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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DENISE RICH, RUSSELL & KIMORA LEE SIMMONS, PATTI LABELLE, CINDI
LEIVE, NELLY, AND OTHERS HELP RAISE \$3.3 MILLION FOR CANCER
RESEARCH**

NEW YORK, NY – A star-studded array of celebrities and personalities joined Grammy-nominated songwriter and philanthropist **Denise Rich** at the New York Marriott Marquis for the fourth biennial gala *The Angel Ball 2005*, helping to raise a record-breaking \$3.3 million towards The G&P Foundation for Cancer Research. The black-tie benefit, which featured a cocktail reception, dinner and live auction, recognized four honorees for their outstanding contributions as humanitarians and philanthropic leaders: singer/songwriter **Patti LaBelle**; **Russell Simmons**, Chairman and CEO of Rush Communications; **Kimora Lee Simmons**, Creative Director, Baby Phat; and *GLAMOUR* Magazine Editor-in-Chief **Cindi Leive**.

The triumph of the night's fundraising efforts was highlighted by a \$1 million donation from the royal family of Abu Dhabi. Due to the great success of this event, The G&P Foundation will fund seven new Medical Research Awards in 2006 with the proceeds from this year's *Angel Ball* gala.

Legendary vocalist **Patti LaBelle** segued from her acceptance speech into a surprise heartfelt rendition of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" and was joined by **Stevie Wonder**, **Natalie Cole** and Wonder's daughter **Aisha Morris**. The night culminated with all of the performers uniting onstage to sing the Martha Reeves classic "Dancin' in the Streets."

The Angel Ball 2005 also featured performances by **Ruben Studdard**, **Nelly**, **Leela James**, **BeBe Winans**, **Miri Ben-Ari** and **Shawn King**. Additional celebrities who participated in the gala as presenters included **Star Jones Reynolds**, **Kelly Ripa**, **Lorraine Bracco**, **Joy Behar** and **Montel Williams** (both served as the evening's auctioneers), **Jamie-Lynn Sigler**, **Ivana Trump**, **Joan Collins**, **JoJo**, **Debra Lee** and **Felicia Taylor**, among others. The event was sponsored by **Donald Toresco of Toresco Enterprises, Inc.** and **Condé Nast Publications**.

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The G&P Foundation for Cancer Research was established in 1996 by Denise Rich and her son-in-law Philip Aouad in memory of Denise's daughter Gabrielle Rich Aouad, who died at age 27 from AML leukemia. The Foundation's primary goal is to save lives by funding basic and clinical medical research in both conventional and integrative disciplines, which focus on prevention, treatment and quality of life issues of leukemia, lymphoma and related cancers. Since 1998, with the help of its Medical Advisory Board, chaired by Dr. Stephen D. Nimer of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, The G&P Foundation has funded 22 researchers, totaling over \$4.2 million dollars in Medical Research Awards and is one of the largest non-governmental sources of grant support to blood cancer researchers at the nation's leading institutions.

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