



## PHILANTHROPY

By Kim Stemper | [philanthropy@ocbj.com](mailto:philanthropy@ocbj.com)

### Take A Walk

► (L to R) Dr. Brittany Rodriguez, Mrs. California United Crown of America 2026, Ronald McDonald House alumna; Thomas Sherlock, co-founder, principal, Talonvest Capital, Inc.; with Inspiration Family members Fred Hill, former Philadelphia Eagles player, co-founder, first Ronald McDonald Houses; Kristin Hill, sister of Kim Hill; Fran Hill, mother of Kim Hill; Kyle Hill, sister of Kim Hill.



**Ronald McDonald House Orange County (RMHOC)** celebrated its 17th Annual **Walk for Kids** on April 25 at **Championship Soccer Stadium** in Irvine, raising a record-breaking \$430,000 to support families with hospitalized children. More than 1,300 walkers and 1,300 community donors participated in the milestone event.

Featured walkers included the **Hill** family, who inspired the founding of the global organization, Ronald McDonald House. **Fred Hill**, a former **Philadelphia Eagles** player, and **Fran Hill's** daughter, **Kim**, who had leukemia when she was three years old, inspired the first Ronald McDonald House in Philadelphia, established 45 years ago. The Hills were instrumental in Ronald McDonald House Orange County's campaign to raise \$12 million to expand from 20 to 44 guest rooms, with additional amenities. Their team included **Kristin Hill** and **Kyle Hill**, both sisters of Kim Hill.

Teams that raised the most included **Talonvest Capital, Inc.**, which raised more than \$110,000 for the fourth consecutive year; **Memory Lane Inc.'s Alisha Cohen**, who raised more than \$37,000; and **Peace Love & Happy Meals**, led by McDonald's **Frisbie Management**, which raised more than \$22,000.

Advantech, Assurant, Carrill, Coca-Cola, Dave & Buster's, Edwards Life

### The World is their Classroom

► (L to R) Daisha Bolano, event guest; Silvia González, supporter, with husband Oscar González, co-CEO, Northgate González Market, board chair, Cristo Rey Orange County High School



PHOTO CREDIT: ANN CHATILLON

**Cristo Rey Orange County High School** raised more than \$2 million at its 3rd annual **¡VIVA! Gala**, held on April 18 at the **Waldorf Astoria Monarch Beach Resort** in Dana Point. The event drew more than 400 philanthropists, corporate partners and community leaders from across Orange County.

Funds raised will help ensure Cristo Rey remains an affordable Catholic, college-preparatory option for students from working-class families. The Santa Ana-based school, which opened in 2023, is also completing construction on a new 63,000-square-foot permanent campus on South Harbor Boulevard, set to open this fall for the 2026–27 academic year.

Cristo Rey offers a unique **Corporate Work Study Program**, in which students spend one day a week working onsite or remotely at area businesses, building real-world professional skills alongside their academic preparation. More than 60 Orange County companies currently partner with the school, including **City of Hope**, **Hoag Hospital**, **SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union** and **Northgate Markets**.

Cristo Rey offers a unique **Corporate Work Study Program**, in which students spend one day a week working onsite or remotely at area businesses, building real-world professional skills alongside their academic preparation. More than 60 Orange County companies currently partner with the school, including **City of Hope**, **Hoag Hospital**, **SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union** and **Northgate Markets**.

“Our students are dreaming big, and our loyal support base is providing critical resources and opportunities to transform those dreams into reality,” said **Stephen Holte**, founding president, Cristo Rey Orange County High School.

**WCM Investment Management** served as the Presenting Sponsor for the third consecutive year. Additional sponsors included **Alanna** and **Tim Psomas**, former CEO, chairman and board Member, **Psomas**, as Platinum Sponsors and **Birtcher Anderson & Davis**, **Woodside Credit**, **MJP Architects** and others as Gold Sponsors.

“Our goal is not just to graduate students, but to send mission-driven young adults into the world who will serve and give back,” said **Oscar Gonzalez**, co-CEO, Northgate Gonzalez Market and board chair, Cristo Rey Orange County High School. “It is proving to be transformational, and I could not be more excited about the impact the school is having on the next generation of business and community leaders.”