



JOAN MANGUM

It was a high stepping finger snapping afternoon at the Beverly Hilton when the Professional Dancers Society held its 21st Gypsy awards honoring Florence Henderson and Nanette Fabray and paid tribute to Judy Garland.

More than 600 dancers, choreographers and affiliates of Broadway, films, TV and special musical events gathered to salute these two veteran performers for their long careers as musical stars in every entertainment medium.

PDS chair Joni Berry intro-



LORNA LUFT, DICK VAN DYKE

duced Dick Van Dyke (who danced across the stage... his cute remark as he reached the podium, "Boy that hurts." I wouldn't mind hurting if I could dance like that. Van Dyke read a letter from Actors Fund president Brian Stokes Mitchell and executive director Joseph Benincasa announcing that last year over 700 dancers received aid from funds raised by PDS has provided well over \$1.2 million to the fund for distribution to dancers in need.

The talented Arlene Kennedy Dancers provided much of the entertainment including a

tap version of *It Don't Mean A Thing If You Ain't Got That Swing...* We also enjoyed the Jo Cassini dance duo. All great!

Bubbly, vivacious Mitzi Gaynor, president of PDS (looking pretty in red), spoke about the honorees and as a tribute to them sang Cole Porter's *Les Girls, Les Girls...* I can only say her wit and personality gets your attention and generates lots of laughter. She introduced a riotous video from Sid Caesar with his double talking foreign language speech congratulating the honorees. Gaynor then brought on Carl Reiner and spoke about a crush she had on him when both were in their early career stages... I can't repeat their funny repartee—you had to be there. A video on Nanette highlighted some of her work since age three. She has received three Emmys (for TV's *Caesar's Hour*), a Tony (for Kurt Weill's *Love Life*)... and now the Gypsy to add to her collection.

Dancer/choreographer Don Crichton introduced Judge Judy Scheindlin who presented Henderson with her award. A video showed what a long and multifaceted career she has had... Again, the audience was wowed. Nanette, lovely in a brown suit, accented with pink and Florence in black with jeweled details... both looked beautiful... Hard to believe how long these warm and gracious stars have been around.

Boardmember Lee Hale con-

dened these two talented performers' careers on video as well as the special tribute to Judy Garland, whose daughter Lorna Luft thanked the Gypsies (as the dancers are referred to) for honoring her mother, who loved the dancers and choreographers. Besides Hale, the show was produced by Charlene Painter, Ted Sprague and Miriam Nelson.

Professional Dancers Society is an affiliate of The Actors Fund of America, a non-profit corporation serving the professional dancer, active and inactive.

There's a new first time author and she lives right here in Beverly Hills... Renee Kumetz has written an adorable new children's book *Molly The Birdgirl...* It is a delightful tale of a little girl who can imitate and whistle sounds and speak to the birds. At the book-signing at the Regency Club, many of her friends came to



RENEE KUMETZ

congratulate Renee and most of them purchased books for their grandchildren and children of friends. There was a buffet and background music by pianist Paul Chepello. It was a very exciting time for her and all her friends, including her husband Aaron, who was glowing.



GYPSY AWARDS—More than 600 were at the Beverly Hilton for the event sponsored by the Professional Dancers Association including (top from left): PDA president Mitzi Gaynor, honorees Nanette Fabray and Florence Henderson, and PDA chair Joni Berry; (left photo): Paul Michael, Carol White DeLuise and Marion Ross. *Nathan Sternfeld Photos*



Recently, a celebrity studded pre-Oscar hospitality suite was hosted by Primary Action at the Liberace Penthouse. For two days the former residence of the late world famous pianist welcomed an array of stars, entertainment industry honchos and stylists...

It was fun checking out the various booths which featured many great products... Spotted Lisa Edelstein and Shaun Toub admiring Rosalina jewelry... Clare Grant and Kimberly Joseph at Dermacia Foundation and skin products, loving Tabacalera del Oriente's Peruvian cigars were Josh Henderson, AJ Buckley, Sofia Milos and Brandon Davis... Rex Lee, Lacey Chabert, Bai Ling, and Lacey Chabert picking up beauty products from Eliza-

beth Grant Skincare... At the KamaSutra and Dirt Candles booth spotted Kim Morgan Green, Catherine O'Hara, Jennifer Missioni, and Sean Cannon... Neve Campbell, Cathy Shim, Sacha Cohen, Lady Victoria Harvery and Shan Hatosy checking out Rosato Jewelry... Barcelona-based Maji Beachwear, Lloyd Klein and Petro Zilla booths were busy busy busy with celebrities picking out their favorite things (so much to choose from)... at Bed Head and Eminence Organics booths spotted James Kyson Lee, Craig Robert Young, Paul Haggis, Valarie Farris and Jonathan Dayton stocking up on their products... Joel Von Stezelberger, the artist behind South Paradise Leather was busy showing off his unique one-of-a-kind couture creations... Aquarius Water, Krol Vodka, Academia

in need.

The talented Arlene Kennedy Dancers provided much of the entertainment including a

lieve how long these warm and gracious stars have been around.

Boardmember Lee Hale con-

Cnepeto. It was a very exciting time for her and all her friends, including her husband Aaron, who was glowing.

JULIA WOOD AND DEBORAH LAYTON... Rex Lee, Lacey Chabert, Bai Ling, and Lacey Chabert picking up beauty products from Eliza-

berger, the artist behind South Paradise Leather was busy showing off his unique one-of-a-kind couture creations... Aquarius Water, Krol Vodka, Academia Barilla and Kizakura and Shata Sake booths had a steady stream of customers enjoying sake cheesecake, strawberries with balsamic vinegar, Pom-Pom cocktails and much much more... and speaking of more, special guests also received a gift bag stuffed with extra goodies, a pilates studio membership, pajamas, hotel stays, microdermabrasion treatments with a top dermatologist and much more.

What I started to say last week before the computer gremlins got to the end of the column in the print edition was attending the elegant dinner honoring the Benefactors of the John Wayne Cancer Institute, a group of donors who give substantial amounts of money on a continuing basis.

A short program featured Joyce Green, senior VP of business development; Alexandra Carter, VP of public affairs and development; and Dr. Armando E. Giuliano, chief of science and medicine and director of Joyce Eisenberg Keefer Breast Cancer. Meanwhile, JWCI chair Patrick Wayne spoke about the great work being done and how our donations ensure the research accomplishments continue to give hope to millions of cancer patients worldwide.

A toast to all the people who give and to those responsible for this marvelous evening at the Four Seasons.

Live ON THE WATER NOT JUST NEAR IT.



Our premiere waterside locations are what Marina del Rey living is all about.

Expect bird's eye views of the sparkling harbor and mega-yachts in a resort atmosphere known world-wide for upscale living and entertainment.

After all, what is Marina living without the water?



SPECIAL:
TWO MONTHS FREE
WITH 18 MONTH LEASE
(OAC - ON SELECTED UNITS)



13900 PANAY WAY
310. 578. 6666

Capri
APARTMENTS

13953 PANAY WAY
310. 577. 6123

Monte Carlo
APARTMENTS

13970 PANAY WAY
310. 577. 6123

St. Tropez
APARTMENTS

13924 PANAY WAY
310. 578. 6666

www.GKind.com