

## 2018 WORLD OF CHILDREN AWARDS CEREMONY & BENEFIT CELEBRATED HEROES FOR CHILDREN

## Annual Awards Ceremony held on Thursday, November 1 in New York City



PHOTO CAPTION: (L-R) Anta Mbow (2018 Protection Award), Caragan Olles (2018 Youth Award), Kay Isaacson Leibowitz (World of Children Co-Founder), Sandy Kemper (2018 Health Award), Ehsan Mehrangais (2018 Education Award), Harry Leibowitz (World of Children Co-Founder) and Phyllis Keino (2018 Humanitarian Award) attend the 2018 World of Children Awards Ceremony and Benefit on November 1, 2018 in New York City. (Photo by Dave Kotinsky/Getty Images for World of Children)

## Click <u>HERE</u> for Event Photos (Credit: Dave Kotinsky/Getty Images for World of Children): Click <u>HERE</u> for B-Roll (Credit: Courtesy of World of Children)

**NEW YORK, NY – November 2, 2018** – On Thursday, November 1, World of Children, a global recognition and funding organization for individuals exclusively serving the needs of vulnerable children, honored five real-life heroes that have dramatically improved the lives of at-risk children at the <u>2018 World of Children Awards Ceremony & Benefit</u>. **Alina Cho** (World of Children Advisory Council, *CBS Sunday Morning* Contributor) emceed the event and was joined by featured speakers **Caryl Stern** (President and CEO, US Fund for UNICEF) and **Andy Adler** (Sportscaster, Journalist, TV Personality).

Celebrities, VIP guests and World of Children supporters in attendance include **Miss USA Sarah Rose Summers**, **Daniela Braga** (E!'s *Model Squad*, Host Committee), **Daiane Sodré da Silva** (Model), **Luna Castilho** (Model), **Leonard Gorski** (President & CEO, Gorski Group), **Rebecca Minkoff** (Co-Founder & Creative Director, Rebecca Minkoff), **Vivienne Hu** (Fashion Designer), **Vlada Roslyakova** (Model), **Harry Leibowitz** and **Kay Isaacson Leibowitz** (World of Children Co-Founders, Event Co-Chairs) and more.

Over 450 guests gathered at 583 Park Avenue in New York City for an inspiring night recognizing the newest class of World of Children Honorees that lead high-impact programs in the categories of education, health, humanitarianism, protection and youth helping youth. The evening featured a cocktail reception, dinner program, and special performance of the World of Children anthem, "Can You Hear," by the **United Nations International School** (UNIS) **Choral Club**. Guests also enjoyed a lively pledge drive led by auctioneer **Harry Santa-Olalla** – bringing the overall event fundraising total to more than **\$850,000**. With these donations, World of Children will be able to help fund the Honorees high-impact programs, helping to change the lives of thousands more children.

The 2018 World of Children Honorees include the following: Humanitarian Award Honoree <u>Phyllis Keino</u> (Founder, <u>Lewa</u> <u>Children's Home</u> in Kenya), Health Award Honoree <u>Sandy Kemper</u> (Founder, <u>Smiles Forever</u> in Bolivia), Protection Award Honoree <u>Anta Mbow</u> (Founder, <u>Empire des Enfants</u> in Senegal), Education Award Honoree <u>Ehsan Mehrangais</u> (Founder, <u>Afghanistan Demain</u> in Afghanistan) and Youth Award Honoree <u>Caragan Olles</u> (Co-Founder, <u>Bright Young Dyslexics</u> in Wisconsin).

The Awards Ceremony also honored New York-based **Devin Beresheim** (Practice Leader, Marsh FINPRO) and his wife **Sarah** with the **2018 Board of Governors Award** for their unwavering dedication to the organization and elevating awareness for child advocates. Five years ago, Devin Beresheim was introduced to World of Children by a colleague and began serving as a member of the Board of Governors. For the last four years, Sarah and Devin have successfully chaired the Summer Golf Classic, raising more than \$1.2 million for World of Children.

World of Children receives thousands of nominations from around the world ever year and uses a uniquely rigorous vetting process to select Honorees. Recognized by the media as the "Nobel Prize for Child Advocates," Honorees receive a substantial multi-year grant to help their program grow and ultimately impact the lives of even more children.

## **About World of Children**

World of Children unlocks the future for vulnerable children by funding, elevating and educating the most effective changemakers for children worldwide. Since 1998, the Foundation has dedicated more than \$13 million to high-impact programs for children, led by nearly 120 Honorees working in over 50 countries. World of Children is recognized in the media as the "Nobel Prize for Child Advocates" and is the only global recognition and funding program that exclusively focuses on a broad range of children's issues including health, education, safety and human rights.

World of Children has been featured in *The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal*, The Huffington Post, *People, Town & Country*, and *Harper's Bazaar*. World of Children Honorees have also been featured by CNN, The Ellen DeGeneres Show, Fast Company, *Glamour, TEEN Vogue, TIME for Kids*, and *USA Today*, among other national and international media. The Huffington Post named Co-Founders Harry Leibowitz and Kay Isaacson-Leibowitz one of the most inspiring "power couples" in the country for their lifetime commitment to improving the lives of vulnerable children around the world.

For more information, visit worldofchildren.org, or join the community on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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