

Night of Wonders

It was a dark and stormy March night in Vancouver when 350 guests made their way to the London Aviation Centre at Vancouver International Airport, the location of the annual Night of Wonders gala to benefit the Children's Wish Foundation of Canada, B.C. and Yukon chapter. Inside, however, things were wondrous, with attendees savouring violet-hued cocktails, perusing the silent auction, and watching in awe as a contortionist performed beneath a cumulus cloud of helium balloons. "We aim to throw events in unconventional spaces that feel intimate and dynamic—we will never be that gala that ends up in a hotel ballroom," explains event creative director Jessica Hollander. The evening's theme, "Wishes Take Flight," was an homage to the number of travel wishes the charity grants to children with life-threatening diseases. And, in raising a record-setting \$550,000, the event secured wishes for 55 local children and their families this year.



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01. Kevin Mazzone, Tiffany Soper, and Fred Lee 02. Robin Gill, Jennifer Petersen, and Sophie Lui 03. Drew Pankrath, Brad Vandine, Dr. Max Meyer, Robert Durant, Rod Ramage, and Kevin Marques 04. Manuel Bernaschek (centre), and Laura and Victor Alfonso 05. Derek Nelsen, Nadia and Hussein Shiviji, and Eila Akbari 06. Matthew, Lisa, and Alan Boroditsky 07. Donald Hayes, Barb Hambly, Jan Grude, and Carole Taylor 08. DJ Chloé Morgan

PHOTOS BY JAMIE LEE RUOCO