

OSF HealthCare Little Company of Mary Crystal Heart Ball to honor Pat Mac's Pack and raise funds for EP lab

Premier gala moving to new location

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(Evergreen Park, IL | December 28, 2023) – The OSF HealthCare Little Company of Mary Medical Center Crystal Heart Ball will be held on **Saturday, February 3, 2024,** at a new location, the **Museum of Science & Industry**, 5700 S. DuSable Lake Shore Drive, Chicago.

The theme for the black tie event is Rhythm of the Night. The evening begins with cocktails at 6:30 PM, followed by dinner, a program emceed by Patrick Elwood and Dina Bair from WGN-TV, and dancing to music provided by Maggie Speaks — Talk of the Town Big Band.

This will be the 32nd anniversary of the Crystal Heart Ball with proceeds going to the new Electrophysiology (EP) lab at OSF Little Company of Mary. In a dedicated EP lab, providers can utilize precision equipment to diagnose heart rhythm issues and provide critical, lifesaving treatment. The EP lab at OSF Little Company of Mary Medical Center will provide state-of-the art cardiology treatment for patients.

Each year, the Crystal Heart Ball also showcases individuals and organizations for their outstanding accomplishments and service. The Venerable Mary Potter Humanitarian Award honors those whose personal and professional accomplishments embody the ideas, vision and mission of Venerable Mary Potter, who founded the Little Company of Mary Sisters in 1877.

The honoree for this year is Pat Mac's Pack. Patrick Thomas McNamara died at 13 from a pediatric brain tumor disease known as ependymoma. Patrick was the child of Thomas and Deidre McNamara, who established Pat Mac's Pack in his memory. The charitable organization raises funds for pediatric brain tumor research including drug research and development, and the advancement of novel surgical procedures used to treat pediatric brain tumors. The organization also provides funds to assist young cancer patients and their families.

"Pat Mac's Pack is humbled to be honored by the Crystal Heart Ball committee," said Deidre McNamara on behalf of Thomas and Pat Mac's Pack. "This opportunity allows us to bring light to the issue of pediatric brain tumor research, which is woefully underfunded. It also allows us to highlight the critical financial decisions the poor and working poor have to make on a daily basis while caring for a sick child."

Chairpersons for the 2024 Crystal Heart Ball are Dr. Chadi Nouneh and Yvonne Nouneh, and Marci Schneider Batsakis.

Click <u>here</u> for more information about the OSF HealthCare Little Company of Mary Medical Center Crystal Heart Ball, including how to get tickets or make a donation. For more information on OSF HealthCare Little Company of Mary Medical Center, visit <u>osfhealthcare.org/little-company-of-mary/</u>.