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**CHICAGO HUMAN RHYTHM PROJECT 25TH ANNIVERSARY JUBALEE GALA RAISES \$200,000
JUBA! Awards Presented to Chicago Philanthropists Patti Eylar and Charlie Gardner
and The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation**

The [Chicago Human Rhythm Project](#) (CHRP), celebrating 25 years as the nation's premier presenter of American tap dance and contemporary percussive arts, honored **Patti Eylar and Charlie Gardner** and **The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation** with JUBA! Awards at [Jubalee](#), CHRP's annual gala benefit supporting performance, education and community programs that reach more than 20,000 people every year. This special evening, hosted by Bill Kurtis, took place October 7 at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park. Attended by 225 people, the event raised \$200,000 from a combination of ticket sales, silent and live auction proceeds, table sponsorships, raffle ticket sales, and individual and corporate contributions.

JUBA Awards and performances

At this year's Jubalee, celebrating its 25th season, CHRP honored **Patti Eylar and Charlie Gardner** with the JUBA! Award for Lifetime Contributions to Culture and Community for their longtime generous support of Chicago Human Rhythm Project and the entire dance community. In addition, CHRP honored **The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation** with its annual JUBA! Award for Extraordinary Commitment to Culture and Community for its long-term support of cultural organizations of all sizes through direct grants and smaller grants through the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation and Prince Charitable Trusts. These honorees played pivotal roles in the establishment of CHRP's shared dance space, the American Rhythm Center, which will provide a platform for multiple organizations during CHRP's next 25 years. Eylar, Gardner and The MacArthur Foundation join the distinguished company of past JUBA! Award recipients, including Gregory Hines, Bill Irwin, Mayor and Mrs. Richard M. Daley, Ted and Susan Oppenheimer, Bill Kurtis and Donna LaPietra, and Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

The evening began with a cocktail reception and a silent auction, followed by performances featuring CHRP's resident ensemble [BAM!](#), acclaimed jazz pianist Greg Spero, Monternz Rezell's Movement Revolution, Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra's Steel Pan Ensemble and MacArthur Fellow ("Genius Award") Reginald Robinson. The evening concluded with dinner, a live auction and a dessert reception where guests met the performers.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel served as Honorary Chair. Co-Chairs included Lane Alexander, Judith Blank, Michael Foster, Elaine Cohen and Arlen Rubin, Susan and Ted Oppenheimer, Claudette Smith and Cari and Barry Shein.

Jubalee sponsors included BMO Harris Bank, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Northern Trust, Residence Inn Marriott, Patti Eylar and Charlie Gardner, Susan and Ted Oppenheimer, Elaine Cohen and Arlen Rubin, Judith Blank and Lane Alexander, Cari and Barry Shein, Richard and Diane Weinberg, Dona and Lewis Williams, Paul Levy and Mia Park, James and Linda Mitchell, Segal Consulting, The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, RentCom, Inc., Eli's Cheesecake, Northwestern Memorial Foundation, William Friese and The Lyon Family Foundation.

CHRP'S 25th Anniversary Season

CHRP's 2014–15 season encompasses a range of events, from intimate showcases to the debut of a multi-venue spring event, the Chicago Rhythm Fest. Still to come:

- November 27, 2014 – CHRP marches with hundreds of young tap dancers in the annual **McDonald's Thanksgiving Day Parade** on State Street.
- February 12–15, 2015 – **Winter Tap Jamboree** of master classes, Tap Scholar auditions and more takes place at the American Rhythm Center (ARC) at the Fine Arts Building.
- March and April 2015 – The debut of the **Chicago Rhythm Fest** begins with a series of mini-performances, lecture demonstrations, panel discussions and free classes in several Chicago neighborhoods featuring a variety of Chicago artists and companies.
- May 6, 2015 – The **culminating performance of the Chicago Rhythm Fest** offers a showcase of Chicago artists at the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University.
- July 6–August 2, 2015 – The **25th annual Rhythm World summer festival** of tap and percussive dance takes place at the ARC, MCA Chicago and the Jazz Showcase; the fifth year of a five-year international focus (Canada, Japan, Brazil, Europe) will spotlight Chicago and U.S. artists.

Chicago Human Rhythm Project

Founded in 1990, [Chicago Human Rhythm Project](#) (CHRP) builds community by presenting American tap dance and contemporary percussive arts in world-class and innovative performance, education and community outreach programs. CHRP has produced multiple community-based collaborations involving shared revenue programs, concerts and touring opportunities, including:

- annual National Tap Dance Day concerts, featuring an array of tap and percussive dance artists
- a shared revenue program designed to assist Chicago's budding tap community to build capacity through audience development, created in 2001
- Thanks 4 Giving, another innovative shared revenue program launched in 2005 as part of its annual Global Rhythms concerts, through which CHRP has partnered with more than 100 Chicago-based nonprofits to raise funds for a wide variety of service agencies
- participation in the 5th Anniversary Beijing International Dance Festival, assembling 70 artists to represent the United States
- establishment of the American Rhythm Center (ARC), providing a shared, affordable and sustainable education, rehearsal and administrative facility for several leading Chicago arts organizations in the historic Fine Arts Building
- curating the first ever, full-length performance of concert tap dance on a main stage of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on December 7, 2012

CHRP's vision is to establish the first global center for American tap and percussive arts, which will create a complete ecosystem of education, performance, creation and community in a state-of-the-art facility uniting generations of diverse artists and the general public. For information visit chicagotap.org.

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