



## AMERICA'S CAR MUSEUM®

### **America's Car Museum Donors Pony up Over 500k to Benefit Education Programs**

*Kentucky Derby-themed Wheels & Heels gala breaks Museum fundraising record;  
Rick Hendrick honored with Bulgari Award*

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TACOMA, Wash. (July 9, 2015) – America's Car Museum (ACM) proved that hay isn't just for horses at its recent Wheels & Heels Annual Gala, themed 'Kentucky Derby: A Celebration of Horsepower.' The event was a Triple Crown winner for ACM, by honoring Rick Hendrick with the Nicola Bulgari Award, providing attendees with an unforgettable night of food, festivities and fun, while raising a record-breaking \$570k to support museum operations and educational programs.

"Wheels & Heels was truly a celebration of all things 'horse'-power, with auction items ranging from a VIP experience with Hendrick Motorsports at the Bank of America 500 to a 1965 Mustang pony car," said ACM CEO David Madeira. "The fundraiser galloped past even our wildest expectations thanks to the generous support of all of the donors and bidders who came to support our programs."

Hendrick, a NASCAR legend, received ACM's Nicola Bulgari Award for his dedication to preserving America's automotive heritage through donations to education and car restoration programs, and collecting classic cars. Past recipients of the Nicola Bulgari Award, named after the famous luxury jewelry designer and avid car collector, include Dr. Frederick Simeone, founder of the Simeone automotive Museum; Edward Welburn, vice president of global design for General Motors; and McKeel Hagerty, president and CEO of Hagerty.

"Donations from our Signature Events help the Museum preserve America's car culture by directly supporting education programs that create jobs for countless individuals," said Madeira. "And even though the equine theme is a one-night affair, visitors can continue the celebration of horsepower by visiting our 'American Muscle: Rivals to the End' exhibit, which opens July 11<sup>th</sup>."

The Wheels & Heels Annual Gala – one of five annual Signature Events – brought Kentucky to Tacoma for a night of big hats, bluegrass music and gourmet cuisine, in addition to fireworks and the event's annual auction.

For more information on ACM or other Signature Events, visit [americascarmuseum.org](http://americascarmuseum.org).

#### **About LeMay – America's Car Museum ([americascarmuseum.org](http://americascarmuseum.org))**

America's Car Museum (ACM), named one of *USA Today's* 10 Best Museums in Seattle and KING 5's 2014 Best Museum in Western Washington, is an international destination where families and enthusiasts gather to celebrate America's love affair with the automobile and how it shaped our society. The stunning, four-level, 165,000-sq.-ft. Tacoma, Wash., facility features 12 rotating exhibits,



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five annual Signature Events and serves as an educational center, hosting students of all ages. For more information on ACM, visit [americascarmuseum.org](http://americascarmuseum.org).

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