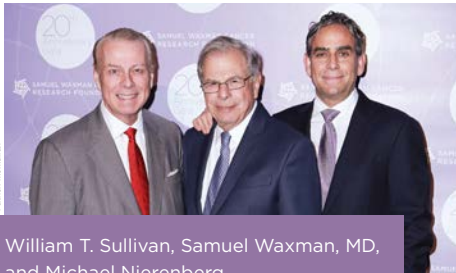


# A New Perspective



SAMUEL WAXMAN CANCER  
RESEARCH FOUNDATION  
NEWSLETTER - FALL 2018



William T. Sullivan, Samuel Waxman, MD,  
and Michael Nierenberg

Dear Friends,

As the Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation (SWCRF) continues to invest in the world of cancer research, our understanding of the illness and what it takes to defeat it also grows. Our Institute Without Walls™ that facilitates collaborative relationships with science investigators across the globe is the engine that drives us toward each new breakthrough.

Cancer affects us all. We embrace the challenge of finding a cure as an opportunity to bring a better quality of life to those who benefit from our cutting-edge research for generations to come.

Many of you supported our efforts by participating in our recent events. Thank you.

Your generous time, support, and individual participation on behalf of the SWCRF are contributing to advances in cancer treatments that are moving us closer to cures.

In this newsletter, you will discover how your investment in cancer research is leading the charge on many fronts, from our partnership with the National Cancer Institute to a more in-depth look at how individual SWCRF-funded investigators have made their own contributions in the field of cancer research.

Our Collaborating for a Cure Luncheon was hosted by a volunteer, Susan Gutfreund at her beautiful Fifth-Avenue home. The event featured fashion icon Jason Wu's fall collection and raised more than \$40,000.

In June, our 36th Annual Golf Tournament was generously hosted by SWCRF board members Dennis Herman and Gary Jacob and raised a record \$240,000 for cancer research. We honored Ofer Yardeni, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Stonehenge NYC.

Finally, the 14th Annual Hamptons Happening was our most successful yet and drew more than 300 guests who enjoyed more than 25 chef tastings and the toe-tapping tunes from the Sheriff and the Deputy. We honored successful entrepreneurs and philanthropists Mr. Joe Farrell, Chef Matt Lambert, and Ms. Ramy Brook Sharp.

While these events were festive, some of you shared stories of how cancer has affected you and your families. It is essential for us to not only acknowledge the devastation caused by this illness, but also the hope for a future without it. Your continued support will help us in that endeavor.

Thank you for all you do to support cancer research. We could not do what we do without your thoughtful and generous support.

Very truly yours,

Michael Nierenberg  
Chairman of the Board

Samuel Waxman, M.D.  
Founder and CEO

William T Sullivan  
Executive Director

## Investigator Spotlight: Pioneers in the Prevention of Metastasis

With an estimated 1.7 million new cancer diagnoses expected this year, the Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation (SWCRF) and its Institute Without Walls™ are committed to leaving no stone unturned in our search for cures. Throughout its history, the SWCRF has led the effort to identify both groundbreaking research programs and gifted cancer research investigators. Persistence and innovation are hallmarks of imaginative investigators who often see opportunities for breakthroughs that others do not.

The investigators who have been funded by the pioneering research program on the prevention of metastasis at SWCRF, have demonstrated the unprecedented excellence of cancer researchers. Their investigation of metastasis is tackling the major cause of cancer death and is furthering our understanding of the process by which cancer spreads from where it initially forms, often as a tumor, to other parts of the body.

## A History of Funding Pioneers in the Field

Over the course of almost three decades, **Dr. Liliana Ossowski, MSc., Ph.D.** and **Julio Aguirre-Ghiso, Ph.D.** have driven the SWCRF program on the prevention of metastasis.

A native of Poland, Dr. Ossowski started her research career at the

*continued on next page* ➤

## Matching Gift Companies

If you work for any of the following companies, visit your human resources department to request a matching gift form to enhance your gift!

American Express  
Bank of America  
Bank of New York Mellon Community  
Partnership  
Barclays  
BlackRock Matching Gift Program  
Bristol Meyers-Squibb

Ernst & Young  
Goldman Sachs  
IBM  
Johnson & Johnson  
JP Morgan Chase  
Jones Lang LaSalle  
KPMG Foundation

Macy's  
MFA Financial  
Morgan Stanley  
Nomura  
Opus Community Foundation  
Prudential  
RBC Capital Markets Corporation

For information on how your company can join our matching gift partners, please contact us at 212.867.4502 or [swcrf@waxmancancer.org](mailto:swcrf@waxmancancer.org).

## 2018 Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation Scientific Review and Breakthroughs Symposium




Ramon Parsons, MD, PhD, William T. Sullivan, Jonathan Licht, MD, Craig B. Thompson, MD, and Samuel Waxman, MD

Our annual Scientific Review took place at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Medical Center on April 29-30. The event revealed great progress and promise in the funded research projects of the collaborating scientists of the SWCRF Institute Without Walls. For its second year, the talks featured a special session sponsored by **Syros Pharmaceuticals** with a central focus on aging and cancer and SWCRF's Partnership for Aging and Cancer Research grants program, recently announced by the National Institutes of Health.

The day's talks were led by SWCRF Founder and CEO **Samuel Waxman, M.D.**, SWCRF Chief Scientific Officer **Jonathan D. Licht, M.D.**, and SWCRF Chief Mission Officer **Alan Rosmarin, M.D.** Dr. Licht presented the 2018 David T. Workman Memorial Award to Craig B. Thompson, M.D., president and CEO of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. The David T. Workman Memorial Award honors the memory of **David T. Workman**, a highly influential leader at the SWCRF, recognizing scientists who develop novel therapies for poorly treatable cancer types.

Dr. Waxman also announced the establishment of **The William S. Gorin Memorial Grant**, which will support the work of two scientists in their collaborative work to uncover new breakthroughs in the study of pancreatic cancer. This year's grantees are **Nabeel Bardeesy, Ph.D.**, of Massachusetts General Hospital, and **George Miller, M.D.**, of NYU Langone Medical Center. The award honors Mr. Gorin, former CEO of MFA Financial, Inc., who died of the disease in 2017.

The annual SWCRF Scientific Review is made possible by an education grant provided by the **Tsai-Fan Yu Foundation**. For additional highlights about this year's scientific symposium, visit [www.waxmancancer.org](http://www.waxmancancer.org). 

### *Investigator Spotlight continued from page 1*

Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel and later at a prestigious cancer research lab at Rockefeller University. However, she had limited opportunities to explore her theories and, with SWCRF funding, she was recruited as a professor and research scientist at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

SWCRF funded Dr. Ossowski's research for many years. She identified a new target for a treatment to prevent metastasis and worked closely with Dr. Samuel Waxman in the growing SWCRF research program at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

### A Mentor/Student Team



Lilliana Ossowski, MSc., Ph. D.



Julio Aguirre-Ghiso, Ph.D.

Dr. Julio Aguirre-Ghiso has been an SWCRF-funded investigator for more than a decade. He is currently a director of a lab at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai that is investigating tumor biology and metastasis. The SWCRF first became acquainted with Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso through Dr. Ossowski when she recruited him in 1998 as a postdoctoral fellow for a five-year training program, with funding from the SWCRF.

"I sometimes think in life you meet people who see things in you that you don't see. Lily was one of those people," said Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso. "I met her at a meeting in Brazil in 1996 and, soon after I returned to Argentina, she sent me an email offering me a postdoc fellowship with her. I was advised against it because people thought her work wasn't very mainstream, but I was completely connected to the biology that she was exploring and to who she was as a person."

Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation often provides early-stage funding to assist pioneering investigators in their pursuit of critical initial findings that will help to further the field of cancer research.

"Other people were working on tumor dormancy, but they felt that dormancy was the result of a lack of blood vessels," recalled Dr. Ossowski. "We claimed that it was an innate property of each

cell. Our idea was that individual cells that spread from the primary tumor either could form metastasis right away or stay dormant in the bone marrow. [The hypothesis] was very unpopular at the time and, in the '90s, no one even wanted to talk about it."

Recent research and translational advances in cancer metastasis biology by the Aguirre-Ghiso Lab are built upon the pioneering work Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso did as a postdoctoral fellow with Dr. Ossowski. This work has now been replicated and validated by researchers worldwide.

## Groundbreaking Research, Promising Treatments

As part of the SWCRF Institute Without Walls program on the prevention of metastasis, Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso has been working with **Emily Bernstein, Ph.D.** and **Eduardo F. Farias, Ph.D.**, both with the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and **Jayanta Debnath, M.D.** at the University of California, San Francisco. These investigators offer a variety of research disciplines and are collaborating with each other, a signature element of SWCRF-funded research.

More recently, Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso and his lab at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai are collaborating with a major pharmaceutical company to develop a class of potential drugs. They hope these drugs can affect the cancer cells after they have spread from the original site, either by slowing them down or killing them while they are dormant.

Also, Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso's lab is currently undertaking a clinical trial that has identified drugs that are already FDA-approved but now have been repurposed to keep disseminated cancer cells dormant (listed at the National Institute of Health's Library of Medicine

clinicaltrials.gov). This promising clinical trial is focusing on patients who have been diagnosed with prostate cancer and are undergoing hormone therapy. The drugs appear to reprogram cancer cells, forcing them to remember cues that tell them to remain dormant and, as a result, prevent the formation of metastases.

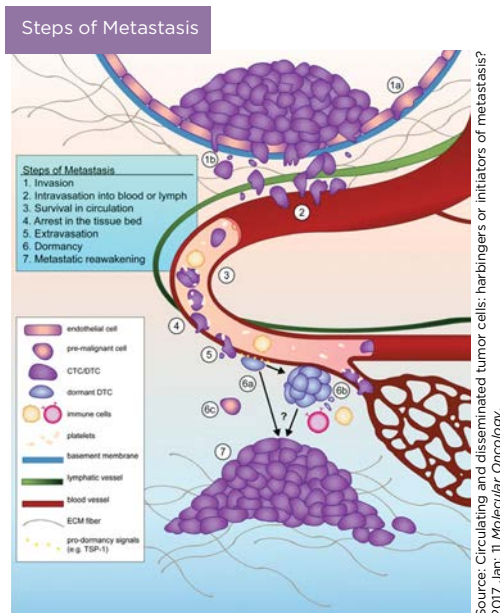
Another study uses breast cancer samples to provide oncologists with a biomarker to determine if patients have dormant cancer cells hiding in their bone marrow. The findings may help predict whether an individual patient's residual cancer cells would remain dormant for a long time or undergo rapid metastasis. This study will be published in Breast Cancer Research to communicate the findings of the first cancer dormancy biomarker.

Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso considers funding from the SWCRF an essential starting point for scientists seeking to explore more aggressive or innovative approaches to understanding and treating cancer.

"The SWCRF funds have helped us explore new spaces in the metastasis field and have been instrumental in opening these new doors." — Julio Aguirre-Ghiso, Ph.D.

"The first grant I received to start my lab in 2004 was a grant from the SWCRF," recalled Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso. "That helped us to explore things that were less conservative in terms of the research that we were doing. The SWCRF funding also supported the initial findings that probed survival of these dormant cancer

cells. Over the years, we have always used funds from the SWCRF to explore projects that are high-risk, and these projects have yielded very important information."



As a result of years of funding from the SWCRF, an approach to researching dormancy that was once considered high-risk is now the model.

"We established the SWCRF with an eye toward promoting research that was overlooked or seemed unconventional. Facilitating collaborations that approached the science in new and different ways was really how the Foundation got its start, said Samuel Waxman, M.D. "When I recruited Dr. Ossowski from Rockefeller University, I knew she was on to something groundbreaking. Our Scientific Advisory Board saw enormous potential in her original works, and Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso's work is now accelerating the path to introduce promising drugs and treatments."



Learn more about how to help fund a one-year lab project  
Scan the QR code on your phone!



## SWCRF BOARD SPOTLIGHT

### SWCRF Welcomes New Board Members

Join us in welcoming the addition of five new directors to our board leadership, elected at the SWCRF Annual Meeting. In addition to new board members, Robert Kantor stepped down from his role as a board director and joined the SWCRF Chairman's Council. Laurie Schaffran stepped down from her position as board secretary but remains as a board director. Join us in thanking Robert and Laurie for their many years of service in their respective roles. Lewis Rubin was appointed to a newly-created and combined officer role as secretary and general counsel. We are grateful to the entire board of directors for their commitment to advancing groundbreaking cancer research.



#### Ethan Dimtrovsky

Ethan Dimtrovsky, M.D., became Laboratory Director of the Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research and President of Leidos Biomedical Research in 2017. He oversees the National Laboratory's work combating AIDS, cancer, infectious diseases, and emerging health challenges. Prior to joining the

Frederick National Lab, he held numerous prestigious titles including provost and executive vice president and the Olga Keith and Harry Carothers Weiss Distinguished University Chair and American Cancer Society Professor at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, and chair of the Board of Scientific Counselors for Clinical Sciences and Epidemiology for the National Cancer Institute.



#### Judy Gorin

Jody Louis Gorin holds a deeply personal connection to SWCRF, serving as an advocate for families battling cancer. Mrs. Gorin was happily married to William (Bill) Gorin for nearly 25 years and is proud to honor his memory and his legacy through the William S. Gorin Pancreatic Cancer Research Program at SWCRF. A Long Island

native, she has lived in New York City since 1982 where she enjoyed a career specializing in middle market lending at some of the nation's largest banks, before retiring in 1995 to serve her family and community.



#### Joseph G. Steffa

Joe Steffa is a Managing Director in the Global Markets division at Credit Suisse. Based in New York, he is the Global Head of Securitized Products Trading within the Structured Products group.

Mr. Steffa joined Credit Suisse in 2013 from RBS where he was a managing director in Non-Agency Trading. Prior

to RBS, he served for five years at Bear Stearns trading all mortgage related products.

Mr. Steffa holds a B.A. from Harvard University, where he graduated in 2003.



#### Marc Taub

Marc Taub is president and CEO of Palm Bay International and Esprit Du Vin Fine Wine Merchants taking over leadership of the company following his father's death in 2012. Mr. Taub's father, David Taub was a supporter of cancer research and a longtime member of the SWCRF board of directors. Marc Taub has taken the mantle his father started

both in the family business and philanthropic work. Now celebrating 40 years in existence, Mr. Taub represents the Taub Family Companies' third generation of leadership.



#### Scott Waxman

Scott Waxman is the CEO of Diversion Publishing Corp, a book and media company in New York City. In addition, he is the founder of the Waxman Literary Agency. His companies represent and publish hundreds of titles per year in multiple formats and platforms. Mr. Waxman has been associated with dozens of national

bestselling authors and brands in sports, politics, pop culture, and business. He lives in Scarsdale, New York with his family.

### SWCRF BOARD



*back row, l. to r.:* Howard Shlafmitz, Spencer Waxman, Thomas A. Conway, Scott Waxman, Matthew Lyons, Robert Kantor, David Hinkelman, Lewis A. Rubin

*front row, l. to r.:* Howard Kurz, Kenneth Fishel, Jody Gorin, William T. Sullivan, Michael Nierenberg, Dr. Samuel Waxman, Laurie L. Schaffran, Gary Jacob

# SWCRF Happenings & Fundraisers



## TD Five Boro Bike Tour

This year marks the first year of the SWCRF’s participation as a Charity Partner in the TD Five Boro Bike Tour. The bike tour took place on the first Sunday in May and is billed as the country’s largest bike ride with a 40-mile course that traversed New York City starting at Battery Park City and ending at the Verrazano Bridge. A team of ten participants raised \$12,500 for SWCRF. We’re grateful to our riders for their support of the Foundation and are pleased with a successful kickoff to our endurance fundraiser programming. Stay tuned for details on how to participate in the 2019 bike tour.

## Ladies Who Lunch for a Cure

Our fifth annual ladies luncheon was held this year at the home of philanthropist Susan Gutfreund and raised more than \$40,000 for cancer research. Honoring trendsetting international designer Jason Wu, the luncheon featured Wu’s summer and fall collections for attendees to enjoy. A graduate of the Parsons School of Design, Mr. Wu studied under the legendary Narciso Rodriguez before branching out with his own line. His brand became a household name after former First Lady Michelle Obama wore one of his creations at both the 2009 and 2013 inaugural balls.



The event was chaired by Lauren Lawrence, Pamela Morgan, and Marion Waxman while Erica Linden-Fineberg served as co-chair. Attendees and supporters included Maria Fishel, as well as Committee members Chris Arlotta, Sharon Bush, Maria Elena Christiansen, Denise de Luca, Boo Grace, Yaz Hernandez, Patricia Kluge, Jeanne Lawrence, Lauren Day Roberts, Barbara Tober, Marcy Whitman, Karen Amster-Young and Mrs. Gutfreund. We are also very grateful to Mrs. Andrea Stark who hosted the event for the three previous years. We are also thankful to Palm Bay International for their support. Catering was provided by CxRA, an event sponsor.



*top, l. to r.:* Collaborating for a Cure Luncheon host Susan Gutfreund and chairs, Marion Waxman, Pamela Morgan, Lauren Lawrence with William Sullivan  
*bottom:* Don Lemon, CNN Tonight Anchor and Susan Gutfreund



## Nasdaq Opening Bell

On July 12, SWCRF supporters, Hamptons Happening honorees and committee members, staff and friends joined Dr. Waxman in ringing the Nasdaq Opening Bell in honor of the 14th Annual Hamptons event. This was the third consecutive year, SWCRF was invited to ring the bell at Nasdaq.

*l to r:* Rena Ben-Ezra, Jonathan Kratz, Rachel Kramer, Sheriff Bob Saldenberg, Melissa Fishel, William Sullivan, Joe Farrell, Deputy Kat, Dr. Samuel Waxman, Norah Lawlor, Maria Fishel, Miranda Pierson, Lisa Gahn and Jesse Dean



*top, l. to r.:* Committee Member Chris Arlotta, Mario Pecoraro, Committee Chair Marion Waxman and Lisa Aquilino

*middle:* Honorees Joe Farrell, Ramy Brook Sharp and Chef Matt Lambert

*bottom:* Hosts Kenneth, Maria, Melissa and Bradley Fishel

## Hamptons Happening Breaks Fundraising Record

The 14th Annual Hamptons Happening was held on Saturday, July 14 and raised a record \$430,000 in support of the Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation's international efforts to cure cancer.

This year, SWCRF honored leading visionaries in their respective industries including **Chef Honoree Matt Lambert**, Executive Chef & Co-owner of The Musket Room and Michelin Star Recipient; **Fashion Honoree Ramy Brook Sharp**, Founder & Creative Director of Ramy Brook; and **Business Honoree Joe Farrell**, Founder & President of Farrell Building Company.

Held at Kenneth and Maria Fishel's beautiful Bridgehampton estate, the event drew more than 300 guests and was emceed by CBS 2 Co-Anchor Chris Wragge.

Join us in thanking the Hamptons Happening committee members who organized this remarkable event: Event Chair, Marion Waxman, Sponsorship Chair, Karen Amster-Young, Journal Chair, Erica Linden-Fineberg and committee members, Chris Arlotta, Ellen Antonucci, Jordan Brail, Maria Fishel, Barbara Lambert, Jessica Mackin, Laurie Schaffran, Jake Taub, and Erin Woudsma. For a full list of the evening's entertainment, sponsors, participating restaurants, and auction items visit [www.waxmancancer.org/Events/Hamptons-Happening](http://www.waxmancancer.org/Events/Hamptons-Happening).

## Golf Tournament Honors Ofer Yardeni of Stonehenge NYC

On June 25, SWCRF board members Dennis Herman and Gary Jacob hosted our 36th Annual Golf Tournament, which raised more than \$240,000 for cancer research through two-dozen golf foursomes, sponsorships, and auctions.

Held at the picturesque Fresh Meadows Golf Club in Lake Success, New York, the golf event honored **Ofer Yardeni**, Chairman and CEO of Stonehenge Management. Mr. Yardeni shared an incredibly personal and moving story of his own battle with cancer, expressing gratitude to Dr. Bhuvanesh Singh, a surgeon at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, who he credited for saving his life. He also expressed thanks to Dr. Waxman for spearheading groundbreaking cancer treatments like those that he received from Dr. Singh. Ann Liguori, the host of 'Talking Golf' on WFAN radio, presented Dr. Waxman with a \$15,000 check from her own philanthropic foundation.

We are tremendously grateful to Dennis and Gary and to the golfers, guests, and sponsors for their generosity and hospitality that made the day and evening events particularly special. Thank you!



*top:* Gary Jacob and Dennis Herman, tournament hosts and members of SWCRF Board of Directors

*bottom:* Ofer Yardeni, Honoree

## Jesse Dean Appointed New SWCRF Marketing Communications Director



Jesse Dean

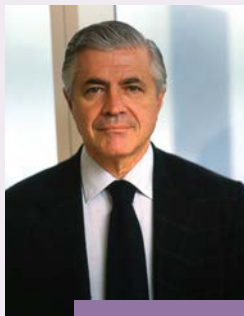
The SWCRF is pleased to announce that Jesse Dean has been hired as our new director of Marketing Communications.

Jesse brings a wealth of experience in the nonprofit sector into the position, as well as a passion for helping to expand awareness of how SWCRF's funded projects are advancing efforts to find a cure.

He joins us after serving as Marketing and Communications Director for the Visiting Nurse Association, Health Group of New Jersey (VNA). During his time with the VNA, Jesse oversaw the organization's strategic communications programming including the direction and management of its PR and media outreach efforts, social media and website content development, project management, as well as fundraising and development support. Jesse is a *cum laude* graduate of Columbia University.

Please join us in welcoming Jesse to the team!

## IN MEMORIAM



Costas Kondylis

**Costas Kondylis**, a former member of the SWCRF Board of Directors and Chairman's Council died August 17, 2018 at age 78 due to complications from Parkinson's disease. An award-winning architect, Mr. Kondylis shaped the New York City skyline with his many designs. In all, he designed more than 86 residential, hotel and office skyscrapers in New York City and

abroad. His legacy lives on through the advances in cancer research he helped to support. We honor his memory and are grateful for the extraordinary contributions he made to SWCRF.



Ruth Finley

**Ruth Finley**, a longtime member of the SWCRF Chairman's Council, died on August 25, 2018, due to respiratory failure. Ms. Finley single-handedly founded the Fashion Calendar and coordinated the twice-yearly New York Fashion week for nearly 70 years. She was also known for her philanthropy and in 2013, SWCRF honored her at that year's Hampton Happening event.

Since then, she served on the SWCRF Chairman's Council and was instrumental in connecting the Foundation to the fashion industry by identifying honorees from that market. Through her efforts, SWCRF honored Betsy Johnson, Tadashi Shoji among others. We honor her memory and her generous support of cancer research and many other outstanding causes.

## EVENTS CALENDAR

**November 15, 2018**  
**21st Annual**  
**Collaborating for**  
**a Cure Gala**

New York, NY

**September 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019**  
**Amerithon Fitness Challenge**

Join the SWCRF Amerithon Team for our a nationwide virtual fitness challenge. Track your miles online and raise money for critical cancer research.

For more information, visit  
[www.waxmancancer.org/Take-Action](http://www.waxmancancer.org/Take-Action)

**May 5, 2019**  
**TD Five Boro**  
**Bike Tour**

SWCRF Fundraising Team  
 New York, NY



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[swcrf@waxmancancer.org](mailto:swcrf@waxmancancer.org)

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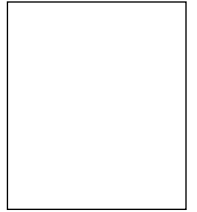


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RESEARCH FOUNDATION

420 Lexington Avenue, Suite 825  
New York NY 10170



# 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary gala

Thursday  
November 15, 2018  
6:30 PM  
Cipriani Wall St.



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**for further info**

Please call: 212.867.4502  
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# save the date