

GOLDEN EYE

Reflective in the event's name, the **Cox Science Center and Aquarium (CSCA)** hosted a luminous evening at its *Golden Eye* where more than 500 attendees previewed the stellar findings from the James Webb telescope. Before listening to the evening's keynote speaker and NASA Scientist, **Dr. Alexandra Lockwood**, dedicated supporters and benefactors of CSCA heard heartfelt remarks from Co-Chairwomen **Kathleen Crampton, Katharine Eyre** and **Laing Rogers**. The Chairwomen also spoke on behalf of Honorary Chairwomen **Wendy Bingham Cox, Christine Stiller, Frances Fisher, Mary Freitas, Elizabeth Gordon** and **Caroline Rafferty**.

Kate Arrizza, CEO and President of the Cox Science Center took the opportunity to acknowledge friends in the audience who have inspired her such as former astronaut, test pilot, retired Navy captain and aerospace engineer, **Bob Crippen**. Crippen was one of the crewmen to operate the STS-1 and its first orbital spaceflight of NASA's Space Shuttle program. By his example, he's influenced leaders like Arrizza, NASA'S Dr. Lockwood and the generous donors and lifelong supporters of the Center.

To that end, guests left a little bit smarter as Dr. Lockwood shared stellar graphics, imagery and findings from the James Webb telescope revealing curated images of a hidden universe. Fascinating images using infra-red technology showed stars shrouded in clouds of dust, one million miles into the cosmos, which captured the first light from the earliest galaxies ever formed. An informal Q&A session followed to quench the guests' curiosity and interest about the galaxies found in our solar system.

Formerly the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, the renamed Cox Science Center and Aquarium's current indoor/outdoor venue features more than 100 hands-on educational exhibits, a 10,000-gallon fresh and saltwater aquarium, digital planetarium, Pre-K focused "Discovery Center," 18-hole conservation-themed Mini-Golf Course and quarter-mile-long outdoor science trail. One of its celebrated displays includes *Journey Through the Human Brain*, a permanent exhibit that features the most advanced neuroscience research in the world. The Cox Amphitheater hosts daily live science shows, seasonal laser shows, and special event programming. The Center took on a new name at the end of 2021 when leadership announced a \$20 million gift from Palm Beachers, **Howard and Wendy Cox**, to launch a transformative capital campaign — with a target completion date of 2025.

As of 2022, Cox Science Center and Aquarium earned the highest *Candid Platinum Seal of Transparency* rating on GuideStar in tandem with its perfect Charity Navigator score. The *Platinum Seal of Transparency* indicates that the Center shares clear and important information with the public about its goals, strategies, capabilities, achievements and progress indicators that highlight how it's advancing its mission.

For more information visit coxsciencecenter.org.



FIRST ROW: Katharine Eyre, Laing Rogers and Kathleen Crampton; **Kate Arrizza** and **Dr. Alexandra Lockwood**; **SECOND ROW:** **Lew Crampton** with **Lorna** and **Mayor Keith James**; **Wendy** and **Howard Cox**; **THIRD ROW:** **Christine** and **Bob Stiller**; **Lynn Connelly** and **Stephen Ross**; **Heidi** and **John Niblack**; **FOURTH ROW:** **Mary** and **Mark Freitas**; **David Nicholson** with **Lee Anne** and **Joe LaBanz**. PHOTOS: CAPEHART