

Connections



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& hunger since 1983

Aid For AIDS Community Newsletter

www.aidforaids.net

Aid For AIDS

8235 Santa Monica Blvd. #200
West Hollywood, CA 90046
Volunteers::323-656-1107 ext. 2119

AFA Volunteer Voice

Vikki Krekler,
Special Events Coordinator

Greetings, Volunteers!

Thank you for giving your time to Aid For AIDS (AFA). We have had a busy couple of months, and we are so fortunate to have a terrific team of volunteers who help us out with many projects and events.

Special Thanks

We had a wonderful group of five nursing students (see photo below) who volunteered all day with us in preparation for our *Best and Brightest* party on January 10th. They also came along to the event to help with setup and party coordination. We also had three other great volunteers, **Eric Badgett**, **Chad Clark** and **Wileen Rungsirdacha** who also helped with party coordination that night. We could not have put on such a fun and classy affair without your help. Thank you!

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunity

If you are outgoing and love dining out, we have a fun volunteer opportunity coming up. - *continued on page 2*



Nursing Students volunteer [L to R]: Christina Bhagwat, Racquel Caragao, Amy Nelson, Anna Cedena, and Winston Hauw



"We join The City of West Hollywood and Metropolitan Community Church to send a signal to our community that this tragedy is not over." *Terry Goddard II*
AFA Executive Director

World AIDS Day December 1st

On the evening of December first, a large crowd gathered outside of the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) to join AFA and the City of West Hollywood for the World AIDS Day Candlelight Vigil. After a brief and moving presentation, the vigil moved up Santa Monica Boulevard along the West Hollywood Memorial Walk. The event honored the memory of those lost to AIDS and recognized the collaborations and effort still needed to help locally as well as globally. AFA arranged placement of bouquets and cards beside the names on all the bronze plaques. **Michael Nemeyer**, owner of Micky's, made a donation to cover the fresh flowers. AFA volunteer **Jim Crane** helped clean the plaques with **Vikki Krekler**, and Michael assisted them with placing the flowers.

The program of speakers included AFA Executive Director **Terry Goddard II**, City of West Hollywood Mayor **Abbe Land**, Assembly Member **Paul Koretz**, City of Los Angeles AIDS Coordinator **Stephen Simon**, and Rev. **Neil Thomas**, MCC Church. The vigil ended with a presentation of the West Hollywood Paul Starke Warrior Awards.

Read more about the West Hollywood Memorial Walk benefiting AFA and World AIDS Day at www.aidforaids.net



Dine Out, Fight AIDS

Dine Out on April 27th and Make a Difference in the World!

See Dining Out For Life page 2

Welcome Danny Levy, Development Manager

We are pleased to introduce **Danny Levy**, Development Manager, who joined AFA just in time for our important Spring fundraising event, *Dining Out For Life*. Many of you may already know him. He is well-known in West Hollywood from his integral roles in Los Angeles Pride. As a Christopher Street West Board Member since 2001, Danny was a key player in acquiring sponsorship and expanding community outreach. He also handled LA Pride's marketing and promotion. Danny brings an extensive background in project management, marketing, and special events to AFA at a very exciting time for the agency.



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Volunteer

Be a representative for AFA for our one day fundraising event, *Dining Out For Life*, where, on April 27th, participating restaurants agree to give 20% or more of their day's proceeds to AFA. Restaurant Ambassadors will be responsible for visiting one of our participating restaurants on the day of the event and answer any questions that diners or restaurant staff may have about AFA or *Dining Out For Life* and will collect raffle envelopes. The event is meant to be a fun way to raise funds, so you are encouraged to invite everyone you know to dine at your restaurant that day! And, there is no need to worry because training will be provided.

Please contact me if you would like to become an Ambassador or if you would like more information. vkrekler@aidforaids.net or 323-650-1107, ext. 2119.

Did you move or change your email address? Please let us know - we don't want you to miss any news or events! And, remember to check our website for event updates at www.aidforaids.net

If you would like to receive our in-depth newsletter, *AFA Essentials*, send your mailing address to us at newsletter@aidforaids.net



Dine Out, Fight AIDS

DINING OUT FOR LIFE

On Thursday, April 27th, make sure you dine out at participating *Dining Out For Life* restaurants and your dining dollars will help people impoverished and disabled by HIV/AIDS. Even that coffee and croissant or your quick lunch with co-workers can qualify.

Dining Out For Life is a national one-day fundraising event where participating restaurants contribute a percentage of their day's sales to support AIDS service agencies. In the greater Los Angeles area, this support goes to Aid For AIDS.

Simply dine out to fight AIDS. You don't have to put on a tux or run a marathon to help people. You just have to eat breakfast, lunch, or dinner at a participating restaurant to make a difference. There also is a raffle with wonderful gifts - you can enter on April 27th at a participating restaurant!

Go to www.DiningOutForLife.com or call (800)400-5752 to find out which of your favorite local restaurants are participating. Our list continues to grow. If your favorite place is not listed, ask them to join! Then, on Thursday, April 27th, grab a group of friends or co-workers and go EAT for a good cause. You will give "generous helping" a whole new meaning!

If you want to volunteer for this one-day fundraising event see the fun opportunity in our AFA Volunteer Voice column.

Restaurateurs:

Dining Out For Life is an excellent way to promote your business and show support for the community. Participating restaurants have always experienced loyal patronage from our supporters who appreciate businesses that give back. We have acquired extensive media coverage that drives everyone to our continually updated restaurant list at www.DiningOutForLife.com.

Please join us in this fight. You can see our growing list of media sponsors at www.aidforaids.net under **Dining Out For Life** on page one. If you have any questions, please contact Vikki Krekler, Special Events Coordinator at 323-656-1107 x 2119. Thank you!

[Click here for more details](#)



Board Member Highlight: Tim Sullivan

Tim Sullivan, also known as "Girl Friday" at Best In Drag Show, has served on the AFA Board of Directors since July of 2002. Tim, owner of the delightful Timothy Jay Candles, has been involved with helping the HIV/AIDS community in West Hollywood since 1987. Before becoming a member of the AFA Board, he was in ACT UP – attending peaceful demonstrations, and was involved in many different organizations, events and fundraisers. As Girl Friday for Best In Drag Show, Tim attends the numerous pre-show meetings, helps to plan and organize the event, coordinates the cash donations on show night, and sends thank you gifts following the show. Before moving to California, he was a successful advertising executive in New York. Tim, currently Treasurer of the AFA Board, brings to AFA great insight, understanding and a commitment to make a difference.

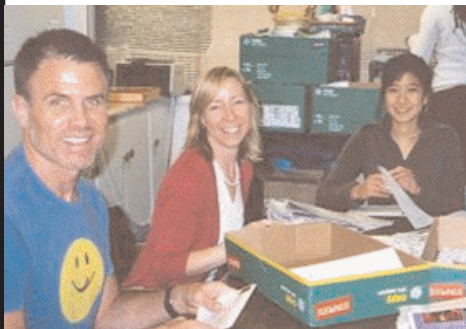
Volunteer Thank You



Volunteer Helena Nguyen

This past winter, many staff and volunteers laughed and chatted while diligently preparing hundreds and hundreds of packets for the

AFA holiday mailings. This annual project is critical for increasing donations to AFA, and volunteers are critical to AFA for the completion of special projects like this. Without this wonderful support it is difficult for staff to complete these extra responsibilities while providing smooth and effective services for our clients – our top priority.



[Above]: Volunteer Jim Crane with AFA staff Vikki Krekler and Michelle Lee

Sister Bingo



Sister Bingo, that outrageous, monthly fund-raiser of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence is held at Micky's of West Hollywood. Every month a major trip is given away to the top winner, thanks to Interactive Male, the founder of the event. All proceeds are donated to AFA by The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. Gift bags are given away to each game winner and many tables are filled with "Bingo regulars." This lively, adult version of Bingo is held on the second Sunday of the month from 3 to 5 PM. If you would like to promote your business with new gift items in the winners' bags, please contact **Rick Goldenstein** of Interactive Male at 323-828-4725. Micky's is located at 8857 Santa Monica Blvd.

Players at the January 2006 Sister Bingo enjoy the game.



A Special Thanks to **Holland Taylor**, star of numerous hit shows including, *Two and a Half Men*. Ms Taylor served as a celebrity judge for *Best In Drag Show* in 2005. It was her first introduction to the show, and she told us she was so moved by AFA's mission and accomplishments that she wanted to do more. In addition to her financial contribution at the show, she sold some unique furniture, custom-made by **James Lasseter**, and donated the sizeable proceeds to AFA.

We are grateful for all your support!

[Click here for Best In Drag Show photos](#)

Best & Brightest of 2005: AFA's "thank you" party- January 19, 2006

Recognition and certificates were presented by Aid For AIDS to a large roster of wonderful volunteers and companies that were very supportive in 2005. Corporate and media awards went to a few extraordinary sponsors from 2005. These awards were presented to Diageo North America, Inc., Modern Luxury, Spa Magazine, **Mary Blackmon** - Founder and CEO of Spa-Addicts.com, **Michelle Gamble** - Publisher of Spa Magazine, **Chris Gialanella** - Publisher of Front Desk Magazine, and **Kevin Leap** - Publisher of Angeleno Magazine.

Our top recognition, the *AFA Best & Brightest Award 2005* was given to two individuals this year: **Victoria O'Young Pergament** - Creative Director of niche studios, and **Tom Pardoe** - Producer, Director, and Choreographer of AFA's biggest fundraiser, Best In Drag Show. Many volunteers were recognized and a number received *Above & Beyond Awards*. Over 90 people attended this fun "thank you" party - graciously hosted at the home of **Brian Schield, Esq.** and **Bryan Hollingshead**. The cocktails were provided by Diageo and the catering was covered by **Nick Costa** of Auxilium Pharmaceuticals.

For a complete list of awards and those recognized at Best & Brightest 2005, see page 4.

2005 Best & Brightest

AFA's Best & Brightest Award 2005

Victoria O'Young Pergament - niche studios
Tom Pardoe - Producer/Director

2005 Friend in the Media Awards

Mary Blackmon- Founder/CEO, SpaAddicts.com
Michelle Gamble- Publisher, Spa Magazine
Chris Gialanella- Publisher, Front Desk Magazine
Kevin Leap- Publisher, Angeleno Magazine

2005 Media Partner of the Year Awards

Modern Luxury Spa Magazine

2005 Corporate Friend Award

Leslie Barclay, Multicultural Marketing/Sales Manager, Diageo

2005 Corporate Partner of the Year

Diageo North America, Inc.

World AIDS Day Speaker Appreciation

Assemblymember Paul Koretz
Mayor Abbe Land
Councilmember Jeffrey Prang
Los Angeles AIDS Coordinator Stephen Simon
Reverend Neil Thomas, MCC Church

West Hollywood Special Recognition

David Giugni Corey Roskin

AFA Community Friend Awards

Albertsons	La Costa Resort & Spa
Brian Schield, Esq.	Luxe Hotel Rodeo Drive
Cheer LA	Mickey's
Darlena Mangiamelle, Roche	Outword
David A. Seiling at Mail Boxes, Etc.	Point De Vue Salon
Donald T. Sterling	Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence
Frontiers	The Abbey
Gelson's	The Graphics Quarter
Interactive Male	Timothy Jay West Hollywood
JPI Studios	

AFA Above and Beyond Awards

Jonathan Aubrey	Antonio Martinez
Craig Coburn	Dana Miller
Jim Crane	Aron Ross
Jimmy Cuomo	Patrick Rush
Jeffrey Drew	Christian Satrustegui
Raphael Ganchegui	Todd Sherry
Rusty Hamrick	Wagner Soares
Daren Janes	Mark Swenson
Janet Kinasian	Michael Wallot
Jason Krich	Tom Welch
Brian Lowe	Eric Yake

AFA Volunteer Recognition

Joey Alfano	Heinz Jacobson
Beverly Blake	Michael LaCorte
BudBregovi	Christian Lawrence
Vincent Castellanos	Lionel Levin
Richard W. Domabyl	Craig Madore
Kevin Farrell	Jeff Myers
David Ferguson	Bridgid O'Donnell
Scott Fowler	Denny Pleimann
Hunter Fox	Danny Schurr
David Gremer	Todd Seabold
Dani Grevia	Gail Slater
Mitch Grobeson	Pete Struwe
Nicholas Hosking	Jonathan Wallace
Greg Howell	Scott Watters



Best & Brightest of 2005
[L to R] 1: Leslie Barclay, Michael LaCorte, Rusty Hamrick, Jim Crane, Christian Satrustegui, Patrick Rush, Tom Pardoe, Jonathan Wallace, Gail Slater, Aron Ross. 2: Brenda Goodman, Tom Pardoe. 3: Victoria O'Young Pergament, Terry Goddard II. 4: Robert D'Amour, Tracey Cumberland, Daniel Neri, Gail Slater. 5: Brenda Goodman, Tony Braswell, Danny Levy, Fred Poston. 6: Victoria O'Young Pergament, Donna Stia, Paul Birchall. 7: Joel Goldman, Janet Choi/KTLA, Brian Schield, Esq. 8: Bryan Hollingshead, Paul Rudnicki, Heinz Jacobson. 9: Steven Bocks, Trent Kirkpatrick, Roy Hamilton, Tim Sullivan. 10: Leslie Barclay, Mary Blackmon.

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[For more photos click here](#)