

Big Sisters celebrates record-breaking fundraiser for mentorship

2nd Annual Luminary Award Soirée raises \$450,000

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA, November 3, 2016 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland (BCLM) raised a recordbreaking \$450,000 at its 2nd annual Luminary Award Soirée, co-presented by the Peter & Joanne Brown Foundation and RBC at the historic Fairmont Hotel Vancouver on Friday, October 28.

In a full room of 460 Big Sisters BCLM supporters, sponsors, board members and staff, the community came together to celebrate mentoring and raise funds for Big Sisters' three programs.



Little Sisters Masha Baeva and Jesse Costucci performed a touching spoken word to a standing ovation at the Big Sisters BCLM Luminary Award Soirée.

Brenda Gershkovitch, Executive Director of Big Sisters BCLM spoke during the Soirée, expressing her appreciation to all guests in the room, "Tonight is more than just an event, it is a night where community builders like yourself join us in creating these transformational relationships. Mentoring really does work!"



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Research shows that 60% of girls look up to celebrities as their primary role models, while only 36% look up to their parents and almost none look up to professionals such as scientists or writers. Big Sisters BCLM gives these girls a positive role model who helps them achieve success in work, life and community. The funds raised at this year's Luminary Award Soirée are enough to support 225 Big Sisters matches.

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ABOUT THE LUMINARY AWARD SOIRÉE

The Big Sisters Luminary Award Soirée is the agency's largest fundraiser of the year. A Luminary is someone who inspires and influences others. At Big Sisters that person is also a community leader who believes that mentoring matters. Big Sisters honoured John Montalbano, Vice-Chairman of RBC Wealth Management, as the 2016 Luminary Award Soirée recipient for his far-reaching mentorship which is changing lives in our community.

This glamourous evening engaged 460 Big Sisters' broad network of supporters and featured a champagne reception, raffle, silent auction, live auction, three course dinner and live band.

To see the excitement, you can find Big Sisters on social media @BigSistersBCLM and follow along with the hashtag #BigSistersBigParty.

Luminary Award Soirée Sponsors: Peter & Joanne Brown Foundation; RBC; Sauder School of Business at UBC; RBC Global Asset Management and Phillips, Hager & North Investment Management; Silver Wheaton; TD; Deans Knight Capital Management Ltd; Constellation Brands; HNW Services; Alexander Holburn Beaudin + Lang LLP; Clark Wilson LLP; Credential Asset Management; Ernst & Young LLP; Grant Thornton LLP / Kay Gray; KPMG LLP; Mira & Soleil Lutsky; Primex Investments Ltd: Air Canada Foundation: 103.5 QMFM; BC Living; Business in Vancouver; CTV; Vancouver Courier; Westender; Brandon Elliot Photography; Eclipse Awards; Fairmont Hotel Vancouver; Harbour Air Seaplanes; Media One; PSAV; RR Donnelley; U.S. Consulate.

ABOUT BIG SISTERS OF BC LOWER MAINLAND

Since 1960, Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland has been enhancing the confidence, self-esteem and well-being of girls through supportive friendships with caring women. Big Sisters matches vulnerable girls between the ages of 7 and 17 with female volunteers in mentoring relationships and provides

Big Sisters BCLM awarded their 2nd annual Luminary Award to John Montalbano, Vice-Chairman of RBC Wealth Management.



Big Sisters BCLM are celebrating a record-breaking \$450,000 raised at their 2nd annual Luminary Award Soirée

ongoing support to these matches. Big Sisters is proud to be a Community Partner of United Way of the Lower Mainland.

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