

# ROCKS Michigan Shines for Autism Gala

Dear Friends,

Everyone knows someone with autism. In fact, the most recent data from the CDC tell us that 1 in 36 children have been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. With prevalence rising, so does the need to ensure families in Michigan have access to:

- An early diagnosis and help navigating the right resources & supports;
- A special education system that provides a high quality, inclusive education;
- A business environment that celebrates and finds strength in hiring neurodiverse employees.

Those areas, Navigation, Education & Employment, are the three foundational pillars of work for Autism Alliance of Michigan (AAoM). Across those three pillars, AAoM has served over 50,000 individuals across the state since its founding in 2009. A lot has been accomplished, but the challenges persist and we are far from done.

That is why we are honored to serve as the co-chairs of the 2025 Michigan Shines for Autism Gala. This black-tie Gala raises close to \$1,000,000 annually to sustain and grow the mission of the Autism Alliance of Michigan across the state. ***As co-chairs, we are reaching out to personally invite you to sponsor the event. We are committed.***

***Can we count on you, too?***

The Michigan Rocks for Autism Gala will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2025, at MotorCity Casino Hotel in Detroit. Over 700 business leaders, community leaders, legislators, families, and advocates gather from all across the state to stand in unity and celebration of Michigan's autism community.

## Benefits of Sponsorship:

- **Direct Mission Support:** Your sponsorship will directly impact families in our state and ensure that all autistic Michiganders are given the opportunity to lead purposeful, fulfilling lives.
- **Brand Visibility:** Your company's logo and name will be prominently featured on event materials, including invitations, program booklets, social media promotions, and event signage.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Connect with a diverse group of industry leaders, philanthropists, and community advocates.
- **Recognition:** Sponsors will be acknowledged during the gala program and throughout the event, highlighting your commitment to supporting individuals with autism.
- **Exclusive Access:** Preferred seating options, along with special recognition for top-tier sponsors.

Infused with the rebellious spirit of rock n' roll, we will turn up the volume and amplify the anthem of Michigan's autistic community while raising critical funding and awareness for the mission of Autism Alliance of Michigan.

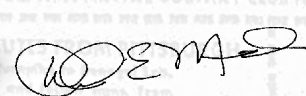
On behalf of the entire Host Committee & Autism Alliance of Michigan, thank you for considering becoming a sponsor and joining us in creating a better world for autistic people in Michigan.

With gratitude,



Vinnie Johnson  
Co-Chair  
Founder & Chairman, Piston Group



 Peggy Meador  
Dave & Peggy Meador  
Gala Co-Chairs



  
**AUTISM ALLIANCE**  
OF MICHIGAN

# **ROCKS** ~~Shines~~ for Michigan Autism Gala

**APRIL 26 - MOTORCITY CASINO HOTEL**

**PRESENTED BY**

**DTE** Foundation



# MICHIGAN ROCKS FOR AUTISM GALA



You're invited to join Autism Alliance of Michigan on Saturday, April 26, 2025 for an electrifying evening at the 14th annual Michigan Shines for Autism Gala. This year, we're rocking the night away at MotorCity Casino Hotel in Detroit with live music from the AIM High Flyers & Your Generation in Concert.

This annual black-tie affair is getting electrified in 2025 with an infusion of the rebellious spirit of rock n' roll. Together, we will turn up the volume and amplify the anthem of Michigan's autistic community while raising critical funding and awareness for the mission of Autism Alliance of Michigan.



**DAVE & PEGGY MEADOR AND VINNIE JOHNSON  
INVITE YOU TO THE 14TH ANNUAL**

# **MICHIGAN ROCKS FOR AUTISM**



**DATE:  
SATURDAY,  
APRIL 26, 2025**

**TIME:  
6:00PM - 12:00AM**

**LOCATION:  
MOTORCITY  
CASINO HOTEL**

**DETROIT, MI**



# SCHEDULE OF THE EVENING

**6:00PM:** Registration & Cocktail Hour in Sound Board

**7:00PM:** Gourmet Three Course Dinner in the Grand Ballroom

**8:00PM:** On-Stage Program Including Speakers,  
Live Auction and Paddle Raise

**9:00PM:** Your Generation in Concert in Sound Board  
with Dancing & Late-Night Snacks

**12:00AM:** Event Concludes

## ATTIRE:

Black tie optional with a rebellious twist  
that embodies the spirit of rock 'n roll



# 2025 GALA CHAIRS



Dave & Peggy Meador

Vinnie Johnson  
Piston Group



## GALA CHAIR EMERITI

2024

Dave & Peggy Meador  
Chris & Colette Rizik  
Raj & Wendy Nair | Multimatic Inc.

2023

Dave & Peggy Meador  
Matt & Heather Paul | DTE Energy  
Margaret Trimer | Delta Dental

2022

Dave & Peggy Meador | DTE Energy  
Mark & Amy Miller  
Carla Walker-Miller | Walker-Miller Energy Services  
Chris & Carrie Yatooma | OGC Companies

2021

Dave Meador | DTE Energy  
Carla Walker-Miller | Walker-Miller Energy Services  
Mark LaNeve | Ford Motor Company

2020

Raj Nair | Multimatic  
Mark LaNeve | Ford Motor Company

2019

Ron Fournier | Truscott Rossman

2018

Cynthia Pasky | Strategic Staffing Solutions

2017

Jim Nicholson | PVS Chemicals, Inc.

2016

Brian Calley | Lieutenant Governor of MI.



# HOST COMMITTEE

## CO CHAIRS

Vinnie Johnson	Tim & Sweta Alberta	Ron & Lori Fournier	Raj & Wendy Nair
Dave & Peggy Meador	Brian Calley	Alec Hagen	Steve & Paula Patterson
	Bruce & Carolyn Dall	Dr. Tisa Johnson-Hooper & Bernard Hooper	Matt & Heather Paul
	Stephen & Deborah D'Arcy	Kristin Karwaski	Chris & Colette Rizik
	Amy & Chris Fangboner	Mark & Amy Miller	Chris & Carrie Yatooma

## aaOM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brian Calley - Chairman	Stephen D'Arcy	Michael Griffie	Tisa Johnson-Hooper, MD	Raj Nair
Colleen Allen, Ph.D. - CEO	Amy Fangboner	Alec Hagen	Kim Kerwin	Paula Patterson
Sweta Alberta	Ron Fournier	Nicole Hamp, MD.	David Meador	Matt Paul
Julie Bullock	Jeff Gebhart	Melissa Howell	Mark Miller	Colette Rizik
Bruce Dall				

# TICKETS

**\$3,000**

One table of Ten Guests at the Michigan Shines for Autism Gala at MotorCity Casino

**\$300**

One ticket to attend the Michigan Shines for Autism Gala at MotorCity Casino

## SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

**\$100,000 | PRESENTING SPONSOR:**

Thirty Guests + Sponsor Benefits

**\$50,000 | PREMIER SPONSOR:**

Twenty Guests + Sponsor Benefits

**\$25,000 | DIAMOND SPONSOR:**

Sixteen Guests + Sponsor Benefits

**\$15,000 | PLATINUM SPONSOR:**

Twelve Guests + Sponsor Benefits

**\$10,000 | GOLD SPONSOR:**

Ten Guests + Sponsor Benefits

**\$5,000 | SILVER SPONSOR:**

Six Guests + Sponsor Benefits

**\$3,000 | BRONZE SPONSOR:**

Four Guests + Sponsor Benefits



# **SPONSOR BENEFIT DETAILS**

## **PRESENTING, PREMIER, AND DIAMOND**

### **SPONSORS RECEIVE:**

- All benefits listed for \$3,000-\$15,000, with
- inclusion of company logo
- Opportunity to participate in event-specific media coverage
- Recognition in event press release and annual Crain's Giving Guide
- Personalized Lunch N' Learn hosted by AAOm professional staff at your chosen location

## **PLATINUM, GOLD, SILVER, AND BRONZE**

### **SPONSORS RECEIVE:**

- One page advertisement in program booklet distributed to all participants
- Name recognition on all event marketing & promotional materials (eblasts, website, social media, etc.) including prominent recognition during the live broadcast



# REGISTER ONLINE AT [aaomgala.org](http://aaomgala.org)



**COMPLETE THE ENCLOSED REGISTRATION  
FORM AND SUBMIT VIA:**



## Email

Lauren Todaro,  
Manager of Development Operations  
[Lauren.Todaro@aaomi.org](mailto:Lauren.Todaro@aaomi.org)



## Mail

Attn: Lauren Todaro  
Autism Alliance of Michigan  
26913 Northwestern Hwy. Ste. 520  
Southfield, MI 48033



# HOTEL RESERVATIONS

We have reserved  
room blocks at  
MotorCity Casino Hotel  
for this event for a  
special discounted rate.

Guests have until  
March 21, 2025,  
to book a room  
using our group  
code via  
the QR code  
on the left.





**THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!**

**Presenting Sponsor**

**DTE** Foundation





# AUTISM ALLIANCE OF MICHIGAN

Help. Hope. Answers. Today.

# CHOOSE ONE

- ☐ Presenting Sponsor \$100,000    ☐ Diamond Sponsor \$25,000    ☐ Gold Sponsor \$10,000    ☐ Bronze Sponsor \$3,000    ☐ Table of 10 \$3,000
- ☐ Premier Sponsor \$50,000    ☐ Platinum Sponsor \$15,000    ☐ Silver Sponsor \$5,000    ☐ Individual Ticket | QTY \_\_\_\_ \$300

☐ I am unable to attend but would like to make a donation: \$ \_\_\_\_

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

COMPANY/FOUNDATION/INDIVIDUAL NAME

CONTACT PERSON

EMAIL

PHONE

STATE

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

SIGNATURE

DATE

*My signature indicates authorization to make this commitment on behalf of my company.*

**Important note:** Once your purchase is processed, you will receive an email with a link to access your event tickets. We will send this link to the email written above. Each ticket must be assigned to a specific individual and you will be responsible for inputting and managing your guest's information.

## PAYMENT INFORMATION

Please choose one of the following:

Check: ☐ Enclosed (payable to Autism Alliance of Michigan)    ☐ Will be mailed separately

Credit: ☐ Visa    ☐ Mastercard    ☐ American Express

CARD NUMBER

SECURITY CODE

EXP. DATE

NAME (As it appears on the card)

EMAIL

PHONE

ZIP

BILLING ADDRESS (If different than above)

DATE



**ROCKS**  
Michigan ~~Shines~~ for  
Autism Gala

**NEED HELP?**

Please contact Lauren Todaro at [Lauren.Todaro@aaomi.org](mailto:Lauren.Todaro@aaomi.org) if you have any questions.  
26913 Northwestern Hwy. Ste. 520, Southfield, MI 48033

Purchase tickets and  
sponsorships here:

