

USC Institute of Urology Gala: Changing Lives and Creating Cures

USC Institute of Urology, one of the nation's top-ranked urology programs, honored Derrick Hall, president and CEO of the Arizona Diamondbacks major league baseball franchise, with the inaugural Louis Zamperini Courage Award at its annual "Changing Lives and Creating Cures" gala.

Hall, a native of Los Angeles and a prostate cancer survivor and advocate, received the award at the annual event, held Nov. 20 at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel in Beverly Hills.

"Derrick Hall is a well-known leader on and off the baseball field," said Inderbir S. Gill, executive director of the USC Institute of Urology. "He faced his greatest personal challenge when he was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2011, just as his team was battling for a division title.

"When he immediately went public, encouraging other men to get tested after age 40, he showcased the courage and resilience that exemplifies the spirit of Louis Zamperini and this award."

Now cancer-free, Hall has become a tireless advocate of cancer-fighting charities including his recently formed Derrick Hall Pro-State Foundation, created to support patients and families battling prostate cancer.

The evening's entertainment showcased comedian Jay Leno and nine-time Grammy winner Sheryl Crow. Actor and comedian Joe Piscopo served as emcee.

The event hosts included USC President



Singer-songwriter Sheryl Crow performs at the Institute of Urology's event honoring cancer survivor and advocate Derrick Hall. *Photo by Steve Cohn*

C. L. Max Nikias; Carmen A. Puliafito, dean of the Keck School of Medicine of USC; Jeff Small, president and COO of DreamWorks Studios; and Gill. The evening's presenting sponsors, Tom and Holly Gores with Platinum Equity, were joined by Tina and Rick Caruso and Randy and Ken Kendrick as honorary co-chairs.

Named for World War II P.O.W. survivor, Olympic athlete, USC alumnus and prostate cancer patient of the USC Institute of Urology, the Louis Zamperini Courage Award embodies the spirit of this hero who faced life's toughest tests and challenges and showcased the courage that survivors need. Zamperini is the subject of

the best-selling book, "Unbroken" by Laura Hillenbrand and major motion picture of the same name premiering next month and directed by another example of courage in the face of cancer, Angelina Jolie.

The USC Institute of Urology annual gala event draws more than 500 leading businesspeople, philanthropists, entertainment industry executives, medical and health care professionals, celebrities, media and other VIPs from Los Angeles and around the country to raise awareness and funds for the cancer-fighting robotic and open surgery treatments, research efforts and world-class programs for men's and women's pelvic health issues.



*In a single night,
the gala raised
\$2 million for the
institute's world-
class healthcare
programs and
research.*



1. (left to right) Carmen Puliafito, dean of the Keck School of Medicine; USC President C. L. Max Nikias; First Lady Niki C. Nikias; and Dr. Inderbir Gill, founding executive director of the Institute of Urology

2. Jay Leno, former host of *The Tonight Show*, warmed up the crowd with a comedic monologue.

3. Derrick Hall, president and CEO of the Arizona Diamondbacks, accepts the Louis Zamperini Courage Award from Dean Puliafito.

The award is named for the venerable World War II veteran, Olympian, and USC alumnus, and honors Hall's tireless support of patients and families battling prostate cancer.

4. Event emcee Joe Piscopo shares a moment onstage with Joe Torre, former manager of the New York Yankees and the Los Angeles Dodgers.

5. (left to right) Dr. Gary Lieskovsky, Donald G. Skinner Chair in Urology; Dean Puliafito; Dr. Gill; Derrick Hall; Luke Zamperini, son

of the late Louis Zamperini; and Jeff Small, president and COO of DreamWorks Studios

6. Sheryl Crow performed several of her award-winning hits.

7. USC Trustee Rick Caruso, along with his wife Tina, served as honorary co-chairs for the evening.

8. President Nikias and actor Beau Bridges

Photos by Steve Cohn