What do the IMF and Elton John have in common?

Fifteen year-old art prodigy Jeffrey Hanson.

Read the inspiring story on page 3

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Dear IMF Supporters,

This is our third issue of Making Miracles, and I’m so proud of what this publication has become. Like every publication, service, and program created by the IMF, this magazine is inspired by you. It also sustains itself because of your continued dedication to the myeloma community.

Our world is in the midst of great uncertainty and we are presented with challenges we haven’t faced before. But as members of the myeloma community, we already know that enormous challenges can oftentimes lead to refreshing clarity. Challenges prompt us to examine who we are and what’s important.

What is most important to the IMF is the community we create through our commitment to myeloma research, education, support, and advocacy. Our community is about family, about friends, about communication, and about providing the best that we can for one another.

Our Member Fundraisers celebrate commitment in ways that defy mere words. So let me give you just a couple of numbers: In 2008, more than 40 member events raised over $358,000 for IMF programs and services. Just as important, these events generated awareness for our cause and educated their attendees. As I write this letter, nine Member Fundraisers have already taken place in 2009, with many more in the pipeline. Never have these wonderful events been more critical than right now.

If you have recently spearheaded a Member Fundraiser, attended a Member Fundraiser, or donated to the IMF—thank you. It’s because of you that we are able to continue providing our vital programs and services during this time of uncertainty, and because of you that we will continue to face our challenges head on.

Please continue supporting—and creating—our IMF community as only you can.

With my deepest appreciation for every miracle,

Heather Cooper Ortner
Vice President of Development

IMF Staff

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IMF Board of Directors

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How did a tumor named Clod lead a teenager to develop a life mission dedicated “to helping create kinder communities, more compassionate nations, and a better world for all?” and how did it lead him to the IMF?

Allow us to explain.

Jeffrey Owen Hanson, now 15 years old, was born with neurofibromatosis, a genetic disorder that causes tumors on the central nervous system throughout life. In the fall of 2005, Jeff was preparing to receive chemotherapy for a tumor on his optic nerve that was greatly affecting his vision.

“I nicknamed it ‘Clod’ because it sounded dumb and nerdy, and seemed perfect for a brain tumor,” Jeff says. “I wanted to laugh at this tumor, not be afraid of it.”

But Clod continued to cause trouble and Jeff’s vision continued to fail. It was time to hit Clod with radiation. Once again, Jeff showed his panache for life. He greeted his 28th and final round of radiation by wearing a tuxedo for the occasion.

Recovery from his battle with Clod meant Jeff had to remain relatively isolated. But as a driven teenager, he also wanted to stay busy. He started painting in earnest, creating work on small note cards.

“‘No one is perfect. You need to openly attack your problem so that you can joyfully move on.’”
– Jeffrey Owen Hanson

“I’ve always liked painting,” Jeff says. “And then it became this fun thing that could cheer me up.” The painting continued, and continued. When friends and family would come visit they’d paint with him.

This past December Jeff created his first-ever calendar. Titled Generous HeART, the calendar features 12 reprints of Jeff’s original art with its proceeds to benefit 12 different charities, including the IMF, all hand-selected by him.

It was while choosing those charities that Jeff’s thoughts turned to Karl Vollstedt, a close family friend who was diagnosed with multiple myeloma in 2004. Jeff knew the IMF was vitally important to Karl; it therefore became important to him.

In addition to the calendar, Jeff has also created a special series of note cards entitled A Cure For Karl. They feature six of Jeff’s prints. Because of Jeff’s generosity, all proceeds benefit the IMF.

“I am so honored that Jeff has chosen to support the IMF with his extraordinary artwork,” Karl says. “Jeff is a fantastic person and friend. He’s also an excellent example of people who ‘learn to live’ with medical diagnoses that will affect their lives – every day.”

Jeff’s charitable contributions started back in 2006 when he created Jeff’s Bistro, a modern-day take on the driveway lemonade stand. Jeff’s Bistro was initially conceived in order to help Jeff buy a special chair for his bedroom. Jeff sold beverages, his mother’s baked goods. . . and the original note cards amassed from his recovery time spent painting. Neighbors immediately sensed that Jeff’s artwork was special.

Jeff’s Bistro raised $15,000 that summer – far, far more than the price of Jeff’s coveted bedroom chair. He donated his proceeds to the Children’s Tumor Foundation.

When summer was over, demand for Jeff’s art didn’t fade. His parents’ unfinished basement in Overland Park, Kansas officially became Jeff’s studio. And after his battle with Clod, Jeff’s vision had stabilized to 20/150. With glasses, he can now read the big “E” on the eye chart.

“My health is perfect,” Jeff says.

Jeff acknowledges that his visual impairment has affected his artistic aesthetic. “My art has large, colorful shapes with blurred (continues on page 9
My Story:
Giving Hearts on Valentine’s Day
by Lisa Mehalick

My mom was diagnosed with myeloma in 2005 at age 51. We were lost. But when I found the IMF I felt an immediate sense of comfort.

My fundraising for the IMF started in small ways. For our kids’ birthdays, we always ask people to donate to the IMF in lieu of toys. Over four years we have raised approximately $4,000 in this way. My children are so impressed by that number. It’s taught them that little steps can turn into something really big, and that they play a part in changing people’s lives.

This past November, I decided I wanted to host a bigger event. But I was nervous. I had never organized a fundraising event and I have five small children! Three things made it easier for me: First, I knew God would hold my hand. Second, I have such sincere gratitude and appreciation for the IMF. And last, but certainly not least, I knew my love and admiration for my mom would make the event a success.

I started brainstorming and thinking about how our society in general has become a lot more casual. People just don’t want the pressure and expense of fancy dressing. That’s how my Jeans and Jewels theme took hold. Our guests could feel comfortable in their jeans but also feel special with some favorite jewelry that they typically save for special occasions – which this was!

I chose Saturday, February 14th for the Jeans and Jewels event. Valentine’s Day. What better day to show love and generosity? It also happens to be the day my mother was diagnosed back in 2005.

I reserved a space for the party at our community center in Treesdale, PA. I sent out invitations a month in advance. Attendance would be $50 per person. I planned for cocktails (including a cash bar), food (some donated, some cooked by me) and Valentine’s-themed desserts. I secured a great local band. My husband Dave helped me with silent and live auctions. We had amazing items – thanks to the generosity of friends, family members and local businesses – including an autographed Ben Roethlisberger football, jersey, and hat.

“Everybody’s cutting back on their spending. But the IMF can’t be part of the cutbacks.”

Looking back, I guess I didn’t know what to expect. But here’s what happened: 115 guests arrived in their favorite jeans and jewelry. Most of them had never heard of multiple myeloma or the IMF before, but it didn’t matter. Their hearts were open to us. When the band played Mariah Carey’s song “Hero” and dedicated it to our local IMF support group, there really was not a dry eye in the room.

That night, Jeans and Jewels made $13,800 for the IMF.

Our economy may be in a rough spot. Everybody’s cutting back on their spending. But the IMF can’t be part of the cutbacks. Now more than ever I feel a sense of urgency to support the IMF in finding a cure. I want my family to be part of the fuel that gets them there. I feel that if we all do something, we are one step closer. I am so thankful to everyone who is willing to help.

I am also thankful for my mom, and the courage and strength she shows in dealing with myeloma. She also makes planning a fundraiser a lot of fun! I thought I should give her the space for some final thoughts. Here they are:

“My daughter and I have been battling this disease together. And by the grace of God, we are doing well. Lisa put her heart and soul into this event to raise money for the IMF and to bring us closer to a cure. It was a huge success, and I can’t wait to help my daughter again next year!”

I can’t wait either, Mom.
A Night Around the World

After her stem cell transplant in December, 2006, Kathy Bertino was browsing the IMF’s web site, reading about ways she could help raise money for myeloma research. She came upon the suggestion of a wine tasting. She had visions of a small, casual event at her Pennsylvania home.

Her wine-loving friends thought bigger. They formed the “Friends of Kathy Bertino Committee” and organized a large wine tasting in June, 2007. The event was a big success, inspiring the committee to then think even bigger.

On September 26, 2008, they hosted Where In The World Is Kathy Bertino?, an evening of food and drink from around the world. Guests trotted the globe by sampling five featured wines (all generously donated) from five countries around the world, thematically paired with food provided by J. Cabot. Guests were also treated to 2008 Reunion Ale, created by SB Imports with Bison Brewing in honor of another friend who had recently lost her battle with myeloma.

IMF Board Member Michael Scott spoke at the event. He was joined by many of Kathy’s fellow Philadelphia Multiple Myeloma Networking Group members. “It’s through the IMF that I found my support group,” Kathy says. “The IMF website was where I did research when I was diagnosed, and I have used the strength of the IMF’s expertise ever since.”

The strength of Kathy’s family and friendships are also evident. “My children, and the children of all the committee members, volunteered for the event,” she says. “And there were friends who I had not seen in several years.”

In the end, 85 guests raised $7,990 in support of IMF research. With so much support and dedication everywhere she looked, Kathy could only reach one conclusion: “It was a great night.”

Walking The Walk

Barb Pytlik began her Niagara Falls, NY Memorial Walk fundraiser five years ago in memory of her mother. As the years have progressed, so too has the event.

In May 2008, Barb’s brother-in-law was diagnosed with myeloma. She decided that the Memorial Walk’s future proceeds would go to the IMF. “My mom and the rest of my family would want the money to go to helping find a cure for a disease most have never heard of,” Barb explains. “That way you can actually make a difference.”

The Memorial Walk has always been more than just “a walk,” but the September 28, 2008 event in Whirlpool State Park was much, much more. Two hundred people enjoyed an array of food, as well as an array of fun – face painting, a bounce house, and a live band, Crash Cadillac, whose members have generously donated their talents each year. The event also featured a raffle and a silent auction, including Buffalo Sabre tickets, a wine refrigerator filled with wine, and an old-fashioned popcorn maker.

As for the walk itself: “Despite some rain, it was perfect,” Barb reports. Set along the beautiful Niagara Gorge, “You can just feel the love and hope in the air.” Walkers are encouraged to find sponsors for the cause; the top three fundraisers received special prizes.

The 2008 Memorial Walk raised $8,920 for the IMF. Barb is already planning for a bigger and better 2009 event. “My brother-in-law is a great guy,” she says. “And I have promised him this event will not end until a cure for myeloma is found.”

Salon Supports the IMF

“Myeloma is a cause that is truly near and dear,” says Kerri Marioni, the owner of Salon 926, a hair and spa services salon in Wilmington, Delaware. It has been, ever since her father was diagnosed with the disease.

For the second straight September, Kerri has combined her business success with her passion for the cause by donating a percentage of Salon 926’s total monthly revenue in support of the IMF’s programs and services. She raises awareness by sending email alerts to her regular clients, advertising in local newspapers, hanging banners, and creating special signage for the salon. Throughout the month, the salon also offers special product sales and raffles off “a day of beauty” basket. In September, 2008, Salon 926 raised $1,700 for the IMF.

For two years in a row now, Kerri’s fundraiser has reminded her how many people are touched by myeloma. “Throughout my father’s journey, my brother and I met so many great and influential people through the IMF. They made our experience with myeloma less scary.”

(continues on page 6)
IMF Member Inspires Others

IMF member Chris Hollyer never met a stranger. He made instant connections with everyone around him. He also touched the lives of many people he would never meet.

In 2005, when the Multiple Myeloma Association listserv suddenly found itself without a list owner, Chris agreed to take it over so it would survive. The listserv is a community of myeloma patients, caregivers, and others from all over the world who share information, resources, and support via email.

Through this listserv and his participation in the Association of Cancer Online Resources listserv, Chris, who lived in New Zealand, reached literally thousands of patients throughout the world. His vast knowledge of myeloma and its treatments, his kindness, his energy, and his incredible sense of humor allowed him to help many patients and caregivers. He never once complained about his own situation. He only sought to help others.

Chris died suddenly of a heart attack in September of 2006. The outpouring of both admiration and grief from members of both listservs was overwhelming. Everyone felt a strong kinship with Chris that transcended normal email correspondence.

IMF Member Beth Morgan has taken over the listserv and continues to run it. (Contact Beth via http://lists.mmsupport.net/mailman/listinfo/MMA.) But listserv members all around the world couldn’t forget Chris, and they wanted to find a way to thank and honor him for his commitment to helping myeloma patients. One couple, in particular, decided to put their words into action.

Kim and Rob Bradford, who are successfully battling Rob’s myeloma, decided they wanted to support a Brian D. Novis Research Grant in Chris’ honor. They raised the necessary funds through their 2nd and 3rd Annual Coach Rob Charity Golf and Benefit Bash.

In December, 2008, Kim and Rob Bradford’s efforts culminated in the presentation of a Brian D. Novis Junior Grant to Dr. Karin Vanderkerken. With this funding in Chris Hollyer’s honor, Dr. Vanderkerken continues her project, Targeting Multiple Myeloma with Nanobodies: Study in the 5TMM Model.

Like all of our grant recipients, Dr. Vanderkerken’s research pursuits will lead to improved quality of life for myeloma patients and families everywhere — including Chris Hollyer’s listserv friends all around the world.

To discuss ideas you can put into action in your community, please call Suzanne Battaglia at 800-452-CURE (2873) or email her at sbattaglia@myeloma.org.

eBay for the IMF

Do you have great stuff in the garage that you just don’t know what to do with? How about those gifts you got over the holidays, but can’t use? Help the IMF by donating your goods to us.

The IMF is excited to announce our new fundraising program in partnership with the eBay/MissionFish Giving Works program. When you donate valuable items to the IMF, we will auction them on eBay and use the proceeds to support the IMF’s vital programs and services.

Please join us by donating the following items:

- Antiques and Collectibles
- Autographed Collectables
- Coins & Stamps
- Designer Apparel and Accessories
- Electronics (small only)
- Jewelry & Watches
- Movie Memorabilia
- Musical Instruments
- Pins & Political Buttons
- Sports Equipment
- TV Memorabilia
- Vintage Collectibles, Toys or Games

We will send you an in-kind receipt for donations with estimated values over $250.

To begin the process of your donation, please email Leslie Lauten at llauten@myeloma.org. (Please do not send unapproved items! Contact Leslie before sending.)

Did You Know?

- You can find virtually everything you are looking for on eBay and help the IMF at the same time:
  1. Visit www.missionfish.org
  2. In the box labeled “Find participating nonprofits,” enter “IMF.”

There you will find all the eBay auction listings that benefit the IMF!

- You can also support the IMF when you sell on eBay. Through this same site, you can designate the IMF to receive a percentage (from 10%-100%) of your final sale price.

- You can directly donate money to the IMF quickly and easily through PayPal even if you don’t have anything to buy or sell, by going to the IMF page at www.missionfish.org.

Fly a Virtual Kite & Gain a Donation for the IMF

Celgene has created Multiple Expressions, a website where patients and caregivers can create a “kite for a cause” and post expressions of support for friends and loved ones with multiple myeloma. When you create a virtual kite, Celgene will make a donation to the IMF. Go to multipleexpressions.com to add your kite and help the IMF.
Veterans Against Myeloma: A Powerful Work-In-Progress

For Jerry Walton, it started with a routine blood test. Four years later, he is overseeing a brand-new enterprise: Veterans Against Myeloma.

Jerry was diagnosed with smoldering myeloma in 2006, after his diligent general practitioner noticed something amiss with Jerry’s blood work. A 33-year Navy veteran, Jerry was in the midst of a second career as a math teacher in Chesapeake, Virginia.

An Internet search brought Jerry to the IMF’s web site. In April 2007 he was sitting at a dinner table in Houston, Texas, enjoying conversation with the North Texas myeloma support group, during one of the IMF’s flagship Patient & Family Seminars.

“I felt the warmth and the sense of camaraderie,” Jerry remembers. Soon after, the IMF helped him start a new group in southeastern Virginia. It was up and running by August 2007. The IMF’s Myeloma Mobile came through town as their kick-off event.

It was wonderful, but it wasn’t enough. “I kept thinking, okay, but I need to do something about fundraising too,” Jerry says. “So what am I going to do?”

He thought about his fellow support group member Bob Brunner, also a Navy veteran, who was already using his passion for running as a way to raise money. An enthusiastic hiker, Jerry hit upon a clever idea: supporters could donate a penny for each foot he climbed.

When Jerry called Suzanne Battaglia, IMF Director of Member Events, he was thinking about an umbrella myeloma fundraising group for Navy veterans – the core myeloma community he knew due to his geographic location. But then Jerry and Suzanne started talking about their parents; Suzanne’s mother was a Marine; Jerry’s father was an Army Paratrooper. They thought: Why limit it to the Navy?

The Hope Society Sustained Giving Program
With small, easy steps, you can make a huge impact on the continuation of the IMF’s mission. Hope Society members make simple, secure, recurring contributions to help maintain the level of quality that you expect from our programs and services.

You tell us how much and how often
Your monthly or quarterly gift will automatically be charged and you will be at the interval and amount that you choose. Each January, we will send you a statement of all your contributions for the previous year.

Benefits of Membership
Becoming a recurring donor means knowing that the IMF is getting the most out of your contribution by cutting the cost of paper and postage.

In addition, by joining The Hope Society, you will receive:

✓ Ribbon of Hope pin
✓ Annual statements
✓ IMF Friends’ Program benefits for your annual giving level
✓ Recognition in future issues of Making Miracles

And, members at the Friends’ Circle level or higher also receive:

✓ Periodic email updates from some of myeloma’s most prominent doctors and researchers.

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<td>$1,251 – $2,499 Quarterly</td>
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For more information program benefits, or to find out how you can join The Hope Society and set up your recurring gift, contact Randi Liberman at 818.487.7455 or at rliberman@myeloma.org
Why People Give

There are many reasons people make charitable gifts to the IMF. A person who has a hefty tax liability may make a year-end gift to ease their tax burden. Another person may decide to make a bequest when they consider their own legacy. Yet another person may be influenced to give by a friend or family member. And still someone else may give out of a sense of duty.

But the overwhelming reason people provide financial support for the IMF is because they believe in what we are doing and want to help us fulfill our mission: improving the quality of life of myeloma patients while working toward prevention and a cure. People give to underwrite our cause.

This is especially true for IMF donors who make planned gifts. Such gifts involve estate assets and often include legal documents. They can be made during life or deferred until a later time. They can be used to provide funds supporting any of our programs, services or research. Such gifts are not made lightly; they require thoughtful planning and sound rationale.

We are very proud of all the good things that are happening at the IMF and always enjoy the opportunity to sit down and talk with our members. We are proud to open our annual report and show the results of good planning, wise stewardship, and solid leadership. We enjoy describing our vision for the future of the IMF and the global myeloma community.

Chances are you have attended one or more of our empowering Patient & Family Seminars and Regional Community Workshops, tapped into our vast publications library, relied upon our toll-free hotline, visited our comprehensive web site, or utilized many of our other services. But when thinking about supporting us with a will bequest or other planned gift, we understand that there may be other aspects of the IMF that you would like to learn more about.

Heather Cooper Ortner, our Vice President of Development, is always available to you. She will answer your questions and provide an annual report and other informative literature. And then – during that conversation or at a later time – if you want to discuss how you might join us in supporting our mission through a planned gift, she can explain the various options and the benefits of joining the Brian D. Novis Legacy Society, a recognition program for individuals who include IMF in their long-term estate plans.

To talk with Heather, or to obtain a copy of our most recent annual report and other literature about the IMF, please call us at 800-452-CURE (2873). You can also learn more about the IMF by visiting our web site: www.myeloma.org.

### Upcoming Member Events

- **May 31, 2009** 3rd Annual “Afternoon Tea” – Washington, DC
  Contact Carol Klein at carol60klein@verizon.net

- **June 6, 2009** 2nd Annual Carolyn Czerkies Charity Golf Outing –
  Yorkville, IL – Contact Craig Czerkies at 630-721-0557

- **June 6, 2009** The Julie Smudz 5K Memorial Run – Delaware, OH
  Donate online at www.myeloma.org

- **June 20, 2009** Schirinzi Golf Tournament – Prato, ITALY
  Contact Vittorio Schirinzi at vschirinzi@tin.it

- **July 12, 2009** 8th Annual Multiple Musicians Against Multiple Myeloma
  – Long Island, NY – Contact Naomi Margolin at nmargolin@aol.com

- **July 18, 2009** WAMP Swim-A-Thon – West Hartford, CT
  Contact Liz Stafford at liz.stafford@gmail.com

- **Sept 27, 2009** Pytluk Memorial Walk – New York
  Contact Barb Pytluk at barb3@hotmail.com

- **Nov 7, 2009** 3rd Annual Comedy Celebration – Wilshire Ebell Theatre
  and Club, Los Angeles CA – Contact Heather Cooper Ortner, Vice President
  of Development at hortner@myeloma.org or (800) 452-2873

### The Great Cell Phone Drive

Put your old cell phone to good use!

Donate your old cell phone and become part of finding the cure. The IMF has partnered with a cell phone recycling organization that makes a donation for every cell phone we turn in. Current cell phone models are worth up to $20 each. Many older models are worth $1 to $10.

You can help the IMF continue its research and programs. You can help our environment. You can provide cell phones to underserved communities. And it’s as easy as sending us your old cell phones. For more information about how to turn your old cell phone into a contribution (or how to set up an IMF collection program at your business or school), contact Kemo Lee at 800-452-CURE (2873) or KLee@myeloma.org.
Jeffrey Owen Hanson – continued from page 5

margins,” he says. “I see things best in high contrast, and my art reflects this. I do not see straight, sharp lines. I really cannot draw or paint anything concrete. You will not find me at the State Fair sketching caricatures.”

Where you will find Jeff is the halls of Kansas State School for the Blind, where he is currently a freshman. You will also find Jeff meeting with potential clients and buyers, and sometimes even hobnobbing backstage with music legend Sir Elton John.

Jeff met Elton John in October 2007 through Make-A-Wish Foundation. After the pop superstar’s concert, the two shared thoughts with each other about their philanthropic goals. They found they had a lot in common, and have supported each other’s work ever since. In late 2008, Jeff gifted 12 of his original canvases to the Elton John AIDS Foundation Baphumelele Children’s Home in Khayelitsha, South Africa.

Just as the IMF encourages its members to live their lives to the fullest, Jeff continues to live his the very same way. In additional to his enormous charitable donations, Jeff now also sells his work commercially to private clients. “It allows me to invest in my future,” he says.

But that future will always include a devotion to philanthropy, and using his talent – found through adversity – to support the people he loves and causes that matter, like the IMF.

With the same charm that drove him to name his tumor Clod and attend radiation in a tuxedo, Jeff continues to view all of life’s obstacles in a positive light: “Take the problem you have, be open to others about it, and use it to your advantage,” he advises. “No one is perfect. You need to openly attack your problem so that you can joyfully move on.”

“Keep your eyes open for the ‘ungiven,’” he says. “Art is around us everywhere.”

To purchase Jeffrey Owen Hanson’s inspirational work on behalf of the IMF, please visit our web site: www.myeloma.org. More information about Jeff and his work is also available at www.jeffreyowenhanson.com.

VAM – Jerry Walton – continued from page 6

“And so Veteran’s Against Myeloma was born out of that moment,” Jerry says.

“My vision wasn’t much beyond the local horizon, but Suzanne saw bigger,” Jerry continues. “It inspired me to see bigger too.”

With IMF guidance, Jerry developed an IMF member web page that links to the IMF’s main web site. The Veterans Against Myeloma (VAM) page serves as an umbrella for its members’ fundraisers and as a way to share their stories. Though the site’s launch is not even yet “official,” enthusiasm for the group is already spreading. Military veterans have already found and contacted them, and the IMF’s Rhode Island and Philadelphia support groups have been in touch about partnering with VAM events.

Fundraising is a vitally important vehicle for direct support of education and research. Working with the IMF has also shown Jerry that fundraising can also serve as powerful awareness and advocacy tools, and provide key opportunities to educate the community.

“I’d like VAM to be a way for people to find the IMF, people who might not be aware of its support system otherwise,” he says. “The IMF has made such a difference for me, and it will for others too.”

We welcome you to visit Veterans Against Myeloma at www.vam.myeloma.org. To learn more about creating your own member web page through the IMF web site, please contact Suzanne Battaglia at SBattalgia@myeloma.org or 800-452-CURE (2873).
On Saturday, November 15, 2008, more than 1,100 guests congregated at Los Angeles’ historic and elegant Wilshire Ebell Theatre & Club for the IMF’s 2nd Annual Comedy Celebration benefiting the Peter Boyle Memorial Fund. The event raised over $630,000 in support of the IMF’s cutting-edge research programs.

The evening began on the red carpet where reporters camped out to speak with the celebration’s star-studded performers. *Entertainment Tonight* and *Extra* cameras rolled as Ray Romano, the night’s host, spoke fondly of Peter Boyle, his co-star from *Everybody Loves Raymond*.

At the cocktail party before the show, guests mingled while bidding on the items in the silent auction, including a custom alligator-covered guitar autographed by Keith Richards of the Rolling Stones.

At the close of the auction, the guests filed into the theater for the main event, a comedy show hosted by Ray Romano and featuring appearances by Jeff Garlin, Patricia Heaton, Kevin James, Robert Klein, and Doris Roberts, with a special musical performance by Dan Aykroyd and Jim Belushi as The Blues Brothers with The Sacred Hearts.

Leslie Moonves, President & CEO of the CBS Corporation, introduced the evening by professing his own affection for Peter Boyle, then passing the microphone to Susie Novis, IMF President, and Dr. Brian Durie, Chairman of the Board. Susie and Dr. Durie also introduced a short video that updated the audience on the progress being made with Bank On A Cure® and other research programs, with the support of the Peter Boyle Memorial Fund.

Ted Danson, noted actor and conservationist, spoke eloquently about the connection between environmental pollutants, the effects on sea life, and myeloma as he introduced a video by Hardy Jones. “To celebrate the life of Peter Boyle to raise money and awareness tonight is a great joy to me,” Danson told the audience.

And then, the heart of the show: Ray Romano made the audience laugh throughout, sharing stories about his family, the price of fame, and the pitfalls of having a very distinctive voice. Jeff Garlin and Kevin James both brought the house down with hilarious...
sets while Patricia Heaton and Doris Roberts shared their favorite memories of Peter. And after a series of funny political observations, Robert Klein declared, “I knew Peter for 38 years. He was a joyful guy. I spent a lot of time with him at the end of his life, and it would be nice to know what the hell got him, so it doesn’t get others.” He concluded his time on stage by playing an impressive version of *Ode To Joy* on his harmonica.

But the harmonica playing didn’t end there. As The Blues Brothers, Dan Aykroyd and Jim Belushi tore up the stage with The Sacred Hearts, treating the audience to a set of rousing blues standards. By the time they were done, the sold-out theater was on its feet.

Lorraine Alterman Boyle, Peter’s wife, with her daughters Lucy and Amy, closed the performances by graciously thanking the audience for joining them in celebrating Peter by supporting the IMF research.

A VIP champagne and dessert reception served as the evening’s perfect coda to a great celebration of a well-lived life.
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