

PRIDE MATTERS

Equality PAC hosts 6th Annual National Pride Gala in DC

The Equality PAC's National Pride Gala in D.C. raised over \$900,000 to support LGBTQ representation in Congress, honoring key allies.



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WASHINGTON — The Equality PAC hosted its sixth annual National Pride Gala in D.C. at Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium. It was the organization's largest event of the year. Through this event, Equality PAC has raised more than \$900,000.

During the annual event, which has become a must-attend event of the Pride season, Equality PAC honored award-winning actors Lisa Rinna and Harry Hamlin with the 2026 Nancy Pelosi Equality Ally Award. Canadian actor, screenwriter, director, and creator Jacob Tierney received

Equality PAC's inaugural Game Changer Award in recognition of his work creating, writing, directing, and producing *Heated Rivalry*.

Special guests included Emmy-winning comedian and RuPaul's Drag Race champion Bob the Drag Queen, who served as emcee; Admiral (ret) Dr. Rachel Levine, former U.S. Assistant Secretary for Health, delivered remarks. Grammy Award winner and Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Darlene Love performed and singer, actress, and philanthropist Lynda Carter, best known for originating the iconic role of Wonder Woman.

"Tonight's National Pride Gala is a celebration of the progress we've achieved together, the leaders and allies who have helped move our movement forward, and the work that still lies ahead. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our supporters from across the country, we raised more than \$900,000 to help elect pro-equality champions, strengthen LGBTQ representation in Congress, and ensure that the voices of our community are heard in the halls of power," said Equality PAC Co-Chairs Ranking Member Mark Takano (D-CA) and Congressman Ritchie Torres (D-NY). "At a time when LGBTQ Americans continue to face coordinated attacks on their rights and freedoms, gatherings like this serve as a powerful reminder that our community is resilient, united, and determined to keep moving forward. The support demonstrated tonight sends a clear message that equality is not negotiable and that we will continue fighting for a future where every person can live openly, safely, and authentically."

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Additional speakers included Equality PAC Co-Chairs Congressman Ritchie Torres and Ranking Member Mark Takano, Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi, House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries, House Democratic Whip Katherine Clark and this year's Equality PAC National Pride Gala Dinner Co-Chairs Congresswoman Emily Randall, Congressman Eric Sorensen, and Ranking Member Robert Garcia.

"The incredible guests joining us this evening reflect the broad coalition of leaders, artists, advocates, and allies who continue to stand with our community. Together, they embody the spirit of this event: a belief that progress is possible when people come together in support of dignity, opportunity, and equality for all," the Co-Chairs continued. "Tonight is not only a

celebration of what we have accomplished, but an investment in what comes next. The energy, generosity, and commitment on display will help fuel the fight for equality in the months and years ahead and we are deeply grateful to everyone who made this record-breaking evening possible.”

Equality PAC expected more than 700 guests to attend including more than 80 Members of Congress and congressional candidates. This year’s National Pride Gala was Co-Chaired by Congresswoman Emily Randall, Congressman Eric Sorensen, and Ranking Member Robert Garcia.

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