It’s a beautiful thing when people love what they do.

We proudly support the National Dance Institute for its dedication to the arts that entertain and educate over 60,000 children each year. We honor our shared commitment for more inclusive communities, anywhere and everywhere.

A SPECIAL REMEMBRANCE of our Founder Jacques d’Amboise (1934-2021)

WITH JOYFUL PERFORMANCES BY The Children of National Dance Institute

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Arnold S. and Madaleine Penner Foundation

national dance institute

MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2022

CELEBRATING

Ellen Weinstein
Artistic Director Emerita, NDI
Susan Newhouse Dream Maker Award

Brian Stokes Mitchell
Tony Award-Winning Actor
Artistic Honoree

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

Dear Friends,

Welcome to National Dance Institute’s 46th Annual Gala! What an immense joy it is to again celebrate in person. There is a charged energy now that we are physically back together in support and appreciation of the marvel that is NDI. Its work and impact have never been more important than they are today, as the world’s children face unprecedented challenges. The unique and inclusive arts education NDI provides to students of all backgrounds and abilities empowers them with self-confidence. It unearths their potential to be creative, collaborative, empathetic, and engaged citizens of the world.

This past year has been one of many transitions at NDI. The loss of our beloved Jacques d’Amboise is certainly the most difficult. While we continue to grieve, NDI remains fully committed to the mission Jacques championed for more than four decades and to being part of his enduring legacy. We will forever be guided by his spirit and will endeavor to make him proud as we nurture the limitless potential of our children.

Navigating through this year would not have been possible without the dedication and passion of our extraordinary artistic and administrative staff. Ellen Weinstein, recently named Artistic Director Emerita and one of tonight’s worthy honorees, was an unstoppable engine keeping NDI moving forward. We welcomed our extremely gifted Kay Gayner into her new role as Artistic Director, and the incredible Juan José Escalante as our new Executive Director. In the few months since they assumed their positions, their commitment, leadership, and vision have been most impressive. We are in the right hands to move us into the future.

In addition to Ellen, I congratulate our other stellar Honorees this evening — ADP for its remarkable generosity and belief in our work, and the spectacularly talented and award-winning Brian Stokes Mitchell, for lending his passionate and influential voice to the essential mission of arts education for children.

On behalf of the NDI Board of Directors, our staff, and every child and family we will serve this year and beyond, I thank you for your support. NDI’s future is bright because of you. Enjoy this wonderful evening!

With heartfelt gratitude,

Marc S. Solomon
Chair, Board of Directors, National Dance Institute
Ellen Weinstein

Ellen Weinstein, NDI Artistic Director Emerita, began teaching and choreographing for National Dance Institute in 1986 and served as Artistic Director from 1995 to 2021.

During her tenure, she guided NDI to consistently deliver excellence in the arts and built upon Jacques d’Amboise’s mission to offer every child access to free participatory dance and music classes. She expanded NDI’s In-School Program, which currently serves over 6,000 children in New York City public schools, as well as the Associates of National Dance Institute (ANDI), a collective of arts education programs across the country that utilize NDI’s pedagogy. There are currently 12 programs thriving in the United States that together serve more than 30,000 children annually.

Ms. Weinstein conceived and developed the NDI Collaborative for Teaching & Learning, a long-term strategic initiative of NDI to spread its pedagogy and teach more children, offering intensive professional development to dance and music teachers and dance education organizations. She also created NDI’s Artist-in-Residence program to give children the opportunity to work directly with celebrated artists and professionals in different genres of dance. The program, specifically for artists of color, enables emerging artists as well as established choreographers to hone their craft and showcase their work.

To further support NDI’s mission to ensure that all children have access to quality arts education, Ms. Weinstein developed a new area of programming during the pandemic to provide ways to participate in classes online. The free interactive online platform, ndiLIVE!, now has more than 100 classes taught by NDI teaching artists/choreographers and musicians for children to enjoy the exuberance and magic of NDI wherever they are. The content is also being used in original programming by education organizations across the country, including PBS/WNET.

Ms. Weinstein has taught and choreographed in major cities throughout the U.S. She traveled to Moscow as a consultant for NDI’s artistic exchange with the Soviet Union and has taught in India, France, Lebanon, and Israel. In 2010, she led an NDI delegation to Shanghai to collaborate with renowned choreographer Dou Dou Huang and the Shanghai Children’s Palace. Her choreography has been performed at venues including The Kennedy Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center and the White House.

Prior to joining NDI, Ms. Weinstein danced professionally with the Savannah Ballet, the Garden State Ballet, Joan Miller’s Dance Players, The Kevin Wynn Collection, and several contemporary dance companies. Ms. Weinstein served as an adjunct professor in process pedagogy at the State University of New York at New Paltz. She received a BFA in Dance from SUNY Purchase.
Brian Stokes Mitchell

Dubbed “the last leading man” by The New York Times, two-time Tony Award winner Brian Stokes Mitchell has enjoyed a career that spans Broadway, television, film, and concert appearances with the country’s finest conductors and orchestras. He received Tony, Drama Desk, and Outer Critics Circle awards for his star turn in Kiss Me, Kate. He also gave Tony-nominated performances in Man of La Mancha, August Wilson’s King Hedley II, and Ragtime. Other notable Broadway shows include Kiss of the Spider Woman, Jelly’s Last Jam, Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown and Shuffle Along. In 2016 he was awarded his second Tony Award, the prestigious Isabelle Stevenson Tony, for his charitable work with The Actors Fund. That same year Stokes was inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame.

An extremely versatile and in-demand singer, Stokes has performed at venues spanning jazz, opera, pops, country, and musical theater worlds. He has worked with John Williams, Marvin Hamlish, Gustavo Dudamel, Keith Lockhart, Michael Tilson Thomas, the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Big Band, the Mormon Tabernacle choir, and the Muppets. Stokes has made multiple appearances at Carnegie Hall beginning with his debut with the San Francisco Symphony through his televised performance in South Pacific opposite Reba McEntire to his sold-out solo concert, which he continues to perform throughout the U.S. He has been invited twice to perform at the White House (both times aired on PBS’s Great Performances) and has performed multiple times for Presidents Clinton and Obama.

Stokes has delved deeply into various music disciplines. In addition to singing, he began piano studies at the age of 6. A self-professed autodidact, his musical curiosity led him to teach himself composing, arranging and orchestration, starting in his teens. He later studied film scoring, orchestration, and conducting both privately and through UCLA and subsequently scored and conducted a number of Trapper John, MD episodes, a series on which he was also a regular cast member. His musical talent has extended to the present day as producer, arranger, and orchestrator on his three solo albums, including recording Simply Broadway and his latest recording Plays with Music. Stokes has appeared on more than 20 albums.

His extensive screen credits began with a guest starring role on Roots: The Next Generations, followed by a 7-year stint on Trapper John, MD and have continued with memorable appearances on everything from PBS’ Great Performances to The Fresh Prince, Frasier, Glee, Jumping the Broom and his most recent recurring roles on Madam Secretary, Mr. Robot, The Path, Billions, and The Good Fight. Other recent TV appearances include The Blacklist, Elementary, and Bull. As a voice-over artist he has played dozens of characters on animated TV episodes, including performing Through Heaven’s Eyes in Dreamwork’s The Prince of Egypt.

As a writer Stokes has contributed to the book Hirschfeld’s Harlem, wrote the preface to At This Theatre, and co-authored the children’s book Lights on Broadway.

For fun he has been known to fly planes and jump out of them (usually not at the same time), and he can ride a bicycle on a high wire.

Stokes has enjoyed working with numerous charitable organizations from the March of Dimes to the USO. He is on the board of Americans for the Arts and is serving his 14th term as Chairman of the Board of the Actors Fund.

You can see more credits and information at: IMDb, Broadway Database, Broadway World, Wikipedia, and brianstokes.com.

ADP

ADP is a comprehensive global provider of cloud-based human capital management (HCM) solutions that unite HR, payroll, talent, time, tax and benefits administration, as well as a leader in business outsourcing services, analytics and compliance expertise. Serving over 920,000 clients in 140 countries from small business to global enterprise, ADP has the experience and scale to address critical workforce needs and shape the changing world of work.

ADP embraces its role in giving back to and generating a lasting, positive impact upon the communities in which its associates and clients work and live. Corporate social responsibility (CSR) is a core principle within ADP’s values, and it encompasses everything from corporate governance, ethics and environmental stewardship to diversity, philanthropy and promoting employee success around the world.

ADP constantly strives to embed socially responsible principles and practices into everything they do. ADP remains optimistic about the future and committed to making positive contributions that will benefit the world today and for generations to come.
CK Swett, formerly of Christie’s and Phillips auction houses, first partnered with National Dance Institute in 2013 and has been an ardent supporter of our work ever since. His charity auctioneering efforts over the last twelve years have yielded more than $100 million; in addition to NDI he has led the fundraising for The Joyce Theater, Harlem Dance Theater, Dancing Classrooms, and Groove With Me, among many many others. When he is not convincing bidders to raise their paddles just one last time, he is often found Wordle-ing, playing chess on his phone, or singing enthusiastically off-key.

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At National Dance Institute (NDI), we believe the arts have a unique power to engage all children and motivate them toward excellence. Through our award-winning arts education programs, we serve children of diverse backgrounds, abilities, and socio-economic positions — transcending systemic barriers and expanding opportunities for all children to become their best. Our professional teaching artists foster in students a love of dance and music, a curiosity about the world, and a desire to achieve. These dedicated teachers help our young dancers learn to work together as they develop persistence, empathy, and confidence to support their success in school and in life.

Since our founding in 1976 by New York City Ballet principal dancer Jacques d’Amboise, NDI has empowered the lives of more than two million children. Now under the artistic direction of Kay Guney, NDI has developed a unique, proven teaching methodology that uses dance and music to improve children’s critical thinking, develop their global perspective, and hone their social-emotional, communication, and collaboration skills.

NDI fulfills our mission by offering our core programs to all children free of charge. In 2009, NDI began offering Virtual National Dance Institute (VNDI) classes during the pandemic, providing instruction to more than 100,000 children annually. NDI disseminates our acclaimed teaching method through the NDI Collaborative for Teaching & Learning, a professional development program for teaching artists, dance educators, musicians, and organizations worldwide. Every year, professional artists and educators from around the globe participate in our trainings and emerge from this transformative experience with an advanced set of teaching tools and a deepened understanding of the power of the arts in education.

Throughout our history, NDI has seeded programs both nationally and internationally. There are currently 12 Associates of National Dance Institute (ANDI) thriving in the United States that utilize the NDI Method to serve over 30,000 children every year. Internationally, NDI has been working in Shanghai, China and in Beirut, Lebanon to train teachers in NDI’s groundbreaking methodology and to promote the social development of children, helping them gain confidence through the study of dance, the arts, and international collaboration. These International Programs have served more than 8,000 children annually.

In the fall of 2011, NDI opened the doors to its permanent home—the National Dance Institute Center for Learning & the Arts located at 217 West 147th Street in Harlem. The NDI Center is home to three dance studios, two art galleries, green rooms, administrative offices, and the Howard Gilman Performance Space, which has seating for 175 and is used for NDI classes, rehearsals, performances, and events. The NDI Center has become a beacon for children, teachers, and artists in our local Harlem community, throughout New York City, and worldwide.

### ABOUT NATIONAL DANCE INSTITUTE

**2021-2022 PARTNER SCHOOLS**

**MANHATTAN**

- **PS 1M**
  - Partner since 1985
  - 8 Henry Street

- **PS 2M**
  - Partner since 1985
  - 122 Henry Street

- **PS 6M**
  - Partner since 2013
  - 45 East 81st Street

- **PS 7M**
  - Partner since 2013
  - 160 East 120th Street

- **PS 20M**
  - Partner since 2009
  - 166 Essex Street

- **PS 33M/Chelsea Prep**
  - Partner since 2006
  - 281 9th Avenue

- **PS 40M**
  - Partner 1979–1998; 2005–present
  - 320 East 20th Street

- **PS 41M/Greenwich Village School**
  - Partner since 2006
  - 116 West 11th Street

- **PS 87M**
  - Partner since 2011
  - 160 West 78th Street

- **PS 110M**
  - Partner since 2009
  - 285 Delancey Street

- **PS 116M**
  - Partner since 2021
  - 210 East 33rd Street

- **PS MS 123M/Mahalia Jackson School**
  - Partner since 2010
  - 301 West 140th Street

- **PS 124M**
  - Partner since 1985
  - 40 Division Street

- **PS 126/MAT**
  - Partner 2000–2010; 2019–present
  - 80 Catherine Street

- **PS 130M**
  - Partner since 1985
  - 143 Baxter Street

- **PS/MS 161M**
  - Partner since 2011
  - 499 West 133rd Street

- **PS 163M**
  - Partner since 2005
  - 163 West 97th Street

- **PS 183M**
  - Partner since 1991
  - 419 E 66th Street

- **PS 184M/Shuang Wen**
  - Partner 2006–2010; 2021–present
  - 327 Cherry Street

- **PS 185M/The Locke School**
  - Partner since 2021
  - 20 West 112th Street

- **PS 189M**
  - Partner since 1984
  - 2850 Amsterdam Avenue

- **PS 199M**
  - Partner since 1997
  - 270 West 70th Street

- **PS/IS 217M**
  - Roosevelt Island
  - Partner since 2021
  - 645 Main Street

- **IS 223/Mott Hall**
  - Partner since 1984
  - 71-111 Convent Avenue

- **PS 234M**
  - Partner since 2007
  - 292 Greenwich Street

- **PS 290/MNS**
  - Partner since 1996
  - 311 East 82nd Street

- **PS 397M/Spruce Street**
  - Partner since 2013
  - 12 Spruce Street

- **PS 452M**
  - Partner since 2010
  - 210 W 61st Street

- **PS 859M/Special Music School**
  - Partner since 2006
  - 129 West 67th Street

- **Hunter College Elementary School**
  - Partner 1981–1984; 1997–present
  - 71 East 94th Street

**BROOKLYN**

- **PS 10K**
  - Partner since 2012
  - 511 7th Avenue

- **PS 107K**
  - Partner since 2022
  - 1301 8th Avenue

- **PS 169K/Sunset Park School**
  - Partner since 2016
  - 4305 7th Avenue

- **PS 235K/Janie Marie Knight**
  - Partner since 1999
  - 525 Lenox Road

- **PS 261K**
  - Partner since 2022
  - 314 Pacific Street

**QUEENS**

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  - Partner since 2012
  - 126-28 150th Street

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  - Partner since 2015
  - 695 East 182nd Street

- **PS 105X**
  - Partner since 2003
  - 723 Brandy Avenue

**MS 302X**

- Partner since 2015
- 681 Kelly Street
HeLEN STAMBLER NEUBERGER
ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE
EARL MOSLEY

The Helen Stambler Neuberger Artist-in-Residence program is a one-year residency designed to support the creative process of an artist of color and is designed to cultivate racially diverse artistry throughout NDI’s programming. The position offers artists an opportunity to develop their craft while working with elementary and middle school students.

Fredrick Earl Mosley is Founder and Artistic Director of Earl Mosley’s Diversity of Dance (EMDOD), whose programs include Earl Mosley’s Institute of the Arts (EMIA,) a residential summer institute held at Hofstra University in Hempstead, Long Island; Hearts of Men (HoM,) a program which is designed to use dance to empower and cultivate a safe space where men of all ages can bond in a community of brotherly love; and Dancing Beyond, a benefit for the American Cancer Society.

A part of EMDOD’s mission is to build a community of dance that enables each student to connect both technically and spiritually with their own art and individuality; one where they can feel safe and courageous to learn and grow in preparation for the challenges that lie ahead for them in the world of dance and life. Participants in EMDOD collaborate with their peers as they learn from one another and their teachers/ artists in programs that model mutual respect and celebrate diversity.

Mr. Mosley has performed with renowned dance organizations and taught at many notable conservatories and higher learning institutions such as Alvin Alley American Dance Theater, The Joffrey Ballet Trainee Program, and American Ballet Theatre Studio Company.

He first worked with the children of NDI in June 2021, choreographing a dance to “This Is Me” from The Greatest Showman for the Dance Against Cancer benefit at Lincoln Center. The children danced alongside Kevin Bosseman, Erica Lall, Clifton Brown, Jacquelin Harris and many others.

Mr. Mosley will be working with NDI dancers and Teaching Artists throughout the year, setting choreography on NDI Advanced Teams, leading NDI Collaborative workshops, and connecting with the NDI families, audiences, and staff through performance and community events.

National Dance Institute’s Artist-in-Residence program is made possible with the support of Helen Stambler Neuberger and Jim Neuberger.
**GALA PRODUCTION TEAM**

**GALA ORCHESTRA**

- **Music Director**: Jerome Korman
- **Drums**: Zack O’Farrill
- **Bass**: Yakir Ben-Hur
- **Keyboards**: Jerome Korman, Yakir Ben-Hur, Ly Bedańa
- **Vocals**: Tyreshia Hill, Keaara Powell, Greg Stamper

**GALA PRODUCTION TEAM**

- **Event Producers & Gala Office**: Ruth Schwartz & Co.
- **Decor**: Zak Events
- **Production Stage Manager**: Andy Bryant
- **Lighting Designer**: Keith Truax
- **Costume Designer**: Lynn Hippen
- **Stage Hands**: Geoff Grimwood, Emily Lafreniere, F. Michael Topperzer IV, Dan Van Why
- **Marketing**: Alissa Blate/Black Dog Strategies
- **DJ**: Kenny Mendez, Kenny B. Jammin DJ Entertainment

**GALA LIVESTREAM**

Produced by ALL US FILMS

- **Executive Producer**: Benjamin Ryan Nathan
- **Director of Live Stream**: Robert Gregson
- **Associate Producer**: Yevgeniya Kats
- **Technical Director**: William Cosentino
- **Assistant Technical Director**: Joshua Song
- **Motion Graphics**: Diego Rotmistrovsky
- **Graphic Design**: Daniella Van Gennep

**Photographer**: Matt Oner

**Special Thanks**

To those whose generous participation helped to make this evening a success:


**GALA LIVESTREAM**

**Dancing in the Street**

Choreography by Bianca Johnson


Arrangement by Yakir Ben-Hur
Performed by the Children of NDI

**Emerge**

Choreography by Kay Gayner


Arrangement by Brad Mehldau
Performed by dancers from the NDI DREAM Project

**This Is Me**

Choreography by Fredrick Earl Mosley, Helen Stambler Neuberger, Artist-in-Residence

Music by Benj Pasek & Justin Noble Paul

Vocal Arrangement by Tyreshia Hill
Performed by the Children of NDI

**Tribute to Jacques d’Amboise**

Directed & Edited by Benjamin Ryan Nathan

**When The Saints Go Marchin’ In**

Choreography by Ellen Weinstein

Music: Traditional
Performed by the Children of NDI

**R-E-S-P-E-C-T**

Choreography by Ellen Weinstein

Music: “Respect” by Otis Redding; “Think” by Aretha Franklin and Ted White

Arrangement by Jerome Korman
Performed by the Children of NDI

**CAST LIST**

**NDI CELEBRATION TEAM**


**NDI DREAM DANCERS**

Eve Carter, Lara-Belle Jairam-Narine, Damian Riley-Driver, Avery Roberts, Gil Vardi
NATIONAL DANCE INSTITUTE’S LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The National Dance Institute Center for Learning & the Arts is housed in what is presently called Harlem, New York. We acknowledge the Lenape people, the original stewards of the land on which the NDI Center is built. We offer respect to their ancestors, and to the Black ancestors who shaped Harlem as we know it today. Our histories are intertwined. We travel along their pathways.

At NDI, we commit to deepening our organizational connections to and support of the Lenape people and the Black communities in Harlem through trainings, community engagement events, and artist support, among others.

To find out more about the people who first inhabited the land on which you live, please visit Native Land at https://native-land.ca/.
Native Land is an app to help map Indigenous territories, treaties, and languages.

MAKE A CONTRIBUTION

Text the word DONATE to (646) 736-4571
or visit nationaldance.org/give

THANK YOU!
nationaldance.org
UPCOMING EVENTS
Additional details coming soon!

NDI Dancemobile
May 14, 2022
12:00pm & 1:00pm
Jackie Robinson Park
The Bandshell: Bradhurst Avenue & West 148th Street

Event of the Year: A Beautiful Mosaic
June 18, 2022 at 5:00pm
June 19, 2022 at 2:00pm & 5:00pm
Venue TBD

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
for upcoming events honoring our founder, Jacques d’Amboise

Additional information on how to RSVP and join us for these three special events will be coming soon.

Street Naming in Honor of Jacques d’Amboise
May 5, 2022
5:00 pm sharp
64th Street & Columbus Avenue
New York City

Historic Landmarks Preservation Center,
Cultural Medallion Ceremony: Jacques d’Amboise
May 16, 2022
3:00 pm
Public Invited to Join Streaming Zoom Ceremony-Details to Follow

A Celebration of the Life of Jacques d’Amboise
June 1, 2022
7:00 pm
New York City Center
131 W 55th Street, New York City
**SILVER STAR SOCIETY**

We extend our deepest thanks to the following individuals whose love and dedication to the children of NDI has led them to include National Dance Institute in their will or estate planning.

This list includes those who have given a gift, or informed NDI of their intention to do so, as of March 28, 2022.

Denny Beach*  
Valerie and Charles Diker  
Patricia Dugan-Perlmut  
Gayle Griffith  
Rosemary Carey* and Ed Hynes  
Judy Kinberg  

Catherine Kirsch  
Carol H. and Robert D. Krinsky  
Charlotte Lee*  
Robert A. Levinson  
Beatrix F. Padway*  
Donna Polisar*  
Julie Rice*  
Sheila Scheingold*  
Lois Schneider  
William L. Siegfried and Thad Mummert  
Helen Stambler Neuberger and Jim Neuberger  
Marcia Thompson*  
Judy* and Josh Weston  

*in memoriam

A legacy gift to NDI is a gift that will live on forever. If you would like to explore leaving NDI in your will, or giving options that provide tax and financial benefits to you now, or your dependents later, please contact Michele O’Marra, Chief Advancement Officer, at (212) 226-0083 or momara@nationaldance.org.

Have you already included NDI in your plans for the future? Please let us know so that we may recognize you as a member of our esteemed Silver Star Society.

**2022 GALA SUPPORTERS**

Our deepest thanks to the following donors for their generous support of NDI’s Annual Gala. Includes gifts received as of March 28, 2022.

Angels  
($50,000 and above)

Kathy and Joe Mele  
Donald Newhouse

Samuel I. Newhouse Foundation Inc.  
Maudeleine Berley and Arnold S. Penner

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Helen Stambler Neuberger and Jim Neuberger

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Yvonne Pollack  
Sue and Edgar Wachenheim  
Kate Weil and Stuart Bauchner  
Heather Weston

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($5,000 - $9,999)

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Special thanks to Valerie and Charles Diker for supporting after school classes for children at the NDI Center by creating the “Valerie Diker Come Dance With Us Scholarship.”

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he is in our hearts. always...

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our passionate, brilliant, empathetic, inspirational,
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magnificent ndi teaching artists, musicians, staff
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Marc S. Solomon

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Dear Ellen,

Your love of each one of us, as you taught and guided so many, has had a profound impact on each of our lives. We can’t ever thank you enough for your deep commitment, care, and for the gift of dance that you’ve given us.

We love you Ellen!
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“**They may not remember what you said. They may not remember what you did. But they will never forget how you made them feel.**” — Maya Angelou

Ellen, the memories you have created are footprints on the hearts and souls of thousands of NDI children, families and audiences. You have made us all feel pure joy. We will take this with us, always.

**With love and admiration**

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