

EXTRA SPECIAL EDITION



21 MARCH 2026



**DOWN SYNDROME**  
ASSOCIATION of  
CONNECTICUT

AN EVENING OF PURPOSE

40<sup>th</sup>

**ANNIVERSARY  
GALA**

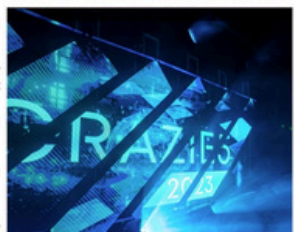
*La Bella Vista*  
WEDDING & BANQUET VENUE

380 Farmwood Road  
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<https://charity.pledgeit.org/DSACTGala2026>

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We extend heartfelt thanks to our financial supporters, families, self-advocates, and volunteers whose commitment made this evening possible.

Thank you for supporting the ongoing mission of the Down Syndrome Association of Connecticut.

# SCHEDULE



Kindly note that the schedule for this evening's program has been revised.  
Thank you for your understanding and support.

6:00 PM

Gala Stations Open  
Raffle / Auctions Opens

7:30 PM

Program Begins  
National Anthem  
Q&A with Co-Chairs, Board & Executive Director of DS ACT

7:45 PM

Awards

8:00 PM

\*\*\*Silent Auction bidding and Raffles close\*\*\*  
Paddle Raise Begins

8:15 PM

Featured Performance: THE IMPROVANEERS

8:45 PM

Dessert and Dancing

SILENT AUCTION  
SCAN HERE TO BID



ONLINE RAFFLE  
SCAN HERE TO BID



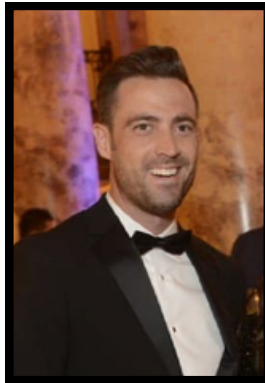
# OPENING PROGRAM

## A FEW WORDS FROM: DS ACT GALA CO-CHAIRS

SARA MICELI and COURTNEY HOULE



KEITH MCGILVERY  
The Good News Guy



# OPENING PROGRAM



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## **National Anthem**

GRACE LOMBARDO



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## **DS ACT Executive Director**

SHANON MCCORMICK



# FEATURED PERFORMANCE

## **THE IMPROVANEER METHOD**

The first improv troupe featuring individuals with Down syndrome!



<https://www.theimprovaneermethod.com>

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### **HORATIO'S HEROES**

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# MANY HANDS AWARD

*Presented to:*  
**Keith McGilvery**



The Many Hands Award honors an individual whose actions, whether large or small, create communities where people with Down syndrome are welcomed, supported, and empowered.

# The Ambassadors Circle

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**TOGETHER WE  
CHANGE THE WORLD**

Since 1986, we have served families  
throughout Connecticut.

Our mission is to encourage intentionally  
inclusive communities while providing  
resources and support to individuals who  
live with Down syndrome and their  
advocates.



[www.mysact.org](http://www.mysact.org)