

Fifth Annual Dance The Night Away Gala



A sold-out crowd gathered for **Cancer Alliance of Help & Hope's (CAHH) Fifth Annual Dance the Night Away Gala**, presented by **Fred Astaire Studio**, at The Breakers Palm Beach.

This exciting and glamorous event, chaired by **Lois Pope** and **Caroline Harless**, featured 13 community leaders who showcased their dance skills to help raise \$1 million for families in need who are dealing with cancer and undergoing chemotherapy or radiation treatments.

Thirteen local non-professional ballroom dancers took private dance lessons from Fred Astaire Studio to prepare for the original dancing event in Palm Beach and compete for *The Lois Pope People's Choice Award*. The audience went wild after each performance, and the celebrity judges applauded their efforts and routines as impressive, inspirational, and entertaining.

Derek Hough, a four-time Emmy Award-winning dance superstar, a beloved judge of *Dancing with the Stars*, and a six-time *Mirrorball Trophy* winner, served as the Master of Ceremonies for the event.

The three celebrity judges for the dancing competition were **Marla Maples**, **Scott Baio**, and **Allison Stockel**. This star-studded lineup determined Cancer Alliance's 2025 *Ballroom Dancer of the Year*. Judges also presented several other awards from different categories, including the *Lois Pope People's Choice Award*. This prestigious award was presented to the dancer who received the most votes by raising the most money before and during the event. The award was named after **Lois Pope**, a prominent philanthropist and community leader known for her generous contributions to important causes both locally and nationally.

The dancers that competed for *The Lois Pope People's Choice Award* included **Bianca Blag**, **Javier Fernandez**, **Holly Hanlon**, **Debra Hoag**, **Cindy Karen**, **Reina Kendall**, **Taniel Koushajian**, **Jennifer Nawrocki**, **Joan Parker**, **Jesus Perez-Mendez**, **Jane Scher**, **Paul Shalhoub**, and **Ellie Siefken Trimarche**.

The CAHH 2025 *Ballroom Dancer of the Year* was **Bianca Blag**. **Cindy Karen** was awarded *The Lois Pope People's Choice Award*, receiving the most votes and raising the most money before and during the event.

During dinner, guests of the *Dance the Night Away Gala* also enjoyed a special performance by Grammy Award-winning jazz artist **Eirinn Abu** and an exquisite dance performance by **Evelyn Treacy** and **Dan Radler**, a highly acclaimed ballroom dancer and DanceSport athlete.

"This was an extraordinary evening brimming with glamour, exhilarating entertainment, and lively dancing," stated **Stanton Collemer**. "We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our participants who dedicated their time and effort amidst their hectic schedules to perfect their routines for this special occasion. Their commitment plays a vital role in helping us raise essential funds for

Cancer Alliance of Help & Hope. This event not only showcased remarkable talent but also exemplified the spirit of our community coming together in solidarity to support those who are bravely battling cancer."

The Honorary Chairs were **Al and Barbara Marulli**. The Presenting Sponsor was **Rose Lambert Matchmaker**.

For more information about Cancer Alliance of Help & Hope visit CAHH.org.

FIRST ROW: Lois Pope and Caroline Harless; Barbara and Al Marulli; Stanton Collemer and Derek Hough; Michael Dixon and Rose Lambert; **SECOND ROW:** Soula Rifkin and Ari Rifkin; Stanislav Hunko, Lois Pope and Cindy Keren; Arlette Gordon and Debbie Goldenhersh; Andrew and Julie Kampf; **THIRD ROW:** Gary and Linda Lachman; Marla Maples, Scott Baio and Allison Stockel; Cindy Keren and Stanislav Hunko; Sheila Buchbinder and Rebecca Doane; Ben Majidi and Melissa Butterworth; **FOURTH ROW:** Cindy Keren and Gary Boxer; Michele Worth and Krista Gustafson; Jennifer Nawrocki and Dmitriy Fedchenko; Nancy Stone and Gregory D'Elia; Joe Pacetti and Suebelle Robbins. PHOTOS: CAPEHART

