



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**The Midnight Mission to Honor Music Industry Champions at the 2026 Golden Heart Awards
*Gala to Celebrate Compassion, Community, and the Power of Music to Transform Lives***

LOS ANGELES – The Midnight Mission invites the community to an unforgettable evening of inspiration, music, and philanthropy at its annual **Golden Heart Awards** on **Thursday, September 17, 2026**, at the beautiful **Taglyan Complex**, 1201 Vine Street, Hollywood.

The evening begins at **5:30 p.m.** with a Cocktail Reception and Silent Auction, followed by the **7:00 p.m. Dinner and Awards Ceremony**. Cocktail attire is requested.

This year's celebration will honor **Ken Bloom** and **Judd Abrams** as recipients of **The Midnight Mission's Golden Heart Award**, recognizing their extraordinary generosity, leadership, and unwavering commitment to helping people experiencing homelessness. The evening will also feature the inaugural presentation of **The Norman Harris Heart of Our Mission Award**, honoring legendary musician and longtime Midnight Mission supporter **Norman Harris** for his lasting impact on the organization and the lives of those it serves.

Acclaimed broadcaster and comedian **Fritz Coleman** will serve as the evening's special guest host. Entertainment will be provided by **Andy & Renee & Hard Rain**, with special performances by Grammy-nominated producer, singer-songwriter, and blues-rock guitar virtuoso **Josh Smith (Joe Bonamassa)**; teenage guitar prodigy, singer-songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist **Saxon Weiss**; and acclaimed, charting Americana duo **Alice Howe and Freebo**, featuring International Acoustic Music Award-winner Howe and rock bass legend Freebo, with more special guests throughout the evening. Together, these acclaimed artists will help celebrate the power of music to inspire hope, connection, and change.

More than a fundraising gala, the Golden Heart Awards brings together leaders from the worlds of entertainment, business, philanthropy, and community service for an evening celebrating compassion in action and lives transformed. Through an elegant cocktail reception, silent auction, dinner, inspiring stories, and memorable musical performances, the event raises critical funds for The Midnight Mission's life-changing programs, including emergency services, safe shelter, nutritious meals, comprehensive 12-Step recovery, education, workforce development, family housing, and continued care for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Founded in 1914, The Midnight Mission has never missed a day of serving those in need, providing hope and practical solutions to people experiencing homelessness for more than a century.



Community support for the 2026 Golden Heart Awards continues to build, with leading philanthropic partners already committing their support. Current sponsors include **Shelli & Judd Abrams & Family, The Chuck Lorre Family Foundation, R. Stephen & Donna Doan, U.S. Bank, the William Noonan Foundation, Dr. & Mrs. Litow, Norman's Rare Guitars** and **Cathay Bank**. Their investment underscores a shared commitment to transforming lives and strengthening the Los Angeles community through the work of The Midnight Mission.

The Gala will also mark the launch of **Coast-to-Coast**, a first-of-its-kind campaign uniting The Midnight Mission and New York Cares around one powerful idea: nobody makes it on their own. A beautifully restored **1970 Ford Mustang Mach 1** will be on display during the cocktail reception, kicking off a coast-to-coast giveaway benefiting people in need in Los Angeles and New York City. Raffle tickets are just **\$10**, with the winning ticket to be drawn live at the New York Cares Gala on December 1. Ticket holders do not need to be present to win. **For raffle tickets and more information, visit e.sparxo.com/Mustang.**

A limited number of tickets and hosted tables remain available for the Golden Heart Awards. Individual tickets are **\$650**, and hosted tables are **\$6,000**. For tickets, sponsorship opportunities, or additional event information, please visit **midnightmission.org/goldenheart**.

About The Midnight Mission: Founded in 1914, The Midnight Mission is one of the nation's longest continuously operating human services organizations. Located in the heart of Skid Row, The Midnight Mission provides a bridge to self-sufficiency through emergency services, recovery programs, education, workforce development, family housing, and continued care. Guided by its core values of compassion, dignity, community, growth, and hope, The Midnight Mission helps individuals and families rebuild their lives and achieve lasting independence.