

Women-Powered PHILANTHROPY

The nation's capital is home to plenty of powerful women—and many of them put that power behind important local causes. From shining a light on domestic abuse at the annual Knock Out Abuse gala to helping homeless women get back on their feet to supporting women battling breast cancer, there are no shortage of female-focused causes to fundraise for in Washington, DC. Below, the six we're looking forward to the most in 2017.



Barbara Martin & Jayne Sandman co-chaired the 2016 Knock Out Abuse gala.

A TOTAL KNOCK OUT

"What Knock Out Abuse has done for these women's causes is beyond compare, and standing with them in the fight to end the cycle of violence against women is something that is incredibly important both me and Jayne."

—BARBARA MARTIN, 2016 CO-CHAIR, KNOCK OUT ABUSE

National Museum of Women in the Arts Spring Gala

The DC museum committed to the work of female artists celebrates its 30th anniversary this year with a black tie affair. The annual gala is the museum's most important fundraiser with money benefiting the museum's exhibitions and programming, and supporting the work of women artists past, present and future from all over the world. *April 21, nmwa.org*

Great Ladies Luncheon & Fashion Show

The Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation and Neiman Marcus Mazza Gallerie have partnered for seven years to battle this debilitating disease. This year's event will present the Great Ladies Award to author and journalist Sally Quinn for her work fighting Alzheimer's disease, along with a rare runway show from Italian designer Brunello Cucinelli. *April 26, Tickets \$375-\$20,000 alzdiscovery.org*

Cavalry Women's Services' Hope Awards Dinner

The Cavalry Women's Shelter in Washington, DC supports local women with housing and comprehensive services as they work to find a fresh start. Last year's event at the Ronald Reagan Building raised \$350,000 and this year's spring affair is on track to do even better. *May 10, calvaryservices.org*

Lolly's Locks

Michelle Schoenfeld's own battle with breast cancer inspired her to get involved with Lolly's Locks, a local

charity that provides wigs for patients battling the illness. An annual fashion show raises funds to outfit women with wigs and the 2017 walk down the runway is already in the works. Set for this May, the event will take over the recently reopened Watergate Hotel and feature Kate Pankoke, a *Project Runway* alum, and her Elaya Vaughn bridal fashion. *May 18, lollyslocks.org*

The Women's Center Annual Benefit Gala

For more than 40 years, the Women's Center has been a champion for women in the DC region, offering care and services in counseling, financial issues, career and legal education, mediation and domestic violence advocacy. The annual gala at The Ritz-Carlton Tysons Corner brings together business leaders for an evening to celebrate and support these women. *Oct. 14, Tickets \$300, thewomenscenter.org*

Knock Out Abuse

Co-founded by powerhouse Washington women Cheryl Masri and Jill Sorenson, Knock Out Abuse at the Four Seasons has grown exponentially as a high-profile fundraiser in DC for nearly 25 years with funds going towards domestic violence charities. It has become the must-attend for the city's power women set. Co-chairs Barbara Martin and Jayne Sandman of Brandlink DC brought in \$500,000 at the 2016 gala and the 2017 iteration on November 2 is already building buzz. *Nov. 2, knockoutabuse.org* —KB

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