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Hudson Williams and Connor Storrie Reunite for a Mental Health Summit in NYC

The *Heated Rivalry* stars celebrated a new foundation inspired by their popular romance series

BY JOEL CALFEE PUBLISHED: OCT 02, 2026 1:02 PM EDT

Earlier this week, the lines between fact and fiction were blurred when the cast and crew of ***Heated Rivalry***—the smash Crave TV series based on Rachel Reid's novels of the same name—brought one of the fictitious elements from the source material to life.

In the *Heated Rivalry* books, main characters Shane Hollander and Ilya Rozanov (played by **Hudson Williams and Connor Storrie**, respectively) choose to start a non-profit called the Irina Foundation, which is named after Ilya's late mother, and aims to support those suffering from mental illness.

Now, the real-life production team behind *Heated Rivalry* has decided to make the **Irina Foundation** a reality.



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The cast and crew of *Heated Rivalry* attend the Kate Spade New York Global Summit on Women's Mental Health on September 30.

On Wednesday, a panel was held during the Kate Spade New York Global Summit on Women's Mental Health, where the cast and crew opened up about "authenticity, resilience, and belonging," the **sophomore season** of *Heated Rivalry*, as well as the newly-founded Irina Foundation.

Attendees, of course, included Williams and Storrie, who looked cozy in their early fall looks. The former wore a knit Justin Jacob Louis cardigan over a black tee and high-waisted slacks, while the latter chose a head-to-toe Saint Laurent look, including a brown cashmere sweater, a striped dress shirt, and wool pants.

Other series cast members in attendance included Ksenia Daniela Kharlamova and Christina Chang, and the group was joined by author Reid, show creator Jacob

Tierney, and executive producer Brendan Brady.

Kate Spade acted as the inaugural donor to the Irina Foundation, which is described as: “a private independent fund dedicated to championing inclusivity and mental well-being through participation in sports and the arts, with a focus on LGBTQIA2S+ and underserved communities.” Production company Accent Aigu Entertainment is backing the organization, while the men’s grooming company Harry’s is also an early supporter.

Heated Rivalry only continues to make a positive impact, on- *and* off-screen.

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