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## **All Stars Project Hosted Annual Gala “BE the SPARK”, Raised \$2 Million for Proven Development Programs Serving Youth In Need**

*Community partners and corporate sponsors were honored, youth development visionaries re-ignited giving and celebrated inspirational donors to benefit disadvantaged young people*

**New York, NY – May 24, 2022** – The [All Stars Project, Inc.](#) (ASP), a national, privately-funded nonprofit organization providing award-winning free afterschool development programs for youth in poor and underserved communities, hosted a virtual 2022 Spring Gala, “[BE the SPARK](#),” on May 12<sup>th</sup>. The event featured performances by youth across the country and viewing parties were hosted nationwide. Funds raised at the Gala go directly to working with nearly 20,000 young people and their families.

The All Stars Project’s annual fundraiser celebrated honorees Catherine Carraway, EVP & Chief Human Resources Officer, Equity Residential; Margie Rollinson, Retired Partner, EY; Gilead Sciences; and the Newark Police Division.

Television host, rapper, actor and comedian, Nick Cannon, [participated via video](#) at the gala, inspiring young people to continue their developmental growth and supporting the work of the All Stars Project.

Radio and television personality and youth advocate, Nessa hosted the gala. Nessa is part of the MTV family and hosts "Nessa on Air" on NYC’s Hot 97 and “Talk Stoop” for NBCUniversal.

ASP CEO Gabrielle Kurlander presented the All Stars Project’s Honorary Doctorate of Development to David Chard, Ph.D., Dean, Boston University’s Wheelock College of Education & Human Development, in recognition of his extraordinary leadership and immeasurable impact on the field of Afterschool Development.

Newark, NJ Police Division (NPD) was also honored at the gala. NPD has been an ASP [Operation Conversation: Cops & Kids](#) partner since 2017, building on the success of the program established in 2006 in partnership with the New York Police Department. ASP’s work with the NPD has been transformational in helping officers connect and find common ground with youth, gain new perspectives and foster open communication.

The evening’s festivities featured youth performances and celebrated leading sponsors including Equity Residential, EY, Gilead Sciences, Hilco Global, Paramount Global and RBC Capital Markets, which invest time and resources to make ASP programs successful.

[Click here to sponsor or make a tax-deductible donation.](#)

**The [All Stars Project](#)** is a national nonprofit organization with over 40 years of grassroots organizing and community building. Using the power of performance for youth development, ASP transforms the lives of youth from poor and underserved communities in partnership with caring adults, giving everyone the chance to grow. ASP's award-winning programs bring people from all racial, economic and social walks of life together to create something positive, new and transformative for all involved. ASP operates nationally in Dallas; New York City; Newark and Jersey City, New Jersey; Chicago; the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond — thanks to virtual expansion — with volunteers, programming and partnerships in over 20 states.

ASP is privately funded by thousands of individuals, foundations and corporations, including CBRE, EY, Gilead Sciences, Guidepost Solutions, Hilco Global, Hunt Consolidated, Paramount Global, and PSEG, which give underwriting support to expand the reach and impact of All Stars afterschool development programs.

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