

LAS PATRONAS

Partnering with the San Diego Community since 1946

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug 9, 2021

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Las Patronas Presents the 75th Anniversary Jewel Ball: Diamonds Are Forever

LA JOLLA, CA – Las Patronas held its 75th Anniversary Jewel Ball at the beautiful **La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club** on August 7, 2021. Since 1946, guests have attended the Jewel Ball for an exceptionally fun evening of delectable cuisine, electrifying entertainment, and unforgettable design. Dressed to impress, ***Diamonds Are Forever*** guests were transported into Bond's world of delicacies, diamonds, and drama. The black-tie tradition was the culmination of a year-long fundraising effort by Las Patronas members in support of the San Diego nonprofit community.

Las Patronas Jewel Ball Chair **Kathy Lobo**, Co-Chairs **Megan Cox** and **Robyne Daniels**, and President **Martha Sottosanti** welcomed guests who entered Bond's world through a bullet hole and maneuvered through a tunnel of mesmerizing lights. Once in the courtyard, guests were invited to enjoy a cocktail, shaken not stirred, surrounded by inspiring images of 75 years of Las Patronas history. Guests indulged in tray-passed appetizers including Beef Carpaccio Toast Points with Asiago and Baby Arugula and edible diamonds, Truffled Cappuccino and Creamy Mushroom Soup Shots with Truffle Foam and Gold Dust. An elegant seafood bar included Jumbo Shrimp Cocktail with Gin Spiked Cocktail Sauce, Clams Casino Royal, and Oysters Moscow with Caviar and Crème Fraîche.

Just beyond, in the sleek poolside patio, guests were tempted by lavishly decorated food stations offering a British spy's favorite, Fish & Chips with Malt Vinegar Powder Dust, Emerald Green Spring Rolls, Spy-worthy Sushi, Ruby Toasts, and Citrine Diamonds. Nearby premier auction tables featured a wide array of thrilling items awarded to the highest bidder, including travel, sailing, jewelry, and flying adventures fit for an international spy. A diamond-themed ice bar kept guests refreshed.

With an irresistible beat, **Wayne Foster Entertainment** called guests to dinner into the dramatically decorated outdoor ballroom with feather-topped colonnade entry, mirrored bars, bold black and white elegance, and lounge seating areas. The clatter of casino chips from the corners invited guests to try their luck against friend and foe. The band's energy and excitement set the tone for the rest of the evening.

As guests dined and danced, they may not have realized the outdoor ballroom was transformed from **The La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club's** tennis courts to a glamorous mystery-ready gathering under a ceiling of stars. Guests enjoyed decadent table décor featuring feathers, red roses, candles, and diamond chandeliers. The all-volunteer membership of Las Patronas spent more than a year planning and countless hours building event décor, guided by the creative vision of Design Co-Chairs **Lin Foletta** and **Mio Hood**.

Behind the Scenes Catering provided an irresistible dinner, including salad from The English Garden with Baby Gem Lettuce, Zucchini, Assorted Radishes, Shaved Asparagus, Toasted

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Pepitas and Meyer Lemon Vinaigrette, served with a Lemon Dusted Grissini. Diamond Circle and Crown Jewel guests took pleasure in Poached Lobster Tail and Bond's favorite English Cheese Course. *The Living Daylights* entrée included a Rosemary Roasted Filet of Beef with 007 Sauce and Golden Chilean Sea Bass with a Dirty Martini Olive Tapenade. For vegetarians, the *From Russia with Love* Portobello Wellington did not disappoint, with Layers of Portobello Mushroom Duxelles, Butternut Squash, Baby Spinach and Quinoa Wrapped in Flaky Pastry with Sauteed French Beans and Red Wine Pudding. The meal concluded with La Bombe Surprise, a sophisticated dessert of Chocolate Shortbread Cookie Dough with Coffee Cake, Espresso Cream, Chocolate Ganache, and Fresh Raspberries. A vodka luge and Bond-inspired bars provided additional beverage service. A **Cafe Moto** coffee bar and a Sugar and Scribe 007 dessert buffet kept guests energized to dance until the party ended at 12:30am.

In addition to following San Diego County and CDC guidelines regarding Covid-19 precautions for the entirely outdoor event, Las Patronas also reduced attendance to 625, asked guests to attest that they were either fully vaccinated against Covid-19 or received a negative test within 72 hours prior to the event, and required volunteers to be vaccinated and servers to wear masks.

Proceeds from Jewel Ball 2021, ***Diamonds Are Forever***, will fund critically needed capital items for six nonprofit Major Beneficiaries each receiving more than \$20,000, and 45-50 Minor Beneficiaries each receiving \$20,000 or less in the fall 2021 and spring 2022 grant cycles.

"The incredible generosity of our supporters not only made tonight's celebration possible but also enabled us to provide grants to so many deserving San Diego nonprofits. We are grateful for all our supporters and thrilled to be able to celebrate our 75th Anniversary with them in Bond style," said Jewel Ball Chair **Kathy Lobo**. "The work our beneficiaries do to improve the lives of so many in need in our community continues to inspire our efforts. Tonight, on this special evening, we celebrate these incredible San Diego nonprofits," said Las Patronas President **Martha Sottosanti**.

Las Patronas is a philanthropic organization with a long history of giving. Since its inception in 1946, Las Patronas has donated over \$25 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 nonprofits as well as larger organizations.

Major Beneficiaries of Jewel Ball 2021, *Diamonds Are Forever*

Center for Community Solutions - Safety improvements for Next Step North domestic violence shelter

Episcopal Community Services - Van to transport homeless and recovery program clients to vital services

Father Joe's Villages - Wheelchair accessible van for the Street Outreach Program

National University - Virtual reality health simulation headsets to train critically needed nurses

Promises2Kids - Vehicle for Camp Connect program to reunite foster children with their siblings

San Diego Blood Bank - Bloodmobile to help save countless lives in San Diego County

For more information about Las Patronas, please visit <http://laspatronas.org>

Our Mission

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.