



PHASE ONE ANNUAL GALA

October 16, 2026 | Sony Pictures Studios



INVESTING IN INNOVATION

In 1998, Alberto Valner and his mother were both diagnosed with very different types of cancer. At the time, little was known about his mother's type of cancer. She passed away within days of Alberto being told he was "all clear" and cancer-free. Motivated by this disparity in research, Alberto and Stacy Valner started the PHASE ONE Foundation with a small group of friends.

The impact of PHASE ONE's efforts speaks volumes: the Foundation has provided over 58 grants for research across 24 different types of cancer, including rare and underfunded types. These grants have facilitated crucial clinical trials conducted by world-class researchers and scientists at renowned institutions such as UCLA, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, City of Hope, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, and USC.

Moreover, PHASE ONE's investment of \$24 million has catalyzed over \$92 million in additional major funding for its grant recipients. This funding has led to the development and approval of five life-saving drugs, with more promising treatments on the horizon.



OUR MISSION

PHASE ONE's focus is to fund the early steps in the cancer research process. A Phase I trial is the first time a new therapy is given to patients. Often, these patients have unsuccessfully tried all available treatments.

Often Phase I trials have a difficult time finding funding because they don't have as many proven results. PHASE ONE looks for doctors and researchers who are passionate about their work and who push the envelope in the world of cancer research.

Supporting PHASE ONE not only creates opportunities for innovative doctors and researchers, but it gives hope to cancer patients now, and in the future.

PHASE ONE FUNDED RESEARCH IS HAPPENING AT:



OUR IMPACT



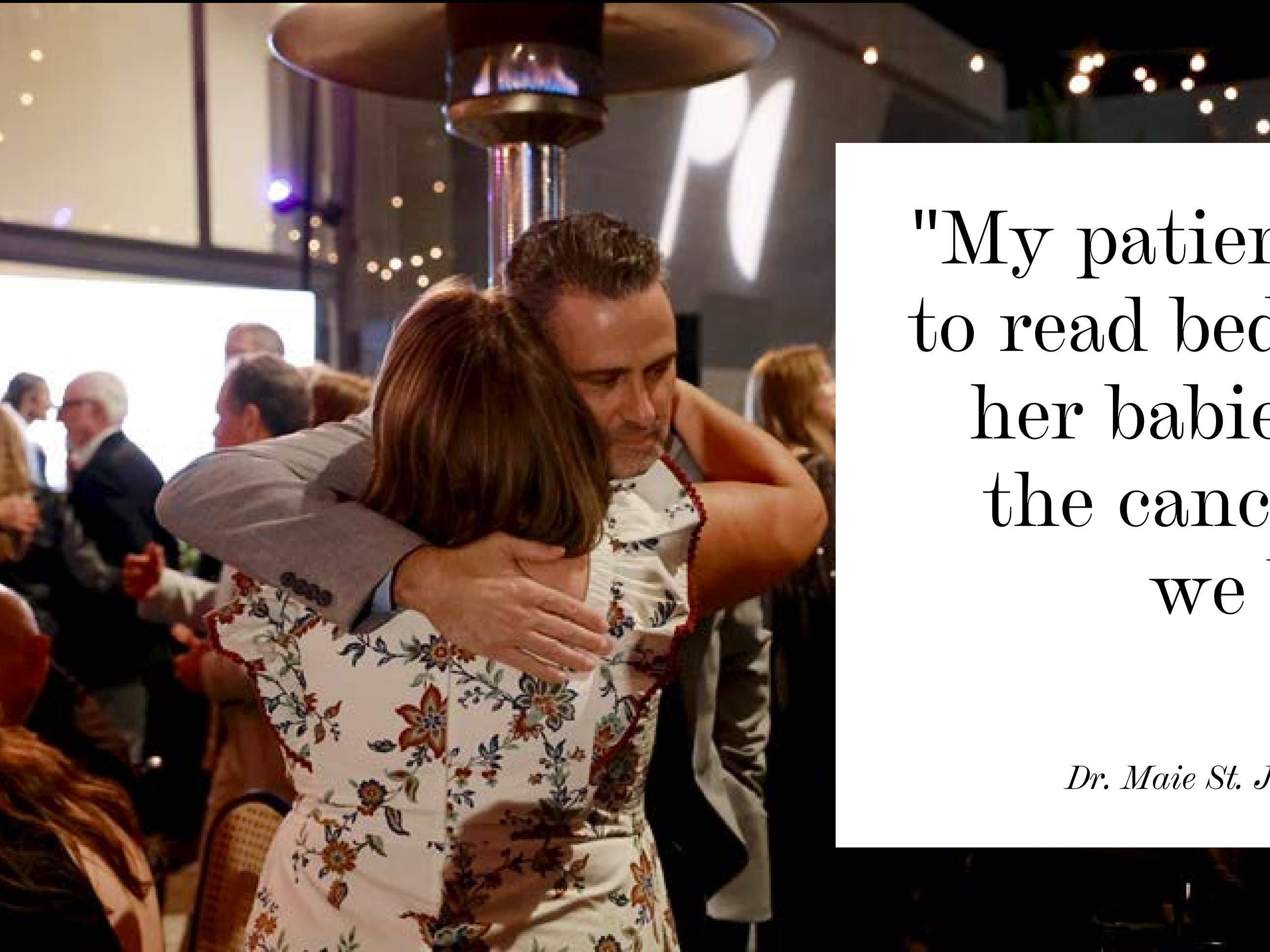
PHASE ONE HAS PROVIDED 58+ GRANTS FOR RESEARCH IN 28 DIFFERENT TYPES OF CANCER— INCLUDING TYPES THAT ARE RARE AND UNDERFUNDED.



PHASE ONE'S INVESTMENT OF \$24 MILLION HAS RESULTED IN OVER \$92 MILLION IN ADDITIONAL MAJOR FUNDING FOR OUR GRANT RECIPIENTS.



PHASE ONE HAS ASSISTED WITH BRINGING 5 LIFE-SAVING DRUGS TO MARKET AND MORE APPROVED TREATMENTS ON THE HORIZON.



"My patient can continue
to read bedtime stories to
her babies as a result of
the cancer imaging tool
we built thanks to
PHASE ONE."

Dr. Maie St. John, PHASE ONE Grant Recipient

A SIGNATURE EVENT

Friday, October 16

Sony Pictures Studios, Culver City

PHASE ONE's Annual Gala is the organization's largest fundraiser and raises over \$1 million for clinical cancer research. In addition to supporting an amazing cause, a big highlight for our guests is the food! Each year we have 15+ of LA's top chefs and restaurants participate.

The event begins with a lively cocktail reception and then everyone gathers for a short, impactful program. Guests are then able to directly donate to PHASE ONE to further support our mission.

Once the program ends, we celebrate! Guests get to enjoy amazing food, great music, and activations like our Mystery Gifts! A sell-out attraction every year.



A woman in a dark blazer and blue jeans stands at a clear acrylic podium on a stage, addressing a large crowd. The podium is decorated with a white floral arrangement. A bright stage light illuminates the speaker. In the background, a large audience is seated at round tables with white tablecloths in an outdoor courtyard. A multi-story building with many lit windows and strings of warm white lights hangs over the courtyard. A flagpole with a flag is visible behind the speaker.

500+ GUESTS

Including prominent philanthropists, community leaders, ambitious young professionals, medical experts, and established individuals in various industries, from entertainment, finance, biotech, to real estate.

A MESSAGE FROM THE 2026 GALA CHAIRS

They say life is a journey. For the three of us, that journey has been deeply intertwined—shaped by 30 years of friendship, resilience, milestones, and experiences we never imagined sharing. Like so many others, our path has also been marked by three words you never expect to hear: “You have cancer.”

This year, our journey continues as we have the honor of co-chairing the 2026 PHASE ONE Foundation’s Annual Gala on October 16 at Sony Pictures Studios.

For me, my cancer journey began when I lost my father at age 8. He was only 45 years old. And four years ago, cancer became deeply personal once again when my husband was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive soft tissue sarcoma. Despite remarkable medical advances, I lost my husband just two months before his 60th birthday and the birth of his second grandchild.

This journey is not only about loss, but also survival. Martin and Cathy have each faced their own cancer battles, gaining perspectives that only such experiences can bring. Together, these moments have shaped who we are and strengthened our bond, uniting us in a shared commitment to making a difference through PHASE ONE.

Now, more than ever, your support of cancer research is critical. We hope you will join us for an unforgettable evening of purpose, hope, exceptional food, and celebration.

Together, we can make a meaningful difference.

Rebecca



*Rebecca Cocco,
Cathy Carini-Terzoli,
& Martin Correia*



FUN FOR ALL

Mystery Gifts, Silent Auction, & More!

A fun attraction for gala guests, donating to the Mystery Gifts is a great way to show your support of PHASE ONE and get your brand in the hands of an engaged audience. Gifts are sold at \$100 and \$500 and donations should be valued higher than those dollar amounts.

In-kind donations reduce event costs and create a special experience for PHASE ONE's generous donors. These donations translate into more funding for innovative cancer research. All in-kind sponsors are heavily promoted both before and during the gala. In addition to Mystery Gifts, we are looking for one-of-a-kind silent auction packages, and takeaway gifts for guests.

presented by
AutoNation

MAKE CONNECTIONS

Sponsors can support activations at the gala by underwriting them or bringing in their own hands-on experience for guests to enjoy. These custom sponsor packages start at \$10,000.



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#ONEFORALL

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"Every
treatment that's
on the market
today started as
a Phase I trial."

*Mieke Neumann, PHASE ONE Board Member
and Former Granting Chair*





PHASE ONE SPONSOR

A PHASE ONE SPONSOR will be named a Presenting Sponsor of the PHASE ONE Gala and receive the following sponsor benefits:

- Name and/or logo on gala website.
- Name and/or logo included on all promotional materials.
- Logo included in signage at the event.
- One (1) Opening Sponsor Ad in the digital tribute journal.
- Twenty (20) VIP tickets to the gala, with two (2) reserved tables.
- Opportunity to showcase product or services at the gala.
- Opportunity to provide materials for the gift bags or takeaways (500).

SPONSORSHIP COST: \$50,000



VISIONARY SPONSOR

A Visionary Sponsor will be named a Premier Sponsor of the PHASE ONE Gala and will receive the following sponsor benefits:

- Name and/or logo on gala website.
- Name and/or logo included on all promotional materials.
- Logo included in signage at the event.
- One (1) Visionary Sponsor Ad in the digital tribute journal.
- Twelve (12) VIP tickets to the gala, with reserved seating.
- Opportunity to showcase product or services at the gala.
- Opportunity to provide materials for the gift bags or takeaways (500).

SPONSORSHIP COST: \$25,000



CURE SPONSOR

- Name and/or logo on gala website.
- Name and/or logo included on all promotional materials.
- One (1) Cure Sponsor Ad in the digital tribute journal.
- Ten (10) tickets to the gala, reserved seating available.

SPONSORSHIP COST: \$15,000

PATHFINDER SPONSOR

- Name and/or logo on gala website.
- Name and/or logo included on all promotional materials.
- One (1) Pathfinder Sponsor Ad in the digital tribute journal.
- Eight (8) tickets to the gala, reserved seating available.

SPONSORSHIP COST: \$10,000

WELLNESS SPONSOR

- One (1) Wellness Sponsor Ad in the digital tribute journal.
- Four (4) tickets to the gala, reserved seating available.

SPONSORSHIP COST: \$5,000

THANK YOU



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Please contact info@phaseonefoundation.org if you would like to confirm your sponsorship, for a custom proposal, or with any questions.



LEARN MORE ABOUT PHASE ONE AT WWW.PHASEONEFOUNDATION.ORG.