

A PUBLICATION  
FOR THE FRIENDS OF  
MEMORIAL HERMANN  
Memorial Hermann Foundation  
FALL 2025

ADVANCING THE

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## HEAL HIGH SCHOOL: A TRANSFORMATIVE FIRST YEAR

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## DEAR FRIENDS,



**A**t Memorial Hermann Foundation, we understand that the only way to fulfill the promise of healthier communities tomorrow is to take action today. As Houston continues to evolve, so do the needs of the people who call it home. Anticipating those needs—and planning to meet them—is at the heart of our work.

As this issue shows, thanks to your generosity, we are actively helping to build tomorrow's workforce through trailblazing programs like the Health Education and Learning (HEAL) High School. We're expanding critical lifesaving services like Memorial Hermann Life Flight® and investing in innovative approaches to prevention, wellness and community health.

Together, we are making great things possible. The 2025 *Razzle Dazzle* and *In the Pink of Health* luncheons raised significant funds that will strengthen early cancer detection and outreach programs across our region.

Recently, we celebrated the expansion of the newly named Melissa Preston Breast Care Center at Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Medical Center. Made possible by a generous gift from Melissa's family in her honor, this new space sets the gold standard in breast care centers.

Philanthropy is the catalyst that sparks new ideas, inspires bold action and helps empower Memorial Hermann to lead the way in improving the health of our community.

To health,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne".

Anne E. Neeson  
Executive Vice President & CEO  
Memorial Hermann Foundation

Pictured above: Anne Neeson with Stephanie Tsuru, our 2025 *Razzle Dazzle* honoree.



## HEAL HIGH SCHOOL: A TRANSFORMATIVE FIRST YEAR

When HEAL High School opened its doors in fall 2024, its mission was ambitious: blend a rigorous high school curriculum with immersive health care training to prepare students for in-demand, well-paying careers. Just one year later, the results are nothing short of remarkable.

At a special event to start the school year, a freshman receives her first set of scrubs, the symbol of an exciting future in health care.



**L**aunched on the campus of Nimitz High School in north Houston, HEAL is a groundbreaking partnership between Memorial Hermann Health System and Aldine Independent School District. Backed by an initial \$31 million investment from Bloomberg Philanthropies, HEAL is one of only 10 programs nationwide reimaging how students prepare for health care careers.

The inaugural freshman class filled quickly as students and their families were eager to take advantage of this unique opportunity. This fall, the incoming freshman class drew more than 250 applications for just 190 available slots—a clear sign of strong demand. By 2028, HEAL is expected to serve nearly 800 students.

The program's design is simple yet revolutionary: pair traditional academics with hands-on training. Thirty-two teachers deliver core and elective courses, while six Memorial Hermann staff members are embedded in classrooms to connect learning with real-world practice.

Students participate in hospital-based learning at Memorial Hermann Northeast Hospital, Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital and the Memorial Hermann Institute for Nursing Excellence, exploring one of five career pathways—nursing, pharmacy, physical and occupational rehabilitation, medical imaging or health care business administration—and working toward industry-recognized certifications.

From their first scrubs ceremony, students began to see themselves differently. Bryan Sisk, senior vice president and chief nursing executive at Memorial Hermann, recalls one moment that captured the program's impact:

"After the scrubs ceremony, students visited our Institute for Nursing Excellence, a simulated hospital. When we asked one student what it felt like to walk in wearing scrubs, she said, 'I feel like I walked into my truth.' A year ago, she hadn't even considered health care as a career. Now, she can picture herself in that role."

### The incoming freshman class drew more than 250 applications for just 190 available slots.

In classrooms, students calculate IV drip rates in algebra lessons and write essays about hip replacements in English assignments. On hospital rotations, they practice HIPAA compliance, patient intake and even participate in mock clinical scenarios. The blend of academics and real-world application is building more than knowledge—it is creating confidence, professionalism and a sense of belonging.

Caitlin McVey, associate vice president of the Memorial Hermann Institute for Nursing Excellence, has seen students' growth firsthand.

**The blend of academics and real-world application is building more than knowledge—it is creating confidence, professionalism and a sense of belonging.**

"The momentum is so strong that the students asked to start a HEAL ambassador program. These ambassadors now go into middle schools and talk about the program—what it's done for them and how, yes, it's hard but worth it. We're seeing leadership emerge within the student body."

The program's benefits extend well beyond academics. Aldine ISD serves more than 57,000 students, 92% of whom are economically disadvantaged. Many families live in what leaders describe as a health care desert. For these students, HEAL offers not only a potential career but a pathway to family-sustaining wages and generational change.

"We're creating opportunities for high-wage, in-demand health care careers," said Adrian Bustillos, PhD, Aldine ISD's chief transformation officer. "Just as importantly, our students will grow into health care professionals who look like and understand the communities they serve."

Building on its first-year success, HEAL is expanding opportunities. A state-of-the-art simulation lab that replicates Memorial Hermann's hospital environment is near completion. This mock hospital will serve as a learning lab for students. The school's health clinic is moving to the same building and will continue providing health care and wellness services for students and families.



Moreover, mentorship programs are thriving, with more Memorial Hermann professionals volunteering than students available to match. Plans also include dual credit college courses, expanded summer programs and new hospital partnerships, beginning with Memorial Hermann Greater Heights.

At the recent Summer Infusion, an immersive summer camp for students, rising freshmen experienced lab training and Memorial Hermann Life Flight simulations, while sophomores participated in a mock mass-casualty drill alongside community partners. These experiences ensure that each year builds on the previous, challenging students with new, advanced training.

In just 12 months, HEAL High School has shifted what students believe is possible. Fourteen-year-olds who had never considered health care are now preparing to graduate with certifications, confidence and a direct connection to future careers.

For Memorial Hermann and Aldine ISD leaders, the program represents more than workforce development. It's about opening doors, removing barriers and shaping the next generation of health care leaders.

HEAL's first year proves that with vision, generous donors and collaboration, high school can become the place where the future of health care begins.

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE.** HEAL High School has made impressive strides with generous philanthropic support. You can help keep the momentum going with a contribution. This gift will support: Summer Infusion program enhancements • Mentorship program curriculum development • Student supplies, including HEAL shirts and scrubs • Teacher supplies • Infrastructure support



**A**t this year's annual State of Health Care breakfast event, Memorial Hermann President and CEO David Callender, MD, spoke about the state of health care across the industry and at Memorial Hermann.

In addition to recognizing the many ways the system delivers excellent care and vital community outreach, he also shared an essential truth: the future of health care depends on the people who deliver it.

"None of this would be possible without an incredible workforce," Dr. Callender said. "This is why our investment in workforce development is so critical."

Foundation Board Member Bill King then took the stage to moderate a panel of distinguished community leaders to discuss a growing national workforce shortage and how it could affect access to quality health care in Houston.

**"HEAL High School is not just a partnership. It's changing the trajectory of families. It's manifesting the hopes and dreams and aspirations of generations."**

Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney

The panel included Dr. Callender along with Steve Kean, president and CEO, the Greater Houston Partnership; LaTonya M. Goffney, EdD, superintendent of schools, Aldine Independent School District; and Jim Postl, Memorial Hermann Foundation board member and education advocate.

Each panel member brought an interesting perspective to the topic, offering solutions revolving around creating visible, tangible connections to resources for young people, and focusing on talent development and retention for existing teams.

Photo: Bill King, Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney, Dr. David Callender, Steve Kean, Jim Postl



"Houston's population is young, diverse and growing," said Steve Kean. "But unfortunately, only 20% of Houston's high school graduates are making a living wage six years after graduation."

Making improvements to this startling statistic is possible but cannot be done alone.

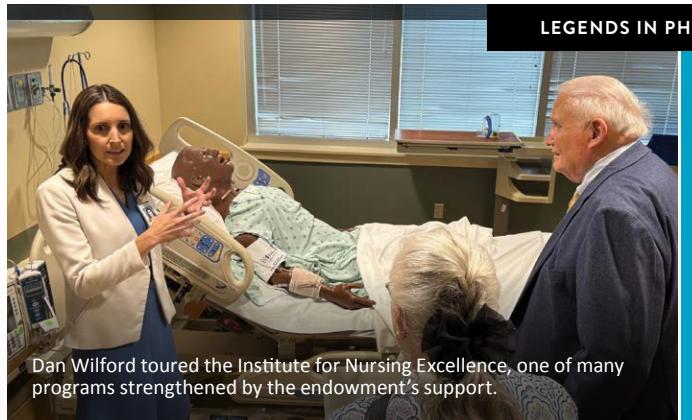
For Memorial Hermann, the situation is critical. Today, the system is committing to support, attract and retain people as they grow and develop. Memorial Hermann's work at HEAL High School is a prime—and very promising—example of this thinking, as it allows high school students to earn the credentials they need to step into a well-paying health care career at Memorial Hermann upon graduation.

With the support of philanthropy, Memorial Hermann is making unprecedented investments to help our workforce thrive—professionally, personally and financially.

For example, through donor support, the system helps entry-level patient care technicians (PCT) transition into licensed vocational nursing (LVN) roles. The PCT to LVN program compresses schedules, offers scholarships and adjusts schedules so employees can balance work, family and school as they become licensed vocational nurses and ultimately registered nurses.

With more than 34,000 employees serving one of the nation's fastest-growing regions, investing in the well-being and development of staff helps Memorial Hermann continue to lead with compassion, expertise and innovation.

**Memorial Hermann's threefold workforce strategy invests in:**  
Our existing workforce • Partners and programs that make the system the employer of choice for health care professionals, whether new graduates or seasoned professionals • The next generation



LEGENDS IN PHILANTHROPY

Dan Wilford toured the Institute for Nursing Excellence, one of many programs strengthened by the endowment's support.

BY THE NUMBERS

**\$3.65M**  
total awarded  
since  
inception

**113**  
projects  
funded since  
inception

**\$650K**  
awarded to  
four projects  
in FY25

SPECIAL EVENTS



2025 *In the Pink of Health* Co-chair Jamie Bolt, Giuliana and Bill Rancic, Co-chair Nicole Preston, Justin Kendrick

## A LASTING LEGACY OF GIVING

For more than two decades, the Anne R. Wilford Endowment has powered meaningful progress across our system and community.

In 2004, Dan S. Wilford, former president and CEO of Memorial Hermann Health System, established the Anne R. Wilford Endowment at Memorial Hermann Foundation in loving memory of his wife, Anne.

Her passing in a tragic car accident deeply affected all who knew her. Anne's family and friends joined Dan in giving generously to celebrate her life as a devoted wife, mother, teacher and community champion.

Since then, the endowment has touched lives in every corner of care at Memorial Hermann, from hospital rooms to classrooms, from families' first moments together to their journeys toward healing—all fitting tributes to Anne Wilford's generous spirit.

Through funding for the Memorial Hermann Institute for Nursing Excellence, the endowment is helping nurses grow into leaders, supporting advanced training, simulation labs, continuing education and scholarships that allow them to deliver advanced care with skill and compassion.

Thanks in large part to the Anne R. Wilford Endowment's funding, six Memorial Hermann hospitals have earned prestigious

Magnet® recognition from the American Nurses Credentialing Center, and three others have achieved Magnet with Distinction®, the organization's highest nursing honor.

Funding from the endowment also lifts up women and children by supporting programs like Safe Infant Sleep, child passenger safety education and resources for families navigating pediatric neuro-disabilities, ensuring no family faces those challenges alone. Many of these families live with social risk factors that would otherwise limit their access to these vital services.

Reaching far beyond hospital walls and through generous ongoing donor support, the endowment also makes it possible for Memorial Hermann to offer care through school-based health centers and community doula programs that can profoundly change lives before, during and long after birth.

"We are grateful for the Anne R. Wilford Endowment's continuing support," said Anne Neeson, executive vice president and CEO of Memorial Hermann Foundation. "Because of this enduring generosity, thousands of families are healthier, stronger and filled with hope."

## IN THE PINK OF HEALTH

The 2025 annual luncheon raised more than \$950,000 for breast and ovarian cancer prevention, detection and survivor support services.

The 25th annual *In the Pink of Health* luncheon at The Woodlands Waterway Marriott brought together a passionate community united in the fight against breast and ovarian cancers.

Thanks to the generosity of attendees and sponsors, the event broke *In the Pink of Health* records, raising more than \$950,000 to reduce the incidence of breast and ovarian cancers and to offer special assistance to women along their journey.

*In the Pink of Health* proceeds are distributed to provide a range of services, such as free mammograms, wigs and prostheses, and to support breakthrough technologies and life-changing programs for patients and survivors across Montgomery County—including the services offered free of charge through the Canopy Cancer Survivorship Center at Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Medical Center.

Guests were inspired by special speakers Giuliana and Bill Rancic—television personalities, entrepreneurs, bestselling authors and tireless cancer advocates—who shared their story of love, faith and perseverance following Giuliana's breast cancer diagnosis in 2011.

The program also featured Taylor Odlozil, an online influencer who spoke with honesty and grace about his late wife, Haley, and his eight years as her caregiver on her journey with ovarian cancer. When his young son, Weston, joined him on stage for a hug, it was a touching reminder of love's strength and the support that carries families through loss.

Co-chairs Jamie Bolt and Nicole Preston led an uplifting afternoon that celebrated survivors, honored loved ones and advanced the mission of improving the lives of women in Montgomery County.

# HONORING MELISSA PRESTON

The newly renamed Melissa Preston Breast Care Center at Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Medical Center honors a beloved philanthropist and completely transforms the care experience.

**F**amily, friends and supporters gathered at Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Medical Center for a heartfelt celebration honoring Melissa Preston, a devoted philanthropist, passionate advocate for women's health and past chair of the Foundation's *In the Pink of Health* luncheon, whose life was cut short by cancer in 2022.



Melissa Preston



Brice Family

To carry forward her commitment to helping others, Melissa's son, Trey Brice, his wife, Jessica, together with their three sons made a \$1 million gift to support the renovation and expansion of the Memorial Hermann Breast Care Center, which now proudly bears her name.

For Trey, the naming was both emotional and deeply meaningful. "It was a powerful moment of closure for me," he shared. "Seeing my mom's name on a place that reflects her warmth and style felt like continuing her legacy in the most meaningful way."

Melissa's legacy can be defined by her generosity and care for others, qualities that inspired those around her.

"She cared deeply about helping others and about making a difference in women's lives," said Linda Nelson, vice president of operations at Memorial Hermann The Woodlands. "She brought grace, joy and a little sparkle wherever she went."

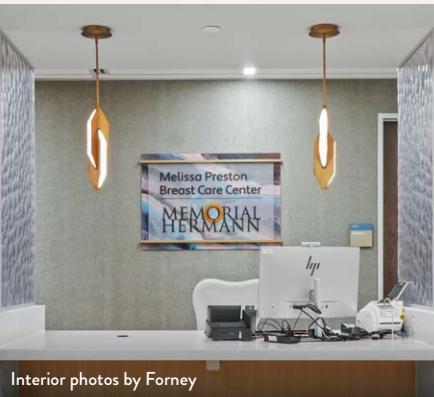
The transformation is visible in every corner of the reimagined Melissa Preston Breast Care Center. Designed to feel more like a sanctuary than a clinic, the center replaces sterile walls with warmth, art and natural light. Local artists were commissioned to create works reflecting hope and renewal, while calming interiors and thoughtful touches create a space that, as one designer put it, "feels like a hug."

This welcoming environment, complete with leading-edge technology, complements the trusted, compassionate care Memorial Hermann is known for.

"It's a place where people receive high-quality care during some of their most vulnerable moments," said Justin Kendrick, CEO of Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Medical Center and Memorial Hermann Northeast Hospital.



Photo by Rod Prado



Interior photos by Forney



**"Seeing my mom's name on a place that reflects her warmth and style felt like continuing her legacy in the most meaningful way."**

Trey Brice

"It's about more than diagnosing and treating breast cancer," Justin explained. "It's about touching lives, offering hope and walking alongside individuals on their journey."

"Melissa was such a special part of our Memorial Hermann family," added Anne Neeson, executive vice president and CEO of Memorial Hermann Foundation. "I think she would be so proud to see how her passion for helping others continues here—and sets a new standard in breast cancer care."

Trey adamantly concurred. "I know she would love it."



Linda Nelson, Jessica Brice, Trey Brice, Anne Neeson, Justin Kendrick



**“They didn’t just treat my injuries. They treated me.”**

Jacob

## BECOMING BETTER THAN BEFORE

When Jacob looks back on the spring of 2014, his life feels divided into “before” and “after.” And “after” is getting better all the time.

**A**t 15, Jacob was a student leader from Whitehouse, Texas, preparing to run for national office in a youth organization. “About 24 hours before the crash,” he remembers, “I was at a conference listening to a motivational speaker. I leaned over to my friends and said, ‘Wow, I wish I had a story to tell.’”

The next day, a head-on collision left him with a traumatic brain injury, a broken back and facial fractures. Airlifted by Memorial Hermann Life Flight to the Red Duke Trauma Institute at Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center for emergency surgery for his back and facial reconstruction, Jacob’s promising future seemed to vanish in an instant.

A month later, he transferred to TIRR Memorial Hermann for rehabilitation, determined but overwhelmed. A simple message from his care team became his anchor: “You can never go back to who you were before, but you can become someone better.”

Therapists tailored every step of Jacob’s recovery to his passions. Speech therapy became “speech and debate,” where he wrote arguments and practiced presentations. Occupational therapy included following recipes, linking recovery to his culinary scholarship dreams. These creative touches didn’t just rebuild skills; they restored confidence.

“They could have just given me worksheets,” Jacob said. “Instead, they gave me purpose.”



Jacob’s head-on collision left him with a traumatic brain injury, broken vertebrae and multiple facial fractures.

Even small moments left an impact. His favorite saxophonist, Kirk Whalum, surprised him with a hospital visit. Jacob still has no idea how his family and care team made that happen, but for him, it symbolized the personal care he received. “They didn’t just treat my injuries,” he says. “They treated me.”

Today, Jacob is 28 and still navigating the lifelong effects of his injuries while leading a national nonprofit dedicated to youth transportation safety, channeling his lived experience into advocacy. Music remains a joyful part of his life. Most importantly, he sees his crash not as an ending, but a beginning.

“I used to think of the crash as the worst day of my life,” he reflects. “Now, I see it as the start of something new. Thanks to TIRR Memorial Hermann, I’m not just the person I was, I’m better.”

# ELEVATED CONNECTIONS

Celebrating generosity and vision in Aspen

Against Aspen's breathtaking mountain backdrop, Memorial Hermann Foundation once again brought donors, board members and hospital leaders together for Elevated Connections—a celebration of gratitude and the extraordinary impact of philanthropy.

The two-day experience began with an intimate breakfast at the Hotel Jerome, where Memorial Hermann President and CEO David Callender, MD, shared systemwide achievements made possible through donor support. Guests heard how philanthropic investment continues to drive innovation in patient care, expand access to services and strengthen community health programs across Greater Houston.



Dr. Callender shared systemwide achievements made possible through donor support, highlighting areas where Memorial Hermann shines: trauma care, heart and vascular, orthopedics and pediatrics.



Anne Neeson in the Garden Room with Amy Pierce, who spoke about the power of women philanthropists in supporting Memorial Hermann's mission.

Following breakfast, guests gathered in the Garden Room, where Foundation Board Member Amy Pierce shared how the Foundation plans to inspire connection and empower women philanthropists to make a lasting impact.

That evening, more than 140 guests attended a reception at Betula hosted by dedicated Foundation supporters. Michelle McNutt, MD, vice president and chief medical officer at Memorial Hermann-TMC, shared powerful stories of recovery that highlighted the strength of Memorial Hermann's "trauma trifecta"—Memorial Hermann Life Flight, the Red Duke Trauma Institute and TIRR Memorial Hermann.

Throughout the gathering, donors were reminded that their generosity is the heartbeat of Memorial Hermann's vision to create healthier communities, now and for generations to come.



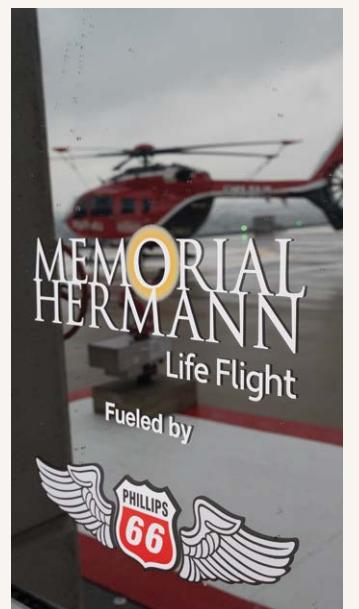


Committed to improving lives in our community, Phillips 66 is powering the future of Memorial Hermann Life Flight through generous support.

In 2024, Phillips 66 made a substantial \$1 million gift to the Life Flight expansion campaign, the Foundation's \$55 million initiative helping to replace the existing fleet by funding five new aircraft.

Building on this support, the company also became the official fuel provider for Life Flight in 2025, pledging \$1.5 million worth of fuel a year to the critical care air medical transport service.

Representatives from Phillips 66 joined Memorial Hermann Foundation for a guided tour of a Life Flight helicopter. One of the new aircraft, to be named in honor of Phillips 66, is set to arrive this winter.



"This gift is a powerful example of Phillips 66 living out its mission to provide energy and improve lives," said Brian Mandell, executive vice president of Marketing and Commercial at Phillips 66. "Life Flight is essential to emergency medical care in our region."

Memorial Hermann Foundation Board Member and retired Phillips 66 executive Zhanna Golodryga played an integral role in securing the donation, serving as a valued ambassador for Life Flight.

"We are sincerely grateful for this extraordinary gift," said Anne Neeson, executive vice president and CEO of Memorial Hermann Foundation. "Phillips 66 is quite literally powering the future of Life Flight."

PHILANTHROPY RISES  
TO MEET TOMORROW'S  
PROMISE.



With their visionary support, our Heroes in Health help Memorial Hermann fulfill our region's greatest needs—building a skilled workforce, advancing care and strengthening community partnerships that sustain a healthier future.

We celebrate these extraordinary community members for their especially generous annual gifts.

LEVELS OF GIVING • \$1,000 • \$2,500 • \$5,000 • \$10,000 • \$25,000 • \$50,000 • \$100,000+

MEMORIAL  
HERMANN  
Foundation

# A LOVE SONG FOR AGNES

When Jerome lost his singing voice at 90, he thought it was gone forever.

TIRR Memorial Hermann helped him find it again.

**A** lifelong cantor, choir director and music educator, Jerome had always shared his voice with his church, his family and, most of all, with his wife, Agnes. But after developing vocal cord atrophy, “nothing was happening,” he remembers. “I thought my singing career was done.”

Refusing to give up, Jerome sought help and was referred to TIRR Memorial Hermann, where he met speech pathologist Damaris Martinez Chavez. Instead of focusing only on mechanics, Damaris wanted to understand Jerome’s goals. When he told her he longed to sing again, she built a therapy plan around that passion.

Week after week, Jerome practiced exercises that gradually restored strength to his vocal cords. The therapy was personal, challenging and deeply meaningful. “Damaris is an absolute genius,” he says. “She actually got me singing better than I can ever remember.”

Seven months later, Jerome stood at his therapy graduation and performed “The Impossible Dream.” When he reached the final soaring note, staff and fellow patients were visibly moved. For many, it felt like witnessing a miracle, and proof that at 91, restoration was possible.

Perhaps the most cherished moment came this August, on Jerome and Agnes’s 66th wedding anniversary. The couple first met in a college production of “Oklahoma!” She was a dancer; he was a singer, and music has always been at the center of their love story.



Shown here enjoying a weekend in Port Arthur during their dating days, Agnes and Jerome have been inseparable ever since. In August, they celebrated 66 years of bliss together.

On that milestone day, Jerome sang to her once again. “It’s a happy circumstance to be able to sing with my wife,” he says with a smile.

Today, Jerome continues to sing at Mass and at home, filling their days with the melodies that first brought them together. He acknowledges he must pace himself—three or four songs at a time these days—but the gift of music is his again.

Jerome’s restored voice is one of many testaments to the commitment of therapists at TIRR Memorial Hermann to treat every patient as an individual with dreams worth pursuing. For Jerome, that dream was singing. For others, it may be walking, painting or returning to work. Whatever the goal, TIRR Memorial Hermann helps make it possible.

Jerome’s story is a reminder of what personalized care can achieve: not just a return of ability, but a return of joy. And for Agnes, hearing her husband sing “Wind Beneath My Wings” after all these years is proof that love, and song, can endure.



# RAZZLE DAZZLE

A shining success in support of breast cancer early detection and outreach, raising more than \$1 million.

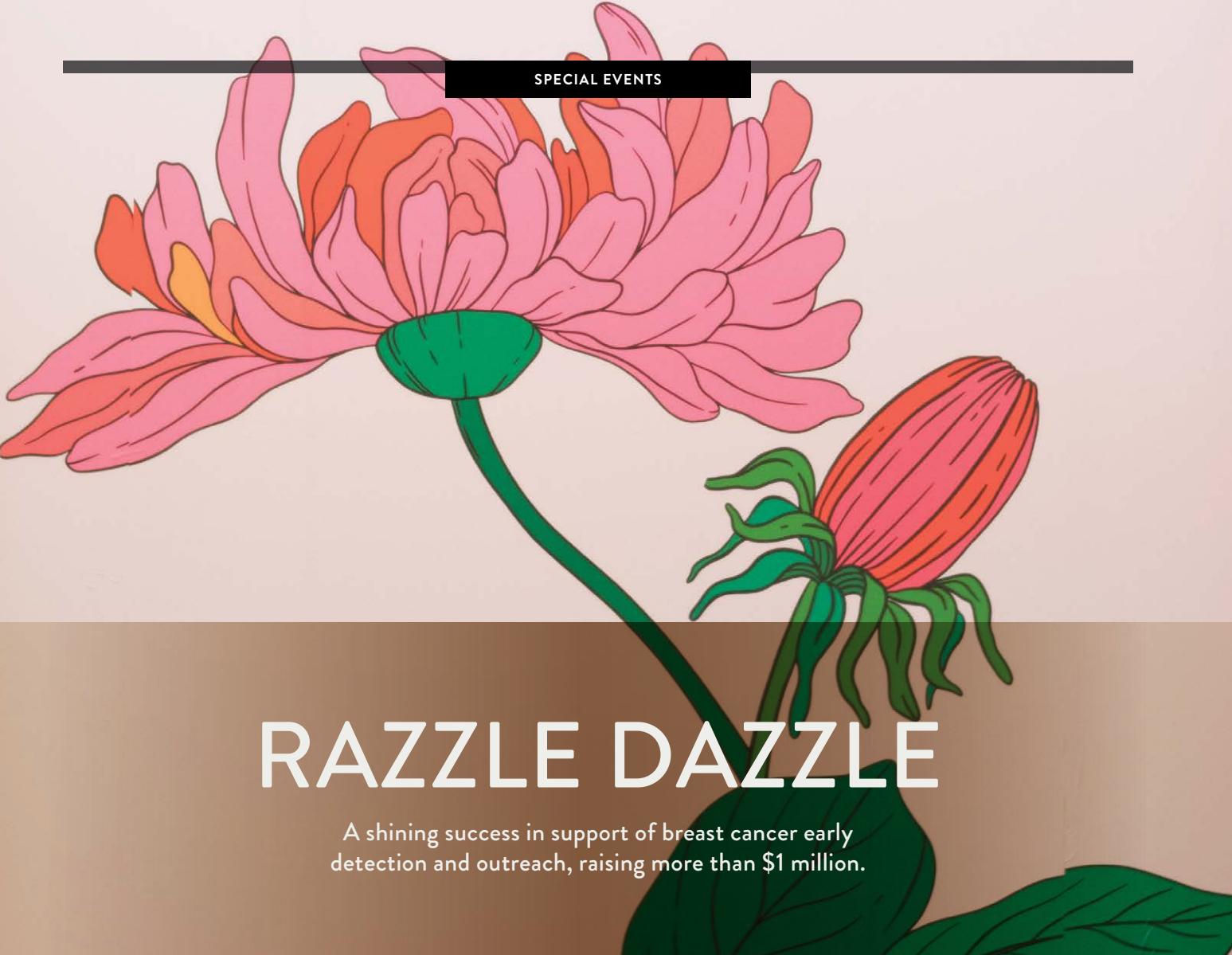
The 2025 Razzle Dazzle luncheon brought together Memorial Hermann Foundation supporters for a vibrant afternoon of philanthropy and celebration, raising more than \$1 million to advance breast cancer early detection and outreach programs, including the Bobetta C. Lindig Breast Care Center at Memorial Hermann Memorial City Medical Center.

Chaired by Foundation Board Member Zhanna Golodryga, the event opened with a Louisiana-inspired second line, a lively New Orleans-style street parade, led by the Hot City Brass Band. Tenenbaum Jewelers delighted the crowd with three fabulous jewelry giveaways. Samica Knight, an award-winning journalist from ABC13 Houston, emceed the program, which paid tribute to honoree Stephanie Tsuru and her company, SheSpace.

Stephanie Tsuru took the stage for a lively conversation with special guest Hoda Kotb, Emmy Award-winning journalist, New York Times bestselling author and former co-anchor of NBC's TODAY and TODAY with Hoda & Jenna. Hoda shared powerful stories about staying strong through her own breast cancer journey and other life challenges.

The afternoon also included a heartfelt invocation by Meghan Leggett and Kathleen Perley in memory of their mother, Eileen Campbell, a previous Razzle Dazzle honoree.

Together, guests celebrated women's strength and helped expand lifesaving access to breast cancer care across the region.



Ann Cazalot leading second line



The event opened with a Louisiana-inspired second line



Amy Pierce, Anne Neeson



Dancie Ware, Hoda Kotb



Samica Knight, Zhanna Golodryga



Gretchen Sheirr, Paige Fertitta, Blayne Fertitta, Whitney Crane



Jo Lynn Falgout, Karen Winston, Christine Falgout-Gutknecht



Felicia Stone, Rob Chramosta, Donae Chramosta



Tony Bradfield, Dr. David Callender



Caroline Brown, Hoda Kotb



Treasure Caldwell, Angie Matula, Missy Pacha



Mary Theresa Derr, Trini Mendenhall-Royalty

## EMPOWER THE WOMEN AROUND YOU



## OPENING DOORS FOR OTHERS

Stephanie Tsuru quietly works to make life better for a city she loves.

**T**his year, Memorial Hermann Foundation proudly honored Stephanie Tsuru and her company, SheSpace, at the 2025 *Razzle Dazzle* luncheon, recognizing her visionary leadership and its lasting impact on the Houston community.

Stephanie's connection to the event runs deep. She previously co-chaired the 2023 *Razzle Dazzle* luncheon alongside Foundation Board Members Amy Pierce and Kristina Somerville, both now members of the SheSpace community.

**“Being surrounded by women with similar experiences sparks creativity and a sense of community.”**

Stephanie Tsuru

Founded to combat the isolation many women feel working from home, SheSpace has grown into a thriving community of more than 400 members, offering collaboration, inspiration and connection.

“Being surrounded by women with similar experiences sparks creativity and a sense of community,” Stephanie says. She credits her daughter-in-law, Katie, with helping bring the SheSpace vision to life. “It was never a one-person effort,” she says.

Stephanie's commitment to philanthropy is rooted in 25 years as an occupational therapist, where she saw firsthand the power of collaboration in health care.



*Razzle Dazzle* honoree Stephanie Tsuru, with special guest Hoda Kotb, who shared her personal challenges with breast cancer and other life events.

Having practiced in six states when she moved to Texas, she decided to try something new. Driven by a lifelong curiosity, she returned to school, earning a Master of Liberal Studies degree from Rice University.

“I would go to school every day if I could,” says Stephanie. “I love to learn.”

Stephanie and her husband, Frank, have been dedicated Memorial Hermann Foundation supporters for many years, most recently supporting the Life Flight expansion campaign. They are passionate about improving the health and well-being of their community. We were pleased to celebrate their generosity and friendship at *Razzle Dazzle* this year.



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## VISION

Memorial Hermann Foundation

To opt out of future communications  
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or call 713.242.4400.

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**Friday, March 27, 2026**

### HONOREES

Gail and Greg Garland  
Anna and Scott McLean

### CHAIRS

Angie and Zach Matula

[MHGardenparty.org](http://MHGardenparty.org)



**SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026**

### HONOREES

Gail and Greg Garland  
Anna and Scott McLean

### CHAIRS

Angie and Zach Matula

[MHGala.org](http://MHGala.org)