced by the AFA Communications Office. Although AFA makes every effort to confirm details, it is not responsible for omissions and event dates that change after publication. We value your support and regret any omissions or errors. For more information, contact Editor Alison McCarthy, [amccarthy@aidforaids.net](mailto:amccarthy@aidforaids.net). Aid For AIDS, 8235 Santa Monica Blvd. #200, West Hollywood, CA 90046. [www.aidforaids.net](http://www.aidforaids.net)