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**SAM DONALDSON HOSTS BONE MARROW FOUNDATION GALA**

*New York City - June 10, 2003* – ABC News veteran, Sam Donaldson, hosted *The Bone Marrow Foundation's* second annual gala on May 21<sup>st</sup> at the Plaza Hotel. This exciting event marked the Foundation's tenth anniversary, with one hundred percent of the evening's proceeds being allocated to its patient programs.

The invocation was provided by Monsignor Tom Hartman, nationally syndicated columnist, author and co-host of the television program, *The God Squad*. Guests were treated to the comedy of Alan King, noted comedian, actor, author and philanthropist. Living legend, jazz musician Joe Bushkin, provided the evening's musical entertainment. During a professional career spanning over seven decades, Mr. Bushkin, renowned pianist, composer, vocalist and philanthropist, has accompanied the likes of Benny Goodman, Bing Crosby, Billie Holliday and Frank Sinatra.

Foundation Honoree, Mr. E. John Rosenwald, Jr., Vice Chairman of Bear, Stearns & Co., Inc., was presented with the *Second Annual Brandon Tartikoff Award*, in recognition of his notable accomplishments as an outstanding business and community leader and committed philanthropist. The award was established in memory of the late Brandon Tartikoff, former Chairman of NBC Entertainment Group and Paramount Pictures, whose personal commitment and philanthropic support of cancer-related causes was unparalleled. Brandon was a trustee of The Bone Marrow Foundation before he lost his battle to cancer in 1997. Other highlights of the evening included the presentation of The Gift of Life Award to Foundation Trustee Mr. Harry J. Pearce, Chairman of Hughes Electronics Corporation and the General Motors Cancer Research Foundation. Mr. Pearce, himself a bone marrow transplant recipient and leukemia survivor, has long been a dedicated advocate of cancer-related causes.

*The Bone Marrow Foundation* was founded by Executive Director Christina Merrill in 1992 to improve the quality of life for bone marrow transplant patients and their families by providing financial aid, education and emotional support. For more information, please call 1-800-365-1356 or visit their website at [www.bonemarrow.org](http://www.bonemarrow.org).

Founded in New York City in 2001 by Publicist Lisa Wartur, and based in Vancouver, [NoodleHead Productions](#) is an entertainment pr and multimedia publicity consulting firm with an international artist, celebrity and corporate clientele.

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