



APA's 175th Anniversary Gala: An Evening of Pride and Collegiality



Nearly 800 psychiatrists attended APA's 175th Anniversary Gala at historic San Francisco City Hall during APA's 2019 Annual Meeting.

Turnout for the gala far exceeded expectations: The event, also a fundraiser for the APA Foundation, had the largest attendance of any foundation event to date. "With so many physicians suffering from burnout, this is exactly what our members needed to revitalize themselves. APA is their home," said APA CEO and Medical Director Saul Levin, M.D., M.P.A. "Celebrating the 175th anniversary gives them more vitality and energy to go back and do what is needed to help their patients."

APA had much to celebrate, and did so in opulent style, with many enjoying the opportunity to slip into ball gowns, tuxedos, or cocktail attire for the black tie—optional event. With its elegant architectural adornments, ornate rotunda, and grand staircase, San Francisco City Hall served as the perfect backdrop for the occasion.

"The crowd was intergenerational, ... and even among the younger folks,

you could tell they thought it was a really important event," Levin said. "There was so much camaraderie—with everyone enjoying themselves, seeing old friends and colleagues, and networking with new acquaintances."

In addition to the record ticket sales, the gala garnered support from 25 gen-

erous sponsors. Funds raised will be put toward the Foundation's 12 mental health initiatives, which include giving grants to medical students working in underserved areas, training educators to recognize students in need of treatment, and working to improve workplace mental health.

"The venue was elegant, and the ambience was incredible," said Daniel H. Gillison Jr., the Foundation's executive director. "The Foundation's team and its hardworking volunteers really went above and beyond expectations to make it an unforgettable night." **PN**





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5 Incoming APA President Bruce Schwartz, M.D., with his wife, Andrea Weiss (left), and incoming APA Secretary Sandra DeJong, M.D., M.Sc.

6 From left: Dakota Carter, M.D., Sudeepa Varma, M.D., and Cody Carter. Varma is wearing the medallion she received on becoming a Distinguished Fellow of APA at the Convocation held earlier in the evening. The medallion bears a likeness of the father of American psychiatry and a signer of the Declaration of Independence, Benjamin Rush.

7 Steven Sharfstein, M.D., with his wife, Margaret Sharfstein, M.D. (center), and Yngvild Olsen, M.D., M.P.H. Steven Sharfstein, a past APA president, chaired the APA Foundation 175th Anniversary Committee.

8 APA Medical Director and CEO Saul Levin, M.D., M.P.A. (fourth from right), joins members of APA's LGBTQ Caucus and others in front of the statue of Harvey Milk, a pro-LGBTQ politician and activist.

Photos: David Hathcox (1, 3-8); Oscar & Associates (2)

Additional gala photos are posted at apafdn.org/gala.



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1 APA celebrated its 175th anniversary at San Francisco City Hall amid elegant surroundings befitting this special occasion. More than 800 people attended the event, whose proceeds will help support APA Foundation programs.

2 APA Medical Director and CEO Saul Levin, M.D., M.P.A. (center), with Area 2 Trustee Vivian Pender, M.D., and her husband, Daniel J. Pender, M.D.

3 APA President Altha Stewart, M.D., proudly wears her presidential medallion as she stands with Daniel Gillison Jr., executive director of the APA Foundation.

4 Taking a moment out to pose for the camera are (from left) Tina Thomas, M.D.; Taiwo Babatope, M.D., M.P.H., M.B.A.; Sonia Kapoor, J.D.; Bhinna Park, M.D.; and Priya Kumar, M.D.



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