

SECOND ANNUAL VISION DINNER

A TIME FOR AWARENESS. THE HOPE OF A CURE.



Craig and Vicki Brown

The Hydrocephalus Association's Second Annual Vision Dinner, "A Time for Awareness. The Hope of a Cure," was held on October 16, 2014, in New York City, at the Apella Alexandria Center. Generously hosted by Vicki and Craig Brown, major benefactors of the Hydrocephalus Association (HA), the evening united patients, neurosurgeons, scientists, advocates, and business leaders to raise awareness of hydrocephalus and its impact on patients and their families and, with that, to support efforts to discover causes, improve treatments and, ultimately, find a cure.

The evening program featured seven individuals who are working tirelessly to help people living with hydrocephalus survive and thrive. Speakers shared important information about the lives of patients – their struggles at various life stages - and spotlighted a specific form of the condition known as Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus (NPH). Guests had the opportunity to experience the journey of misdiagnosis to diagnosis of NPH through this year's video presentation featuring Dr. Milton Newman, who got his life back after 15 years of misdiagnosis and progressive dementia. The evening also highlighted the 50th anniversary of the definition of NPH as a distinct medical condition by the late Dr. Salomón Hakim.

Paul Gross, co-founder of the Hydrocephalus Clinical Research Network (HCRN) and Secretary of the HA Board of Directors, served as the master of ceremonies. After a warm welcome by HA CEO Dawn Mancuso, the evening's host, Craig Brown, Senior Vice Chair of the HA board, shared his family's personal journey with hydrocephalus and his and his wife Vicki's commitment to raising the profile of hydrocephalus through this annual event. From the keynote speaker, Dr. Michael Williams, guests learned about the current state of hydrocephalus research and advancements in treatment. And, from a friend and supporter, Cliff Goldman, guests experienced a first-hand account of a father's personal story of hope and perseverance.

The evening also honored two individuals for their tireless dedication to the elimination of the challenges of hydrocephalus through their affiliation with the Hydrocephalus Association. Dr. John Kestle, pediatric neurosurgeon and co-founder of the HCRN, received the Vision Award for Inspiration. Dr. Carlos Hakim accepted the Vision Award for Leadership on behalf of his father, the late Dr. Salomón Hakim, a pioneer in the field of Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus.

The Hydrocephalus Association would like to thank Craig and Vicki for their leadership and generosity in hosting this special evening to raise the profile of hydrocephalus and the important work of the Hydrocephalus Association for our entire community. For more information on how you can support HA's research initiative please e-mail hope@hydroassoc.org.

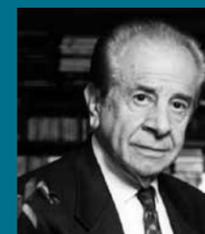


Honorees 2014 VISION AWARDS



JOHN R. KESTLE,
MD, FRCSC, FACS
LEADERSHIP

Dr. John Kestle is an international leader in clinical research in pediatric hydrocephalus and has been the Principal Investigator in a number of multi-center trials in the field. His commitment to advancing research in hydrocephalus led him to co-found the Hydrocephalus Clinical Research Network (HCRN), a nine center network conducting clinical trials on a number of topics in pediatric hydrocephalus. He currently serves as the HCRN chair and, building off the success of the HCRN, is serving as an advisor for the recently launched Adult Hydrocephalus Clinical Research Network (AHCRN) to help accelerate research in the adult hydrocephalus community. Dr. Kestle is also the Chair of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Neurosurgery: Pediatrics and a Director of the American Board of Pediatric Neurological Surgery. He served as Chair of the Scientific Committee of the International Society for Pediatric Neurosurgery (2009-2012) and is currently Professor and Vice Chair for Clinical Research in the University of Utah, Department of Neurosurgery.



SALOMÓN HAKIM,
MD, PHD
INSPIRATION

Dr. Salomón Hakim Dow, (4 June, 1922 – 4 May, 2011) a neurosurgeon, researcher, and inventor, was trained in neurology, neurosurgery and neuropathology. Born in Barranquilla Colombia, he began his studies of medicine at the Universidad Nacional in Bogotá and then continued his medical training in neurosurgery in 1950, and neuropathology in 1954 at the Lahey Clinic and the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. While performing autopsies on patients who died with dementia attributed to Alzheimer's Disease (AD), he noted their brain ventricles were enlarged but without destruction of the brain cortex associated with AD. In 1957, he began formulating his hypothesis on a condition he called normal pressure hydrocephalus or NPH. He published his thesis in 1964 which defined NPH as a distinct and treatable medical condition. A prolific inventor, he developed a unidirectional ball-in-cone design valve to regulate the CSF pressure in 1966. With son Carlos, a biomedical engineer and neuroscientist, he developed the first programmable valve at MEDOS, a company he and Carlos founded which was later acquired by Johnson & Johnson.

