

LAS PATRONAS

Partnering with the San Diego Community since 1946

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Las Patronas Presents Proceeds to 10 Major Beneficiaries from Las Patronas Jewel Ball 2016, *Shangri-La*

La Jolla, California - On January 18, 2017, Las Patronas presented much needed grant dollars to ten San Diego nonprofits at its Beneficiary Luncheon held at The Marine Room in La Jolla, California. This annual luncheon is a celebration of the partnership Las Patronas shares with the San Diego nonprofit community.

Shangri-La netted over \$1,015,000 through a yearlong fundraising effort. One hundred percent of net proceeds from the annual Jewel Ball are given to beneficiaries to purchase critically needed capital items. All grants are vetted through a thoughtful and rigorous process, which includes a site visit and a thorough review of qualifications by Las Patronas members.

Las Patronas President Leigh Plesniak welcomed supporters, beneficiaries, and Las Patronas members, "Las Patronas success is due to our many generous supporters and community partners. It is an honor to work with so many who are dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in San Diego County."

Immediate Past President Lisa Betyar presented the **Las Patronas Spirit of Giving Award** to the *La Jolla Light* for their continued support of Las Patronas. Las Patronas recognized the respect the *La Jolla Light* enjoys within the community and expressed appreciation for the common goals and values shared by the two organizations.

2016 Jewel Ball Chair Kathryn Gayner and her Co-Chairs, Kelley Albence and Maureen Weber, introduced and distributed checks to each major beneficiary. The average check given was over \$39,000. The major beneficiaries of **Shangri-La** are:

Birch Aquarium

A specially equipped outreach van for K-12 school and public outreach programs.

Episcopal Community Services

A passenger van to be used to transport clients in their homeless services programs.

GenerateHope, Inc.

A 2015 Ford Transit Wagon for the transportation of women in their programs.

Girl Scouts, San Diego-Imperial Council, Inc.

Interior and exterior paint, floor coverings, windows and window treatments, countertops, cabinets, shelves lighting, skylights, and doors for Balboa Cabin 3.

The Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation

An automated silkscreen press to support their youth workforce development program.

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ADD PAGE—Las Patronas Presents Proceeds...

The Maritime Museum Association of San Diego

Materials for the re-decking of the Star of India's weather deck.

New Haven Youth and Family Services, Inc.

A van to be used in their youth culinary programs.

Rebuilding Together San Diego

A box truck for the pickup and delivery of materials for their construction projects and warehouse.

Serving Seniors

A Combi oven for the Potiker Family Senior Residences.

Sharp HealthCare Foundation

A ceiling-mounted patient handling system for the Sharp Memorial Rehabilitation Center.

In addition to these ten major grants, proceeds from the 2016 Jewel Ball will also fund many critically needed minor grants in amounts up to \$20,000.

Las Patronas announced its first ever **Legacy Society Grant**, which is made possible from the proceeds of the **Las Patronas Endowment Fund**. The **Las Patronas Endowment Fund** allows Las Patronas to increase and diversify the way support is received – including estate planning, individual bequests, and direct donations. The recipient of the first ever **Legacy Society Grant** is Big Sister League, Inc. The funds from this grant will be used to purchase a refrigerator and frost-free freezer for their transitional women's home in San Diego. Las Patronas is very excited to fund an award to this organization that supports women in need.

Jorie Fischer, 2017 Jewel Ball Chair, presented her vision for the upcoming Jewel Ball, **Taking Flight**, as a tribute to the vintage glamour and romance of posh air travel. Fischer is the granddaughter of Las Patronas founding member and former Jewel Ball Chair, Midge Preston, and the daughter of Las Patronas advisory member and former Jewel Ball Co-Chair, Sarah Burton-Hawkins. Las Patronas has started this year's fundraising efforts that will culminate with the presentation of Jewel Ball 2017 on August 5th at the beautiful **La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club**. The Jewel Ball is the main fund raising effort of Las Patronas and is one of the most enduring, cultural, and philanthropic traditions in San Diego.

Since its inception in 1946, Las Patronas has donated nearly \$20 million to more than a thousand charitable institutions in San Diego. All funds raised by Las Patronas stay in San Diego County and are distributed to many small grass-root nonprofits as well as larger, more visible organizations. For more information about Las Patronas and the annual Jewel Ball, please visit www.laspatronas.org.



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“Las Patronas is committed to providing financial assistance to non-profit organizations in San Diego County that provide valuable community services in the areas of health, education, social services, and cultural arts, and to continuing our tradition of service to enhance the quality of life in our community.”