



The [Digestive Health Foundation at Northwestern Medicine](#) hosted its first live event in over a year at the **MCA** on June 5. With in-person attendance of 220 and additional supporters participating virtually via livestream, the DHF's *Together on the Terrace: An Evening of Art, Appetizers and Spirits, Al Fresco* raised a whopping \$1.3 million, bringing the total sum raised by DHF since its inception in 2015 to nearly \$15 million! Held outdoors in the museum's Anne and John Kern Terrace Garden, the event featured mixology demonstrations, wine tasting, light bites, live music by the **TVK Orchestra**, museum tours, silent and live auctions and raffle prizes. Auction highlights included Ryder Cup tickets, a trip to New York City with VIP tickets to *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*, and dinner prepared by Michelin-starred chef **Soo Ahn**, who helms the kitchen at the fabulous Italian restaurant **Adalina** in the Gold Coast. **FOX 32 Chicago's Sylvia Perez** kicked off the event as well as the livestream. Event proceeds will benefit digestive disease research as well as supporting the DHF Ambassador Board's commitment to promoting greater equity in access to medical care and education through two projects that include the new Digestive Health Foundation MCAT Prep Program created in partnership with the *I Am Abel Foundation* to provide funding, resources and mentoring to help under- represented students prepare for medical school, and the Elizabeth Blackwell Fund for independent female GI researchers in honor of the first U.S. woman to earn a medical degree. Since inception six years ago, DHF has funded 67 crucial annual grants as well as ongoing research studies including the DHF BioRepository, a blood and tissue bank used for digestive disease research that is one of the few databases of its kind in the world. (For more info on DHF, [click here](#))



Rachel Holl, Phoebe Sacks and Jodi Block



Tom Swimmermaker, Nancy Payne, Karen Mandel, Zack Karmin



Michael Baum (Digestive Health Foundation Board Member and Ambassador Board Champion)



Jake Dockser and Olivia Kleinman



Dr. Leila Kia, MD



Eric Corwin and Julie Kaviar (DHF Ambassador Board and MCA Overall Event Lead)