



MARCH OF DIMES

# *Gourmet Gala*

SUPPORTING MOMS AND BABIES EVERYWHERE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2015 | NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM

# driven<sup>o</sup>



## **United Technologies**

United Technologies salutes The March of Dimes for its efforts on behalf of mothers and babies everywhere. We are honored to support you and humbled by your drive.

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MARCH OF DIMES  
*Gourmet Gala*  
SUPPORTING MOMS AND BABIES EVERYWHERE

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Welcome and thank you for joining us at the 33rd Annual March of Dimes Gourmet Gala. Tonight, we celebrate the lives saved because of your countless efforts to support the March of Dimes mission to prevent premature birth, birth defects and infant mortality.

More than four million babies were born in the United States last year, and the March of Dimes has helped each and every one through research, education, vaccines and breakthroughs – thanks to generous contributors like you.

Although the nation's preterm birth rate is declining, one in nine babies is born too soon. Premature birth remains the leading cause of newborn death, and babies who survive an early birth often face the risk of lifetime health challenges. There is more work to be done, and we are proud to work together to fight prematurity and improve the health of babies.

Gourmet Gala would not have been a success without the countless volunteers and dedicated committee members. We also appreciate our distinguished Celebrity Chefs and Celebrity Judges for sharing their time and culinary expertise.

Lastly, we are grateful for the generosity of our sponsors and donors, whose support helps fund the vital research and programs to help women have full-term pregnancies and healthy babies.

It has been an honor and pleasure to chair this year's Gourmet Gala. We hope you enjoy the evening and the additional time for tasting. Thank you for supporting the March of Dimes so that all babies have the best possible chance at a healthy start in life.



Mrs. Dianne Isakson, Georgia



Dr. Carolina Reyes, California

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## A PROMISE TO DELIVER

UPS proudly supports the March of Dimes Gourmet Gala and its commitment to ending premature births, birth defects and infant mortality.



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the March of Dimes  
Gourmet Gala.



MARCH OF DIMES  
*Gourmet Gala*  
SUPPORTING MOMS AND BABIES EVERYWHERE

Presented by  
United Technologies Corporation

**MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES**

Mrs. Sheinelle Jones, NBC's "Weekend TODAY"

**WELCOME REMARKS & FUND THE MISSION**

Dr. Howse, March of Dimes President  
Elijah Jackson, March of Dimes National Ambassador

...

**CO-CHAIR REMARKS**

Senator Johnny Isakson and Mrs. Dianne Isakson, Georgia  
Representative Xavier Becerra and Dr. Carolina Reyes, California

...

**FINANCE CO-CHAIR REMARKS**

Mrs. Kathy Didawick, BlueCross BlueShield Association  
Ms. Gina Rigby, Aflac, Inc.

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Krister Holladay, United Technologies Corporation

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**PRESENTATION OF AWARDS**

...

**DESSERT RECEPTION**

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## CELEBRITY CHEFS

### 2015 CELEBRITY CHEFS

**Senator Johnny Isakson and Mrs. Dianne Isakson, Georgia**  
**Representative Xavier Becerra and Dr. Carolina Reyes, California**

Representative Robert Aderholt and Mrs. Caroline Aderholt, *Alabama*  
Representative Rick Allen and Mrs. Robin Allen, *Georgia*  
Senator John Barrasso and Mrs. Bobbi Barrasso, *Wyoming*  
Representative Sanford Bishop and Mrs. Vivian Bishop, *Georgia*  
Senator Richard Blumenthal and Mrs. Cynthia Blumenthal, *Connecticut*  
Senator Roy Blunt and Mrs. Abby Blunt, *Missouri*  
Senator Richard Burr and Mrs. Brooke Burr, *North Carolina*  
Representative Tony Cardenas and Mrs. Norma Cardenas, *California*  
Senator Ben Cardin and Mrs. Myrna Cardin, *Maryland*  
Senator Bill Cassidy and Dr. Laura Cassidy, *Louisiana*  
Senator Dan Coats and Mrs. Marsha Coats, *Indiana*  
Senator Susan Collins, *Maine*  
Senator Chris Coons and Mrs. Annie Coons, *Delaware*  
Senator John Cornyn and Mrs. Sandy Cornyn, *Texas*  
Representative Debbie Dingell and Honorable John Dingell, *Michigan*  
Senator Mike Enzi and Mrs. Diana Enzi, *Wyoming*  
Senator Deb Fischer and Mr. Bruce Fischer, *Nebraska*  
Senator Al Franken and Mrs. Franni Franken, *Minnesota*  
Representative Gene Green and Mrs. Helen Green, *Texas*  
Senator Martin Heinrich and Mrs. Julie Heinrich, *New Mexico*  
Representative Ruben Hinojosa and Mrs. Marty Hinojosa, *Texas*  
Senator Amy Klobuchar and Mr. John Bessler, *Minnesota*  
Representative Doug Lamborn and Mrs. Jeanie Lamborn, *Colorado*  
Representative Dave Loebsack and Mrs. Terry Loebsack, *Iowa*  
Representative Billy Long and Mrs. Barbara Long, *Missouri*  
Senator Joe Manchin and Mrs. Gayle Manchin, *West Virginia*  
Representative Doris Matsui, *California*  
Senator Lisa Murkowski and Mr. Verne Martell, *Alaska*  
Senator Bill Nelson and Mrs. Grace Nelson, *Florida*  
Senator David Perdue and Mrs. Bonnie Perdue, *Georgia*  
Senator Gary Peters and Mrs. Colleen Ochoa Peters, *Michigan*  
Representative Bill Posey and Mrs. Katie Posey, *Florida*  
Senator Jim Risch and Mrs. Vicki Risch, *Idaho*  
Senator Pat Roberts and Mrs. Franki Roberts, *Kansas*  
Representative David Scott and Mrs. Alfredia Scott, *Georgia*  
Senator Tim Scott, *South Carolina*  
Representative Mike Thompson and Mrs. Janet Thompson, *California*  
Senator Thom Tillis and Mrs. Susan Tillis, *North Carolina*  
Senator Pat Toomey and Mrs. Kris Toomey, *Pennsylvania*  
Senator Tom Udall and Mrs. Jill Udall, *New Mexico*  
Senator Mark Warner and Mrs. Lisa Collis, *Virginia*  
Representative Lynn Westmoreland and Mrs. Joan Westmoreland, *Georgia*



Thank you to the distinguished celebrity chefs for supporting the March of Dimes by participating this evening!

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# A RECIPE FOR A HEALTHY FUTURE.

The men and women of Lockheed Martin are proud to sponsor the 33rd Annual Gourmet Gala 2015 as it celebrates the March of Dimes and its mission to improve the health of every one of the four million babies born in the U.S. every year.

Learn more at [lockheedmartin.com/community](http://lockheedmartin.com/community)



For more than 100 years, we've been committed to providing clean, safe, reliable and affordable energy in a manner that benefits the communities we serve. We are proud to celebrate the March of Dimes and more than 75 years of lifesaving research.

[southerncompany.com](http://southerncompany.com)



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## AWARD DESCRIPTIONS



### **BEST PRESENTATION AWARD**

The Best Presentation Award is presented to the celebrity chefs whose hors d'oeuvre recipe is the most attractive and appetizing.

### **HEALTH AND HAPPINESS AWARD**

The Health and Happiness Award is presented to the celebrity chefs whose hors d'oeuvre recipe is essentially low fat and nutritious and celebrates healthier cooking.

### **AMERICAN REGIONAL CUISINE AWARD**

The American Regional Cuisine Award is presented to the celebrity chefs whose hors d'oeuvre recipe is made with the best-tasting ingredients indigenous to the locale.

### **EASIEST PREPARATION AWARD**

The Easiest Preparation Award is presented to the celebrity chefs whose hors d'oeuvre recipe is the easiest to prepare.

### **BEST IN SHOW AWARD**

The Best in Show Award is presented to the celebrity chefs whose hors d'oeuvre recipe has the overall best taste and flavor.

### **THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD**

The People's Choice Award is voted on by the guests at the Gala and will be presented to the celebrity chefs whose hors d'oeuvre recipe receives the most votes.



## 2015 CELEBRITY JUDGES



Chef Ris Lacoste  
Ris

Chef Jeff Tunks  
Passion Food Hospitality

Chef Matt Parrilli  
National Democratic Club

Chef Spike Mendelsohn  
Béarnaise

Chef Jamie Leeds  
Hank's Oyster Bar





## **This is our American journey.**

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**2015 GOURMET GALA CO-CHAIRS**

Mrs. Johnny Isakson and Dr. Carolina Reyes

**PAST CO-CHAIRS**

Mrs. John Barrasso and Mrs. Ruben Hinojosa, 2014  
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Mrs. Al Franken and Mrs. Harold D. Rogers, 2012  
Mrs. Roger Wicker and Mrs. Lloyd Doggett, 2011  
Mrs. Tom Udall and Mrs. Spencer Bachus III, 2010  
Mrs. Michael Enzi and Mrs. Dennis Moore, 2009  
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Mrs. Pat Roberts and Mrs. John Tanner, 2007  
Mrs. Tim P. Johnson and Mrs. Joseph Knollenberg, 2006  
Mrs. Robert F. Bennett and Mrs. Mike Thompson, 2005  
Mrs. Carl Levin and Mrs. Mac Collins, 2004  
Mrs. Conrad Burns and Mrs. Calvin Dooley, 2003  
Mrs. John Edwards and Mrs. David Hobson, 2002  
Mrs. Jon Kyl and Mrs. Richard Gephardt, 2001  
Mrs. Don Nickles and Mrs. Benjamin Cardin, 2000  
Ms. Lucy Calautti (Conrad) and Mrs. Bill Archer, 1999  
Mrs. John Dingell and Mrs. Spencer Abraham, 1998  
Mrs. Frank Murkowski, 1997  
Mrs. Trent Lott, 1996  
Mrs. Kimberly Olson Dorgan, 1995  
Mrs. Thomas Daschle, 1994  
Mrs. Slade Gorton, 1993  
Mrs. Christopher Bond, 1992  
Mrs. Howell Heflin and Mrs. David Busby, 1991  
Senator John Warner, 1990  
Mrs. Alan K. Simpson and Mrs. William P. McClure, 1989  
Mrs. John B. Breaux, 1988  
Mrs. Ted Stevens, 1987  
Mrs. Ernest Hollings, 1986  
Mrs. Lloyd M. Bentsen, Jr. and The Honorable Penne Percy Korth, 1985  
Mr. and Mrs. James Brady, 1984  
Mrs. Strom Thurmond, 1983

2015 GOURMET GALA FINANCE COMMITTEE

**FINANCE CHAIRS**

Kathy Didawick, *BlueCross BlueShield Association*

Gina Rigby, *Aflac, Inc.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Amy Hawkins, *BNSF Railway Company*

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Anna Schneider, *Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.*

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*Gourmet Gala*  
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U.S. Telecom Association  
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# Elijah Jackson

2015 national  
ambassador



Born 15 weeks early,  
1 lb., ½ oz.

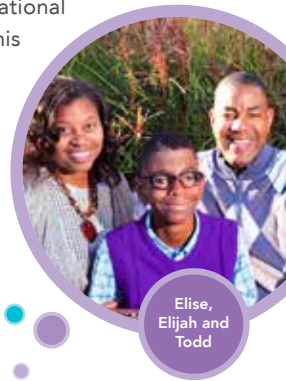


Elise Jackson of Chicago was healthy and doing everything right when her water broke halfway through her pregnancy. After 5 weeks of bed rest in the hospital and careful monitoring, she and her husband, Todd, welcomed their son into the world on 5/8/02 at 25 weeks. He weighed just over a pound and was 11 inches long, which is the length of a sheet of paper. Everything happened so suddenly, explains Elise, that “there wasn’t time for me to take in the magnitude of the situation — the birth of my only child, the fact that he arrived months earlier than expected, and the incredibly long journey ahead for our family.”

Elijah spent 7 months in a newborn intensive care unit where he had heart surgery and received treatment for respiratory and digestive problems, anemia and jaundice. When his happy parents finally took him home, he continued to be monitored with a feeding tube, respiratory support and a trach in his throat to help him breathe easier. Elijah’s medical bills totaled more than \$1.2 million.

Today, at 12, Elijah is a student and basketball fan. As he continues to overcome challenges, he inspires others, especially his parents. Elise, a March of Dimes volunteer for 10 years, rallies her colleagues at United year round, while Todd, a member of March of Dimes national service partner Phi Beta Sigma, Inc., also helps lead the local March for Babies® walks and their family team. As the 2015 National Ambassador, Elijah and his parents will travel the country to share his story and raise awareness of premature birth.

Follow Elijah on his travels at  
[facebook.com/marchofdimesnationalambassador](https://www.facebook.com/marchofdimesnationalambassador)  
[www.marchforbabies.org/Elijah33](http://www.marchforbabies.org/Elijah33)



Elise,  
Elijah and  
Todd

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# Maternal and Child Health Funding: the Future of our Nation's Health



Investments in maternal and child health research and prevention activities improve the well-being and quality of life for women, infants, children, and families while reducing government costs. The March of Dimes urges Congress to fund the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Health Resources and Services Administration, and other key health agencies to promote the health of future generations. Examples of a few programs critical to maternal and child health include:

The NIH is the epicenter of our nation's maternal and child health research. **Congress should fund NIH at \$32 billion** and research on child health and human development at \$1.37 billion in FY 2016.

*The PREEMIE Reauthorization Act* was passed by Congress last year to renew federal research and programs to help identify the causes and prevention of premature birth. As part of supporting these programs, **Congress should allocate \$46 million for the CDC's Safe Motherhood Initiative** and reinstate the preterm birth sub-line at \$2 million.

Newborn screening programs allow every infant born in our nation to be screened for disorders that can cause severe disability or death in the first days or weeks of life if not identified and addressed. **HRSA's Heritable Disorders program should be funded at \$18 million** for FY 2016 to ensure these critical programs are maintained and improved.



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ON SALE NOW

march of dimes

# Commemorative Coin



The 2015 March of Dimes Silver Dollar is on sale now! It celebrates 75 years of research, education, vaccines and breakthroughs.

The obverse (heads) of the coin features the likenesses of March of Dimes founder, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and Dr. Jonas Salk, whose polio vaccine was declared "safe, effective and potent" in 1955. The reverse (tails) of the coin depicts a baby cuddled in the hand of its parent, illustrating our dedication to the health of babies everywhere.

A special set will also be available, featuring a March of Dimes silver dollar and two silver Roosevelt dimes, to commemorate President Roosevelt's role in the original "March of Dimes" fundraising effort to find a way to prevent polio.

The March of Dimes is authorized to receive \$10 from each silver dollar sold to help more moms have full-term pregnancies and healthy babies.

Visit [marchofdimes.org/coin](http://marchofdimes.org/coin) for ordering information.



Heads

Tails





**Keeping your family protected.**

Aflac is a proud sponsor of the March of Dimes Gourmet Gala.



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3/13

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## **March of Dimes**

and its mission to improve the health of babies



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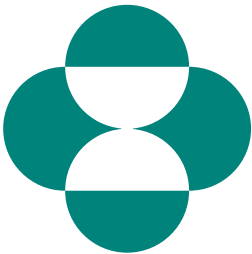


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SANOVI PASTEUR



## MARCH OF DIMES MISSION

The March of Dimes thanks you for participating in the 2015 Gourmet Gala. We have been working towards stronger, healthier babies for more than 75 years, and your support furthers our mission to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. March of Dimes researchers, volunteers, educators, outreach workers and advocates work together to give all babies a fighting chance against threats to their health.

All proceeds from this evening will benefit March of Dimes research, community services, education and advocacy to save babies' lives. Premature birth affects over half a million babies and their families every year. Even though preterm birth rates have decreased for eight consecutive years, one in nine babies will be born premature in America. Those who survive an early birth may have serious, lifelong health problems such as cerebral palsy, vision and hearing loss and other disabilities.

With your support, the March of Dimes is funding research to discover medical breakthroughs that increase the number of healthy, full-term pregnancies. Your contribution will also fund the March of Dimes Mama and Baby Bus, which provides free medical services to women in the Washington, D.C. metro area who would otherwise not receive care.

Thank you for being a champion for future generations of healthy babies!

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MARCH OF DIMES  
*Gourmet Gala*  
SUPPORTING MOMS AND BABIES EVERYWHERE



**THANK YOU**



Thank you for attending the 2015 Gourmet Gala.  
For recipes and photos from tonight's event, please  
visit [www.marchofdimes.org/gourmetgala](http://www.marchofdimes.org/gourmetgala).