HEROES BALL

Friday, July 31st
6PM - 7:15PM

A HISTORY-MAKING EVENT
HONORING OKLAHOMA'S
HEROES FOR CHILDREN

WEBCAST LIVE FROM
NATIONAL COWBOY & WESTERN HERITAGE MUSEUM
Welcome to the 2020 Virtual Heroes Ball

Thank you for joining us for this first-of-its-kind event. We had hoped to be all together here at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Center—but the reality of COVID-19 made that impossible.

Even so, we are grateful to have you join us across the Zoom platform. Tonight, we honor Oklahoma’s heroes for children, OICA’s partners in making our state the best it can be for its children. Please remember, each one of you who bought a ticket is a hero—and we thank you.

While we have come far, our journey must continue. Together, with resources from tonight, we will achieve our dream of a state where no child is hungry, neglected, or abused.

Tonight, sit back, relax, and enjoy the first Virtual Heroes Ball!
WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of the officers and Board of Directors for the Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy, welcome to this historic Virtual Heroes Ball. The world has changed much since we last gathered to honor Oklahoma’s Heroes for Children, and the response of our supporters to this online event has been amazing. We have sold a record number of Heroes Ball tickets in the middle of this pandemic because you care about Oklahoma’s children. Together, we will continue to do all we can to put Oklahoma’s children first - breaking the destructive cycles of abuse, hunger, and lack of education. Thank you for being a part of his history-making virtual event, and we hope you enjoy the show!

Mitchell D. Rozin, J.D.
President of the Board of Directors

MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Welcome to this unique Heroes Ball—a virtual banquet we have been told is the first in the nation since the pandemic struck. OICA is grateful to you for joining us during this evening where we honor the top child advocates in the state. I am grateful also to our Board of Directors, our Heroes Ball Committee, OICA staff, and the team at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum. So many of put in so many hours to make tonight possible. Finally, thanks to each of you for your generous support to OICA—without you, we could not continue the important work of improving the lives of Oklahoma’s children.

Joe Dorman
Chief Executive Officer
During the past year, OICA has achieved much and overcame even more. Like all nonprofit organizations, OICA had to adjust to the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic, however, did not prevent us from continuing our mission of advocacy at the State Capitol and service to children and their advocates.

Our Fall Forum laid out a strategic plan to approach the 2020 session of the Oklahoma Legislature and the Women and Children First Advocacy Education Event gave caring individuals the tools to succeed at the Capitol. Advocates, lawmakers, and bureau chiefs all came together to craft an ambitious children’s legislative agenda.

We maintained communication with lawmakers throughout the abbreviated session, keeping them aware of the concerns of child advocates. Working with lawmakers and the governor, we helped save immunization rules that will save children’s lives. OICA also was deeply involved in the campaign to approve State Question 802, the measure that expands Medicaid in Oklahoma. From producing and placing advertising in support of the measure to advocating it through our regular columns and newsletters, OICA’s involvement helped to put the question over the top—improving the quality of health care for more than 200,000 Oklahomans.

As the pandemic took hold, our teams continued to work to maintain communications among child advocates and discussions on critical issues. The Weekly Child Advocacy Chat provided a means by which child advocates, interested individuals, members of the media, and decisionmakers could gather virtually to discuss important issues like State Question 802, legislative issues at the Capitol, federal policy questions, and the impact of Medicaid expansion.

OICA assisted with the First Lady’s Backpack program, Hoops for Heroes, showings of “Resilience,” spoke out on state and national media, and a host of projects and programs designed to connect advocates, policymakers, and ordinary citizens as we work together to improve the lives of our state’s youngest residents.

These accomplishments—and more than we have room to list here—were made possible by your generous support and contributions. OICA is grateful to each and every one of you.
THE HEROES BALL TEAM

HEROES BALL 2020 CHAIRS

(From Left) The Honorable Dan & Andrea Boren * Mary Blankenship Pointer * Rick & Kandi Nagel

Committee Members

OICA Staff; Brian Davis, Master of Ceremonies; Brooke Haneborg; Clarke Harris; and, OICA Interns Mason McClintock, Ellen Miner, Jaycie Thaemert.

Special Thanks

Nathan Keever at The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum

ANNE ROBERTS PEOPLE’S CHOICE AWARDS

Individual Finalists

♦ Ryan Abernathy—Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma
  ♦ Mike Barcum—Peaceful Family Solutions
  ♦ Ashley Chapman—The Red Cord
  ♦ Stacy McNeiland—The Care Center
♦ Maria Rosales-Lambert—Oklahoma Interviewing Services

Organizational Finalists

♦ Camp Fire Heart of Oklahoma Council (Camp DaKaNi)
  ♦ Diabetes Solutions of Oklahoma
    ♦ Hearts for Hearing
  ♦ Hunger Free Oklahoma
  ♦ Kehila Park

Winners will be announced at the end of tonight’s program.
2020 Award Winners

Kate Barnard Perseverance (Lifetime) Achievement Award
Judge Doris Fransein

Individual Achievement in Child Advocacy
Noble McIntyre

Organizational Achievement in Child Advocacy
Oklahoma Educational Television Authority

Gateway to Leadership Public Servant Awards
Senate President Pro Tempore Glenn Coffee
and
First Lady Rhonda Walters
2019 Board Members
Mitchell Rozin, J.D., President
Bruce Schultz, Vice President
Michael Doyle, Treasurer
Samonia Byford, Secretary
Sandy Foster, Governance Chair
Terry Boehrer
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Michael Curtis
Jonette Dunlap
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AJ Griffin
January Hoskin
William Hickman
Natalie Jones
Dr. Vamsi Kaliki
Keith Kersten
Amanda Mullins
Sharon Pyeatt
Lyndsey Reyes
David Schwarz
Chris Smith
Dr. Don Wilber

OICA Staff
Joe Dorman—CEO
Cory Williams—Operations Director
Miranda Hines—Program Director
Peyton Stacy—Deputy Program Director
Jay Gumm—Communications Director
Sarah Baker—Fundraising Consultant
Haley Blood—Policy Advisor
Dennis Adkins—Policy Advisor

OICA Interns
Tate Atkinson, Mason McClintock, Ellen Miner, and Jaycie Thaemert
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Members stand tall in the fight for Oklahoma’s children by improving policies that:
• Help reduce child hunger,
• Help place foster children in loving and safe homes,
• Reduce abuse and neglect,
• Support quality public education, and
• Reform and improve the criminal justice system.

Memberships Make It Happen

Would you like to get more involved with OICA and our work to improve the lives of children throughout our state? OICA has five different tax-deductible membership levels to allow you to be part of our efforts to make Oklahoma the best place possible for children.

In short, WE CANNOT DO THIS WITHOUT YOU! Take a look at the memberships and choose the one best for you. You may rest assured your membership moves Oklahoma forward in its goal to be a "Top Ten" state for its children. Thank you for being a part of tonight’s webcast and for all your support for Oklahoma’s children.