



American Heart Association®
Middle Tennessee
Heart Gala™

2026 Middle Tennessee Heart Gala

*Timeless
Impact*

Saturday, February 21
6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
JW Marriott



American Heart Association®

Middle Tennessee
Heart Gala™

Our Mission

The American Heart Association is on a mission to be a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives.

Our Goal

Building on over 100 years of trusted leadership in cardiovascular and brain health, by 2028 the American Heart Association will drive breakthroughs and implement proven solutions in science, policy and care for healthier people and communities. The greatest discoveries in health must reach people where they are.

Our Theme

Our theme, “Timeless Impact,” honors the milestones that have shaped the American Heart Association mission while serving as a powerful call to continue the work ahead. Together, we reflect on the progress that has transformed heart health and embrace a future guided by hope, innovation and unwavering dedication.



An Evening Celebrating our Timeless Impact

6:00 p.m.

Griffin Pre-function, 2nd floor

Social Hour and Silent Auction

Silent Auction closes at 7:45 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

Griffin Ballroom, 2nd floor

Dinner and Program

Live Auction and Open Your Heart

9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Symphony Ballroom, 2nd floor

Late Party

Dancing with The Downtown Band

9:00 p.m.

Foyer 2nd floor

Auction Check Out Open

From Nashville

Dear friends of heart,

The Middle Tennessee Heart Gala marks a moment in time to reflect, honor and celebrate the progress made through discovery of groundbreaking research, advancements in health equity, local, state and federal advocacy efforts and equipping communities with lifesaving knowledge.

As we reflect on this timeless impact, we celebrate the advancements that have transformed heart health while embracing a future filled with hope, innovation and relentless dedication.

Thank you for the incredible impact you've made on the health of our community. We continue to have one of the most impactful years to date. Locally we've reached more than one million people across Middle Tennessee through sustainable policy and system changes. Together we placed 17 new blood pressure check stations throughout the community, implemented emergency response and Hands-Only CPR protocols, addressed nutrition insecurity through heart healthy food clinics, funded over \$7.8 million in local research and so much more.

Our mission is far from over. After over a century of driving life-saving innovations, we're ready to tackle the next big health challenges. From the ballroom to bringing innovative research to life, from the dance floor to driving equitable health for all, everything we do is made possible by those who support the Middle Tennessee Heart Gala. Tonight, we celebrate all we have accomplished and set the bar even higher for 2026.



Annie Thornhill

Executive Director

American Heart Association, Middle Tennessee

From the Heart

Dear Friend of Heart,

Welcome to this extraordinary celebration of impact and progress. Tonight, we gather not simply for an event, but to honor what you have made possible. This is a moment to reflect on a year of bold action, shared purpose and life-changing work, all powered by your commitment to the mission of the American Heart Association.

For more than a century, the American Heart Association has led the fight for longer, healthier lives. But the real story is what happens when passionate people like each of you join forces. Together, we've advanced science, shaped policy, and opened doors to better health for countless families in our community. Every milestone we celebrate tonight is a testament to your generosity and determination.

This evening is about celebrating the difference you've made over the last year. You are the heartbeat of our mission, and because of you, lives have been saved, hope has been restored, and a healthier future is within reach. Thank you for standing with us, for giving so generously, and for believing in what's possible when we work together. Here's to the incredible progress we've achieved, and to the even greater impact we will create in the years ahead. Enjoy this celebration!

Gratefully yours,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeremy Beauchamp".

Jeremy Beauchamp

Executive Vice President

American Heart Association, Southeast

From the Chair

Dear friends of heart,

Welcome to the 52 annual Middle Tennessee Heart Gala. Tonight marks a moment in time to reflect, honor and celebrate the progress we've made through determination, dedication and passion. It's been an honor to serve as chair of this campaign and to make a lasting impact as we've worked tirelessly to help ensure everyone, everywhere has access to basic needs, advance medical research, educate communities and champion lifesaving policies.

Cardiovascular disease is the No. 1 cause of death in our communities, and the need for advancing hope and health has never been greater. Nearly one in three adults in Middle Tennessee have high blood pressure, almost half face limited access to healthy food and 19 percent smoke. Most striking, life expectancy can differ by 15 years between neighborhoods just miles apart.

The Heart of Middle Tennessee helps close these gaps and change the future of health to ensure longer, healthier lives. Thanks to the unwavering commitment of supporters like you, the American Heart Association continues to drive groundbreaking research, transformative education and critical policy change to save lives.

Through these efforts, we've reached more than 1.3 million people across the Midstate with CPR training, blood pressure screenings, education and resources.

Tonight is a celebration of progress, a call to action and a chance to stand with neighbors and friends to ensure health and hope reach every corner of our community. Every story shared, connection made and dollar raised creates a timeless impact, sustainable change and a healthier Middle Tennessee.

On behalf of the American Heart Association, Lifepoint Health and my family, thank you for fueling this lifesaving mission. Together we are a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives.

William Haugh
President, Central Division
LifePoint Health



Sponsors

A special thank you to our local
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Menu

Beginings

Baby Romaine Spears
Shaved Parmesan, Roasted Tomatoes,
Radicchio, Focaccia Crisp, Caesar Dressing

Entree

Duo of Braised Short Rib and Miso Chilean
Seabass with Garlic Whipped Mashed
Potatoes and Hot Honey Glazed Carrots

Dessert

Modern Lemon Tart, Creamy Lemon Curd,
Whipped Cream, Dry Meringue Chips

Bourbon Vanilla Cheesecake, Chantilly
Cream, Salted Caramel Sauce



American Heart Association.

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Event Leadership

Heart Gala Chair

William Haugh
LifePoint Health

Legacy Chair

Mitch Edgeworth
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Open Your Heart Chair

Dr. Wright Pinson
Vanderbilt Health

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Katie Tarr, LBMC

Dr. Stan Thompson, TeamHealth

Charlie Toney, Lifepoint Health

Dr. Brian Wilcox, Ascension Saint Thomas

William T. Coakley Award

The William T. Coakley Award honors the legacy of Bill Coakley, inspiring volunteerism, selfless giving, and creating lasting impact throughout Middle Tennessee. It is awarded to those embody the American Heart Association's mission to be a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives.

Coakley's quiet acts of generosity and steadfast commitment to others left a lasting impact on his community. Deeply inspired by personal experience, he devoted himself to the mission of the American Heart Association.

As a family man, his selfless actions continue to inspire others to follow in his footsteps. His wife Kim and his family have carried forward his legacy and remained champions for the mission.

This award not only honors his remarkable legacy but those who carry it forward.



Past Award Recipients

2014 Marion Pickering Couch

2015 The Honorable & Mrs. Winfield Dunn

2016 Holly Love Walsh

2017 Judy M. Foster

2018 Sharalena & Dick Miller

2019 Becky & Dick Cowart

2020

2022

2023

2024

2025

Laurie & Jim Seabury

Sheila Shields & the late Nelson Shields

Dr. Katherine Y. Brown

Dr. C. Wright Pinson

Dr. Herman Williams & Jeannie Williams

William T. Coakley Award Recipient

Michael A. Wiechart

Michael Wiechart has made an undeniable impact on the American Heart Association through steadfast leadership, selfless generosity and a deep commitment to serving others. Like Bill Coakley, Mike leads with conviction, gives freely of his time and influence and inspires those around him to do the same.



Engaged with the Heart Association early in his career, Mike quickly became a trusted leader. In 2018, he and his wife Lisa chaired the Heart Gala, raising more than \$1 million in support of the mission and energizing a powerful vendor campaign. In 2020, he returned as co-chair alongside Phil and Belinda McSween, helping raise \$1.3 million. He continued his service on the Executive Leadership Team and, in 2021, brought his leadership to the Middle Tennessee Board of Directors during a pivotal time for the organization.

As Board Chair, Mike helped guide strategic planning efforts that strengthened volunteer engagement, expanded community impact and elevated fundraising success. A thoughtful strategist and honest advisor, he consistently provides clarity and direction when it matters most.

Yet Mike's leadership is defined not only by results, but by compassion. He mentors emerging leaders, invests deeply in others and leads by example—setting a standard of servant leadership that reflects the very spirit of the William T. Coakley Award. His enduring commitment ensures the mission will continue to thrive for generations to come.

2026 Heart Gala Survivor

Jamie Kephart





American Heart Association®

Leaders of Impact™



Gracie Francis
Caduceus



Matthew Hurley
Deloitte



Joshua Livingston
JP Morgan



Alex DeBernardi
Robins & Morton



Reece Tucker
Barge Design Solutions

2025 Leaders of Impact Winner

Alex DeBernardi

After my brother, Grady, passed, we learned he had coronary artery disease. I had never heard of it before then. What is coronary artery disease? A chronic condition where plaque builds up in the coronary arteries, the blood vessels that deliver oxygen-rich blood to the heart muscle.

After sharing Grady's story with an Executive Leadership Team, one of the team members reach out to me to share his CHD story and journey! The information and knowledge he gave me was invaluable. This is my why and my reason for supporting, volunteering, and sharing the American Heart Association mission.



Since my brother passed, my family has grown. Now, I have two sweet children who need me, who need my husband, and who need their grandparents. Knowing what we need to do and what the symptoms are that could change my life and their lives are extremely important.

Being part of this campaign means so much to me because I've seen firsthand how heart disease affects families, including my own.

I am honored and grateful to be this year's Leaders of Impact winner and look forward to passing on the torch!

Entertainment

Erik and Giselle

Originally from Orlando and Gainesville, Florida, and currently based in Nashville, Tennessee, Giselle and Erik are a husband-and-wife folk jazz duo. Each of them songwriters, Giselle and Erik offer their audiences a collection of original music that pairs Giselle's warm, lyrical voice and mellow piano with the sweet sounds of Erik's jazz and classical guitar. With raw emotion and evocative poetry, the duo sings about everyday life, healing, and a world underpinned by love.

The Downtown Band

The Downtown Band transforms elite celebrations into legendary affairs, trusted by royalty and A-listers alike. This 7-15 piece powerhouse reads rooms perfectly, flowing from cocktail jazz to explosive dance sets that pack floors with three generations moving together. Event planners trust them to deliver that "how did you find them?" reaction every host dreams of and their world-class musicians deliver pure magic every time.

Thank you to our past Heart Gala leadership

2025 - Mitch Edgeworth
2024 - Ken Marlow and Gregory Maczko
2023 - Tim and Judy Fabling Wallace
2022 - Kathy and Victor Giovanetti
2020 - Lisa and Michael Wiechart
2019 - Jeannie and Herman Williams, M.D.
2018 - Belinda and Philip McSween & Lisa and Michael
Wiechart
2017 - Susan and Chris Holmes
2016 - Ashley and David Dill
2015 - Beth and Paul Frankenberg
2014 - Sharalena and Dick Miller & Sheila and Nelson
Shields
2013 - Angela Humphreys and Joe Cashia
2012 - Marjorie Feltus and David Hawkins & Erin and Kent
Simpkins
2011 - Michelle and Jim Schmitz
2010 - Mr. and Mrs. James C. Seabury, III & Mr. and Mrs.
Daniel Slipkovich
2009 - Deby and Keith Pitts & Marcy and Brian Callahan
2008 - Wendy Holcomb Burch
2007 - Mrs. Robinson Regen and Mr. Doug Regen
2006 - Mrs. Holly Diller and Mr. Jack Diller
2005 - Ms. Renée Chevalier and Mrs. Rose Miller Grindstaff
2004 - Mrs. Mary K. Barton and Dr. Wendy Baker
2003 - Mrs. Robert J. Looney and Mrs. Kevin C. Nelson
2002 - Mrs. Rick Horne and Mrs. Robert Bond Miller
2001 - Mrs. William H. Edwards, Jr. and Mrs. Billy Ray
Hearn
2000 - Wanda Neal Hooper and Mark Lee Taylor
1999 - Mrs. B. Lance Gish and Mrs. Phillip A. Warren
1998 - Mrs. Joseph B. DeLozier III and Mrs. Michael T.
Sandwith

1997 - Ms. Vicki Dimond and Mr. Michael J. Dimond
1996 - Mrs. F. Tom Foster and Mrs. James R. Gordon
1995 - Mrs. C. Bryan Hoskins and Mrs. Philip M. Martin
1994 - Mrs. Douglas G. Bradbury III and Mrs. Tony E. Brown
1993 - Ms. Linda Guthrie and Mrs. R. Donald Robinson
1992 - Mr. and Mrs. Drew S. Barkley
1991 - Ms. Vicki Stout and Mrs. Edward K. Wissing
1990 - Ms. Melinda Howser and Mrs. Carmichael Fels
1989 - Mrs. William H. Frist and Mrs. Thomas W. Molteni
1988 - Mrs. Michael W. Barton and Mrs. Timothy P.
Schoettle
1987 - Mrs. Harry W. Moodie and Mrs. Stephen W. Sanders
1986 - Ms. Lenore Storey and Mrs. Hooker Buchtel
1985 - Mrs. Mack S. Linebaugh, Jr. and Ms. Ann W.
Thomason
1984 - Mrs. James P. Wilson and Mrs. Neil E. Green
1983 - Mrs. John F. Sorey III and Mrs. James O. Hastings, Jr.
1982 - Mrs. Shade Murray, Jr. and Mrs. Taylor M. Wray
1981 - Mrs. Marbut Glenn Gaston, Jr. and Mrs. John R.
Beesley III
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Thornton
1976 - Mrs. Stanley Bernard and Mrs. James L. Winfree
1975 - Ms. Jane Layton Sadler and Mrs. Marion Pickering
Couch
1974 - Ms. Jane Layton Sadler and Mrs. Frederich Hinton



American Heart Association®

Cor Vitae Society

President's Circle

William T. Coakley Foundation
Ashley & David Dill

Pulse Circle

Kurt & Danielle Burkhalter
Brian & Marcy Callahan
Kimberly & Mitch Edgeworth

C. Wright Pinson, MD & Anona Johnson
Deborah & Keith Pitts

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Laura & Jason Zachariah



American
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Caleb Bone
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Candace Jones
Vice President of Community Impact

Kelsey Brown
Director of Community Impact

Middle Tennessee Pulse Board

The PULSE Board is a dynamic group of approximately 30 young professionals from diverse industries dedicated to making an impact in our community. Members enjoy unique leadership opportunities, networking, and the chance to contribute to meaningful initiatives. The board meets quarterly in person and virtually 3-4 times a year to collaborate on events and projects.



Interested in learning more about our PULSE Board and how to get involved? Simply scan the QR code and join us in making an impact!



American Heart Association.



Middle Tennessee Go Red for Women Luncheon

Wednesday, April 22, 2026
Schermerhorn Symphony Center

Join the Movement

Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death among women. Reducing disparities is an integral part of the Heart Association's commitment to advancing cardiovascular health for all.

heart.org/GoRedMiddleTN

Join the movement by reaching
out to bryna.mody@heart.org



American Heart Association.
Heart Walk.®

Greater Nashville Heart Walk

Sunday, September 27, 2026
Geodis Park

Why We Walk

Having a company walk team can:

- Create Company Culture
- Support Employee Health
- Increase Philanthropic Engagement

NashvilleHeartWalk.org

Register your walk team by reaching
out to caleb.bone@heart.org.


Driving Community Impact

As an organization, our community impact priorities are delivered in various ways. Although here at the local level we have a greater focus on nutrition security, our organizational priorities expand to many other categories with equity always at the center of our work, guiding all that we do.



2028 IMPACT GOAL

Building on over 100 years of trusted leadership in cardiovascular and brain health, by 2028 the Heart Association will drive breakthroughs and implement proven solutions in science, policy and care for healthier people and communities. The greatest discoveries in health must reach people where they are.



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THOSE WHO CARE

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- And more!



WilliamsonHealth.org/CardiacCare



Community Healthcare Trust is a proud supporter of the Middle Tennessee Heart Gala by providing in-school water bottles to Middle Tennessee students, blood pressure cuffs to Middle Tennesseans who need to monitor their blood pressure and supporting nutrition security through Healthy For Life, a Lunch & Learn Series in Middle Tennessee.



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CURB RECORDS

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Ardent Health *proudly supports the* Middle Tennessee Heart Gala.

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Healthy Hearts Today. Healthier Communities Tomorrow.

Lifepoint Health is proud to be a presenting sponsor for tonight's Middle Tennessee Heart Gala and proud to support the American Heart Association, which helps advance our mission of *making communities healthier*[®] by improving the heart health of people across the country.

**American Heart Association,
thank you for being a
relentless force for a world
of longer, healthier lives.**



www.lifepointhealth.net



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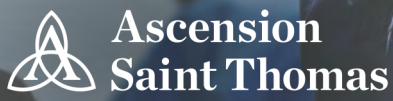


NOTHING *shall be* IMPOSSIBLE.

Bringing health, healing and hope to all.

NSBI.health

Dr. Amber Edwards
Ascension Saint Thomas Heart cardiac surgeon.



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Together we can make a difference.

Polsinelli proudly supports the **American Heart Association's Middle Tennessee Heart Gala** that empowers and supports members in our community.



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A woman's heart is unique. Her heart care should be too.

Vanderbilt Women's Heart Center is proud to support the American Heart Association in the fight against heart disease in women.

VANDERBILT  HEALTH

Women's Heart Center





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Auction Rules

Bidder numbers are issued in advance. Once assigned a number, each bidder is responsible for the use of the number throughout the evening. Bidders must be at least 18 years of age to participate in the live or silent auction.

Timeline: The Silent Auction opens the week of the gala and closes at 7:45 p.m. the night of. Announcements will be made 10 and 5 minutes before bidding closes. Check-Out will begin approximately one-half hour after the conclusion of program. The Auction Committee reserves the right to lower the minimum bids and change closing times.

Live Auction: Items will be on display in the auction area for viewing. The Live Auction will begin after dinner and will continue until all items have been auctioned. To bid on any item during the Live Auction, raise your bidder paddle. Only those bids recognized by the Auctioneer will be considered a valid bid. The winning bidder must give name and bid number to one of the Live Auction assistants, which will then be recorded with the item and amount bid, and transmitted to the Auction officials for processing.

Payment & Receipt of Items: All purchases must be paid for in full by the end of the evening of the Heart Ball. If you did not sign-up for Express Check-Out, payment may be made by cash, check or credit card at Check-Out. After payment is made, a receipt will be issued by the cashier. This receipt serves as a record of your purchases and potential tax deductions. Any sold items that are not taken home the night of the event must be picked up from the American Heart Association (AHA) office by the end of March. After that time, the AHA reserves the right to pass to another bidder.

Fair Market Value: All values listed are either the donor's estimate or the appraised value. Any amount you pay in excess of the fair market value would normally be available to you as a charitable contribution for tax purposes. Please check with your tax advisor for specifics.

Disclaimer: All goods & services (items) have been donated to the AHA by the person or company listed on each item. All items are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the donors. By purchase, the buyer waives any claim for liability against either the AHA or the donor of the item. The AHA makes no warranty as to item performance or safety. The AHA has attempted to describe the item and provide all details given. Every item is sold "as is" without recourse. All sales are final. The AHA will not refund any amounts paid for these items. No exchanges or refunds are permitted. Please read descriptions carefully as some items have certain specifications, limitations and/or blackout dates. Unless otherwise specified, all items must be used within one year of the Heart Ball. Unless specified, dates/times are to be arranged at the mutual convenience of the donor and buyer. It will be the buyer's responsibility to contact the donor to arrange for services or delivery, unless otherwise specified. All resort and private vacation homes are offered to adults and minors accompanied by adults.



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