June 2014 Edition

**Safe Passage's 3rd Annual Gala**

*By Trish Steele*

On May 4th, 2014 Safe Passage of Women Crowned In Glory, Inc. held their third annual Gala at the Beverly Hills Montage Hotel, entitled “Courageous Women and Mothers Making a Difference”. Pat Harvey, CBS2 New Anchor hosted for the third time and spoke words of encouragement and love in between the talents and honorees on stage.

The afternoon luncheon started with the Champagne Reception and Red Carpet Interviews. Champagne and Wine donated by Simply Wine Fest. The Red Carpet interviews were hosted by Stephanie Abrams and Jennifer Rodriguez. Both interviewed sponsors, honorees and celebrities such as Holly Robinson Peete, Pat Harvey, Bree Walker, Florence Larue and more.

City Controller Ron Galperin and Assistant LA Sheriff James Hellmold attended to give the honorees and sponsors a “Certificate of Appreciation” for the charitable work they do in our community. The VIP’s were Steve Mauldin, President & General manager of CBS2/KCAL9, Verizon, Safe Passage, Holly Robinson Peete, Dr. Peter Grossman and Jarrett Arthur. CBS2 aired a clip of the event that evening on the news and many called with excitement to congratulate Safe Passage and its wonderful work.

The Honorees took our breath away as they received their awards from Safe Passage on stage. First was Jarrett Arthur, founder of M.A.M.A. (Mothers Against Malicious Acts) shares her story why she started the special self-defense classes for mothers and their children. Many were in awe of her strength and brave spirit.

Next was Dr. Peter Grossman with the Courageous Man Award; watching the short video on the amazing work that he does at the Grossman Burn Center. The video brought tears to many seeing the faces of these women who have been victims of acid thrown in their face. Mrs. Rebecca Grossman, his wife is very much a part of helping these women with their healing. She has founded
a campaign and film entitled "Stop Violence Against Women Globally"; which is a part of the Grossman Foundation.

The highlight of the afternoon was Holly Robinson Peete receiving the "Women Crowned In Glory Award". She attended with her son Robinson and daughter Elizabeth. Holly, an actress, author, mother, wife, activist and philanthropist is able to take the time and share her passion to see that Safe Passage clients get the support that is needed to keep the amazing transformation funded. Her speech left us all inspired to do more! She is one dynamic woman.

On stage was Safe Passage new Spokesperson, Tanya Young Williams. Tanya brought her young daughter who shined like the stars. Mrs. Williams shared her heart about domestic violence on the new video and she introduced the ladies of Safe Passage on stage with inspiring words. We are grateful to have Tanya on our team, a woman of Glory!

The entertainment and award ceremony was amazing and straight to the heart. Music by singer Heart Hays and violinist Dayren Santamaria both received a standing ovation. The Dance Company Museffect took the stage over with a group of amazing dancers that did an outstanding performance. After all was well, the auctioneer Robert Baxt did a wonderful comedy act to get everyone to buy the live auction items; Jessica Simpson Fashions, Rose Bowl seasonal tickets, Macys, CBS2 Studio Tour, Cinema Secrets, Personified Chauffeur Services, Eccoci Fashions, and dinner at Montage and more.

Thank you everyone for giving of your time and gifts. You all are loved and appreciated!

Photo Gallery from Safe Passage's 3rd Annual Gala
something so amazingly good is the greatest testimony of all, and for that I will always be grateful to Safe Passage, as they are true Women Crowned In Glory!

My kids and I moved from motel to motel until I ran out of money and we ended up sleeping in my car. I called shelter upon shelter and visited with Department of Social Services almost every other day, only to hear "sorry we can't help you". After a few weeks, I sold my car for $2,000 less than what it was worth just to pay for a motel for a month so that my kids wouldn't have to suffer. I started to question my parenting and if I was capable of raising my kids, while my spirit and my morals were being challenged by the minute daily. With an overhead of $2,500 a month and no income, no support from family or friends and no where to turn as a single mom of (2), I questioned if leaving an abusive relationship was the right thing to do.

I cried out to God in that midnight hour and I asked him for Safe Passage and within a week, there they were! I had no expectations, I was just open to a divine meeting appointed by God. I had always wanted to be surrounded by a strong, powerful, beautiful group of supportive women and
that's what he gave me. Trish and Linda collectively helped to restore my broken heart, my commitment to love and the ability to completely trust God. Not only did they give me the gift of hope, but they also helped restore my children's happiness and sense of security which is more than I could ever ask for!