

Hungarian American Coalition

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LIST OF GALA DINNER HONOREES 2005-2022

2022: 30th Anniversary Celebration Dinner

Honorary Chairman: Dr. Charles Simonyi Co-chairs: Ambassador György Habsburg, Governor George Pataki, Mrs. Edith K. Lauer *Held at the Cosmos Club, Washington, D.C. on October 26, 2022*

2021 Honorees: The Coalition's founding individual and organizational members

30th Anniversary Virtual Gala and Concert Honorary Chairman: H.E. János Áder, President of Hungary *Held virtually on October 7, 2021*

2020 Honoree: Dr. Katalin Kádár Lynn, historian and founder of Helena History Press

Honorary Chairman: H.E. János Áder, President of Hungary Co-chairs: Ms. Csilla Grauzer, Governor George Pataki, Mrs. Edith K. Lauer *Held virtually on December 4, 2020*

2019 Honoree: Ambassador Colleen Bell, former U.S. Ambassador to Hungary (2014-2017) and Media/Business Executive

Honorary Chairman: H.E. János Áder, President of Hungary Co-chairs: Ambassador György Habsburg, Governor George Pataki, Mrs. Edith K. Lauer *Held at the House of Sweden, Washington, D.C. on May 2, 2019*

2018 Honoree: Dr. Jeanette Gecsy Grasselli Brown and The Ferenc Rákóczi II.

Transcarpathian Hungarian Institute, headed by Dr. Ildiko Orosz Honorary Chairman: H.E. János Áder, President of Hungary Co-chairs: Ambassador György Habsburg, Governor George Pataki, Mrs. Edith K. Lauer *Held at the House of Sweden, Washington, D.C. on April 25, 2018*

2017 Honoree: Ambassador April H. Foley, U.S. Ambassador to Hungary between 2006 and 2009 and Chair of the Board of Trustees of The Hungary Initiatives Foundation (HIF)

Honorary Chairman: H.E. János Åder, President of Hungary Co-chairs: Governor George Pataki, Mrs. Edith K. Lauer, Mr. John N. Lauer *Held at the House of Sweden, Washington, D.C. on May 19, 2017*

2016 Honoree: János Martonyi, Hungary's former Minister of Foreign Affairs

Honorary Chairman: H.E. János Áder, President of Hungary Co-chairs: Governor George Pataki, Dr. Katrina Lantos Swett, Ambassador Richard Swett, Ambassador George H. Walker III *Held at the House of Sweden, Washington, D.C. on May 3, 2016*

2015 Honoree: J. Joe Adorjan, Honorary Consul General of Missouri and founder of the Hungarian-Missouri Educational Partnership (HMEP)

Honorary Chairman: H.E. János Áder, President of Hungary Co-chairs: Ambassador George Herbert Walker III, Mr. Michael F. Neidorff *Held at the House of Sweden, Washington, D.C. on September 29, 2015*

2014 Honorees: Congressman Tom Lantos, Bishop László Tőkés and the Hungarian Communion of Friends (Magyar Baráti Közösség)

Gala Event began with Lyric Soprano Andrea Rost Concert at the Warner Theatre, Washington D.C.

Honorary Chairman: H.E. János Áder, President of Hungary Co-chairs: Governor George E. Pataki, Ambassador George Herbert Walker III *Held at the House of Sweden, Washington, D.C. on May 29, 2014*

2013 Honorees: John N. Lauer and the Cleveland Hungarian Heritage Society

Co-chairs: Ambassador April H. Foley, Gov. George E. Pataki, Ambassador George H. Walker III, under the patronage of Dr. Tibor Navracsics, Deputy Prime Minister of Hungary *Held at the House of Sweden, Washington, D.C. on May 8, 2013*

2012 Honorees: U.S. Ambassador Nancy Brinker and the Hungarian Scout Association in Exteris

Co-chairs: Ambassador George H. Walker III, Ambassador April Foley, Michael F. Neidorff *Held at the House of Sweden, Washington, D.C. on May 9, 2012*

2011 Honorees: Dr. János Horváth, Doyen of the Hungarian Parliament, and the William Penn Association

Co-chairs: Under the patronage of H.E. Dr. Pál Schmitt, President of Hungary and Dr. Tibor Navracsics, Deputy Prime Minister of Hungary; Coalition Gala Chair, Governor George E. Pataki *Held at the House of Sweden, Washington, D.C. on May 11, 2011*

2010 Honoree: Governor George Pataki

Co-chairs: Ambassador April Foley, Michael F. Neidorff, Ambassador George H. Walker III, former Deputy Secretary of State John C. Whitehead *Held at the House of Sweden, Washington, D.C. on April 22, 2010*

2009 Honoree: John C. Whitehead, former Deputy Secretary of State

Co-chairs: General Colin L. Powell, Governor George Pataki, U.S. Ambassador George H. Walker III Held at the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C. on April 16, 2009

2008 Honoree: Dr. August J. Molnár, President of the American Hungarian Foundation

Co-chairs: William Penn Association, John N. and Edith K. Lauer Honorary Chairman of Event: Governor George E. Pataki *Held at the Cosmos Club, Washington, D.C. on April 18, 2008*

2007 Honoree: Ambassador George H. Walker III

Co-chairs: Michael Neidorff, Julius Joe Adorjan, Zsolt Rumy Held at the Cosmos Club, Washington, D.C. on May 4, 2007

2006 Honoree: Dr. Charles Simonyi, software pioneer, philanthropist, future space explorer

Co-chairs: Ambassador-at-large to the European Union and President of the Hungarian Red Cross, György von Habsburg, Mr. John N. Lauer, Chairman of Diebold, Inc., and Mrs. Edith K. Lauer, Chair Emerita of the Coalition *Held at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C. on May 4, 2006*

2005 Honoree: Dr. Otto von Habsburg, European statesman, one of the initial architects of the European Union

Co-chairs: Anikó Gaál Schott and Philip W. Pillsbury, Jr. Held at the Cosmos Club, Washington, D.C. on April 13, 2005