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(from left) Angus Mitchell, Kathy Buckley, Fran Drescher, Natasha Bedingfield, Marie Osmond, John Paul DeJoria, Kristin Bauer, Winn Claybaugh

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Paul Mitchell Schools Raise \$2.5 Million for Charity

Gala Celebration Features Betty White, Marie Osmond, Fran Drescher, Kathy Buckley, Kristin Bauer, and Natasha Bedingfield

(BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. – May 7, 2012) – Glittering with gorgeous gowns and glamorous hairdos, the legendary Beverly Hilton, home of the Golden Globe Awards, rolled out the red carpet for the Paul Mitchell Schools' 9th annual FUNraising Gala. Each year, students and staff from the nationwide network's 100 cosmetology schools spend three months raising money for selected charities. Raising \$5–10 at a time with grassroots activities like cut-a-thons, hair shows, car washes, and casual days, the schools topped the \$2.5 million mark this year, bringing their nine-year total to more than \$8.5 million.

Hosted by Paul Mitchell Schools Dean and Cofounder **Winn Claybaugh** and singer/performer **Marie Osmond**, with Paul Mitchell Co-owners **John Paul DeJoria** and **Angus Mitchell**, the Gala included a galaxy of superstars representing their charities.

Along with the schools' nonprofit Andrew Gomez Dream Foundation, this year's partners included **Betty White** (Morris Animal Foundation), **Marie Osmond** (Children's Miracle Network Hospitals), *The Nanny* and *Happily Divorced* star **Fran Drescher** (Cancer Schmancer), comedian and motivational speaker **Kathy Buckley** (No Limits), actress **Kristin Bauer** (Best Friends Animal Society), and Paul Mitchell Chairman and Cofounder **John Paul DeJoria** (Food 4 Africa). The Gary Sinise Foundation and Magic Johnson Foundation were also selected, with **Gary Sinise** recording a special video for the schools, and **Magic Johnson** paying a surprise visit to the schools' two-day Las Vegas Caper event in February, where he thanked the audience of 2,500 students for their support. Even rapper and recording artist **Snoop Dogg** loaned his support to the campaign, recording a special message of encouragement for students and staff.

'Not one celebrity was paid to be here,' said Claybaugh, 'including **Natasha Bedingfield**.' The Grammy nominee performed at the Gala, courtesy of Children's

Miracle Network Hospitals. "And, thanks to sponsors and ticket sales, the Gala itself was a FUNraiser, generating an additional \$27,000 for the charities."

Addressing the crowd on behalf of Morris Animal Foundation, Betty White said, "Let us be grateful that there's an organization who appreciates what really caring can mean. How do we possibly say thank you for that? Thank you so deeply."

Describing new Cancer Schmancer initiatives focused on cancer prevention, Fran Drescher said, "That's what we're doing, because of you."

On behalf of No Limits, which helps deaf and hearing-impaired children, Kathy Buckley said, "You are giving us the opportunity to see God's work. ... It's not just the kids you're helping; you're building self-esteem and confidence in the parents as well."

"Chances are, none of our students will ever meet the people they're helping globally, but they do it because they care, and because in their hearts they know they're making the world a better place, and that's the future of this planet," John Paul DeJoria said. "All they asked in return was to help make the world a better place to live."

"What an amazing night," Marie Osmond said, "I am completely overwhelmed. ... Thank you from everybody at Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. As one of the founders, I thank you, God bless you, and thank you for keeping the miracles happening. We love you guys!"

Throughout the evening, the Top 10 FUNraising schools were revealed (award-style of course: "May we have the envelope, please?"), and the first-ever Andrew Gomez Dream Foundation Compassionate Service Award was given to longtime volunteers **John Turnage, Michaeline Re, Bill Waite, and Gail Fink**. Citing their years of service, Claybaugh said, "When we started the Andrew Gomez Dream Foundation back in 2001 ... we made the decision to run this foundation without spending any money. No rent. No salaries. No phone bill. Everything would need to be donated, including time, talents, and resources ... But do not for one minute believe that the support and services we receive are not the very best, because they absolutely are ... We work with the absolute best talents and professionals."

Winners of the "First 100" contest were also recognized for raising at least \$3,000 individually; they attended the Gala and a hands-on training the following day with top artists and educators **Angus Mitchell, Vivienne Mackinder, Stephanie Kocielski, Takashi, and George Morales**.

An unexpected \$18,000 donation from **Supercuts** added even more to the total. "They weren't part of our campaign, but they wanted to support us," Winn said.

Where the Money Goes

Because the schools exceeded their \$2 million goal, each charity will receive even more than originally pledged.

Andrew Gomez Dream Foundation	\$1,228,552
Children's Miracle Network Hospitals	\$250,000
Morris Animal Foundation	\$170,000
Cancer Schmancer	\$130,000
Magic Johnson Foundation	\$130,000
Gary Sinise Foundation	\$130,000
Food 4 Africa	\$130,000
No Limits	\$130,000
Best Friends Animal Society	\$55,000
Sister Bonnie's Franciscan Haircuts from the Heart	\$35,000

An additional \$100,000 will be donated to organizations that serve beauty industry-related causes.

Best Friends cofounder **Silva Battista** wrote, “The core spirit of your organization is based on inspiring kindness and caring, and I’m very proud that Best Friends is part of the FUNraiser. Your generosity to us and the other charities is heartwarming and really humbling. Thank you for bothering to take the lead in affecting so many lives – those of your students as well as through all the charities.”

Top Beneficiaries to Date

Leeza Gibbons Memory Foundation	\$1,002,987
Children's Miracle Network Hospitals	\$650,000
Food 4 Africa	\$480,000
Morris Animal Foundation	\$320,000
Larry King Cardiac Foundation	\$300,000
Cancer Schmancer	\$280,000
Kathy Buckley's No Limits	\$256,250
Franciscan Haircuts from the Heart	\$195,000
Habitat for Humanity (Vidal Sassoon's Hairdressers Unlocking Hope)	\$170,000
NCA Disaster Relief Fund	\$169,000
Dolly Parton's Imagination Library	\$150,000
American Red Cross (Haiti relief)	\$100,000
Magic Johnson Foundation	\$130,000
Gary Sinise Foundation	\$130,000
City of Hope	\$87,000
Best Friends Animal Society	\$55,000
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network	\$50,000

2012 Top 10 FUNraising Schools

Paul Mitchell The School Chicago	\$88,008
Paul Mitchell The School Salt Lake City	\$84,096
Paul Mitchell The School North Haven	\$75,025
Paul Mitchell The School Dallas	\$73,950
Paul Mitchell The School Arlington	\$73,644
Paul Mitchell The School Michigan	\$64,610
Paul Mitchell The School Jacksonville	\$56,390
Parisian Beauty Academy, A Paul Mitchell Partner School	\$54,830
Paul Mitchell The School St. George	\$54,115
The Temple, A Paul Mitchell Partner School	\$52,170

Related Links

Additional photos:

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Paul Mitchell Schools FUNraising Web site: www.paulmitchellschoolsfundraising.org

Paul Mitchell Schools 2012 FUNraising video: http://youtu.be/6sq_JQcJk2U

Paul Mitchell Schools 2012 FUNraising Gala photo gallery:

<http://www.paulmitchellschoolsfundraising.org/galleries>

About Paul Mitchell Schools

At Paul Mitchell Schools, we believe that education is an adventure and the learning experience needs to be fun. Our instructors—we call them “learning leaders”—are trained to draw out the artist in every student and prepare them to compete in the real world. Through our annual “FUNraising” campaign, we’ve raised and donated millions of dollars in support of many charitable causes. We’ve built homes with Habitat for Humanity, fed thousands of African orphans, and supported the victims of AIDS, breast cancer, homelessness, abuse, and hundreds of other causes.

Established 30 years ago, the Paul Mitchell network is nearly 100,000 salons strong and in 81 countries worldwide; every professional hairdresser knows the Paul Mitchell name. Now, with the arrival of Paul Mitchell Schools, we’ve taken the world of cosmetology education by storm! Visit www.paulmitchell.edu to learn more.

About the Supported Charities

The Andrew Gomez Dream Foundation honors a graduate whose struggle against mental illness ended tragically in suicide. The foundation helps disadvantaged or hard-hit cosmetologists and cosmetology-related enterprises. Funds have provided educational opportunities, hurricane relief, and support in the fights against breast cancer, domestic violence, and other destroyers of self-esteem.

www.paulmitchell.edu/andrew-gomez

Children's Miracle Network Hospitals creates miracles by funding medical care, research, and education that saves and improves the lives of 17 million children each year and helps sick and injured kids at the 170 Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

www.cmnhospitals.org

Morris Animal Foundation helps animals enjoy longer, healthier lives by advancing health and welfare research that protects, treats, and cures companion animals, horses, and wildlife worldwide. www.morrisanimalfoundation.org

Magic Johnson Foundation supports educational empowerment through HIV/AIDS awareness, college access, and digital literacy. www.magicjohnson.org

The Gary Sinise Foundation helps build custom designed "smart homes" for our nation's most severely wounded warriors while supporting active duty service members, veterans, first responders, and the children and families of our fallen.

www.garysinisefoundation.org

Cancer Schmancer Movement, founded by Fran Drescher, is an education and advocacy organization dedicated to saving lives through prevention and early detection of cancer. www.cancerschmancer.org

Food 4 Africa is committed to supplying at least one vitamin- and mineral-enriched meal each day to the children of South Africa, where the HIV/AIDS epidemic has left countless numbers of orphaned children and more than a million preschool children do not receive sufficient food. www.food4africa.org

No Limits offers a one-of-a-kind national theatre group and an after-school educational program that enhance confidence and communication skills for low-income deaf children and provides underserved deaf teens with the leadership and academic skills to be college-ready.

www.kidswithnolimits.org

Best Friends Animal Society is a nonprofit organization building no-kill programs and partnerships that will bring about a day when there are No More Homeless Pets. The society's leading initiatives in animal care and community programs are coordinated from its Kanab, Utah, headquarters, the country's largest no-kill sanctuary. www.bestfriends.org