Hartford HealthCare congratulates our colleague, world-renowned trauma surgeon, and educator Lenworth M. Jacobs, MD, MPH, FACS on being awarded the Hartford Hospital Lifetime Achievement Award.

This award was created to honor individuals who represent the very best of Hartford Hospital and who have inspired their colleagues with outstanding career-long achievements and years of dedicated service to our hospital, patients, and community.

Dr. Jacobs—the second recipient of the Hartford Hospital Lifetime Achievement Award—has been an influential and beloved leader at Hartford Hospital since he arrived in 1983 to serve as Director of Trauma and Emergency Medicine. He was instrumental in establishing the LIFE STAR program and helping Hartford Hospital to become the region's first Level 1 Trauma Center.

Dr. Jacobs' impact has been felt worldwide, as he has been credited with training trauma surgeons across the globe through the Advanced Trauma Operation Management (ATOM) course he developed. He led the creation of the American College of Surgeons' “Stop the Bleed” campaign and is considered a great advocate for the poor and vulnerable—with a strong commitment to equity in healthcare. In 2022, the Lenworth M. Jacobs Trauma Lecture was named in his honor.

Dr. Jacobs has saved countless lives with his surgical skills, the programs he initiated, and the knowledge he has passed down. He has been described as a pioneer in trauma, a visionary in healthcare equity, and one of the true icons of Hartford Hospital. Tonight, we thank and congratulate Dr. Jacobs for embodying our values and the significant contributions he has made to our hospital and the communities we serve.

Congratulations, Dr. Jacobs and the Jacobs Family!
Welcome to the 2024 Black & Red

Dear Friends,

We are privileged to welcome you to The Bushnell for the 32nd annual Black & Red. Your presence this evening embodies your significant generosity and illustrates a meaningful investment in our shared community—and for that, we are truly grateful.

Tonight, we are excited to celebrate and raise funds for Hartford Hospital’s Emergency Department (ED). Among the top 40 busiest in the country, Hartford’s ED sees more than 100,000 adult visits each year. The Emergency Department is open 24/7/365 and never turns a patient away—no matter their medical condition, ability to pay, or insurance status. Net proceeds from the Black & Red will directly support the department’s infrastructure and staffing so it can continue to provide the region’s best and most accessible, equitable, and compassionate care.

In addition to presenting the exceptional talent of Jennifer Hudson, we will also recognize 25 Hartford Hospital Heroes, who were nominated by their peers for going above and beyond in their roles and embodying our five core values of caring, equity, excellence, integrity, and safety. We are incredibly grateful for their service and commitment to our patients. Please, join us in thanking them for who they represent this evening: the thousands of dedicated Hartford Hospital colleagues who look after our loved ones during their time of need.

We are especially grateful to our Black & Red premier sponsors, the Borges Family, Constitution Surgery Alliance, The Hartford, LAZ Parking, and Tallwood; our Hartford Hospital hero sponsor, All Waste, Inc.; our marquee sponsor, Stanley Black & Decker; and each of our generous sponsors who helped make tonight possible. A special thank you to the Black & Red Committee Co-Chairs Samara and Andrew Ginsburg and Mickey and Pia Rosenberg Toro, as well as the Hartford Hospital Philanthropy team, for their incredible work on this event.

On behalf of our Hartford Hospital leadership team and Black & Red Committee, we thank you for your support of Black & Red, Hartford Hospital, the Emergency Department, and the communities we serve. We hope you enjoy this special evening!

Sincerely,

Bimal Patel  
President, Hartford and Northwest Regions  
Senior Vice President, Hartford HealthCare

Lynn Rossini  
Vice President, Philanthropy  
Hartford Hospital

Beverly Buckner Baker  
Honorary Event Co-Chair  
Black & Red

Jim Marzi  
Honorary Event Co-Chair  
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Chief, Emergency Medicine

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Nurse Director, Emergency Department
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and
Jim Marzi

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2024 Hartford Hospital Heroes

We cross paths with heroes on a daily basis at Hartford Hospital and the Institute of Living. Our heroes come in many forms—they may save a life; they may provide a patient or family with hope or comfort; they may ensure our facilities remain clean and safe; they may provide a model of leadership or compassion that inspires colleagues to give their very best every time they walk through our doors.

Our collective Hartford Hospital team is immensely grateful to each of our colleagues for making our hospital one of the most respected in the country and providing a sparkling representation of Hartford HealthCare and our values. In appreciation of their dedication, we are recognizing 25 Hartford Hospital and Institute of Living Heroes at this year’s Black & Red. Each Hero was nominated by a fellow peer and selected at random to attend this evening’s event so we can celebrate their extraordinary efforts.

Please join us in recognizing each of the Heroes listed below who uphold Hartford HealthCare’s core values and represent all Hartford Hospital and Institute of Living colleagues.

Tachkia Bethune
Patient Care Associate, Oncology

Izabela Burzynski, RN
GI Endoscopy

Stephen Ciulla
Lead Medical Technologist

Anthony Cole
Patient Care Technician, Emergency Department

Beth Ann Collins, RN, MSN
Cardiac Surgery Nurse Navigator & Liaison

Robert Crespo
Simulation Technician

Taylor Day, RN
OR CORE

Anthony Fortes, RN
Inpatient Rehab Unit

Jillian Garner
Patient Care Technician, Bliss 5

Pamela Johnson, MPH, CCRC
Research Education and QI Program Manager
Guaso Jurado, RN
Bone & Joint Institute OR

Katie Leahy, RN
Emergency Department Case Manager

Daniel Lynch
Physician Assistant, Transplant Surgery

Heather Magnan
Respiratory Therapist

Dacia Mathis
Staffing Analyst

Denielle McCarthy, MSN, APRN, PMHNP-BC
Geriatric Psychiatry Program Manager

Katie Ortiz, RN, BSN
Nurse Clinical Leader, STAR Team

Carmen Z. Pagan
Medical Assistant, Comprehensive Liver Center

Patricia Rinaldi
Volunteer, Retired Hartford Hospital RN

Jasmine Rivera RN, BSN, ACM
HHIRU Case Manager

Dorely Roldan
Community Outreach Manager

Princess Josephine Russell-Blidgen, LCSW
Inpatient Medicine Social Worker

Jay Schall
EMS Communications Specialist

Rich Sipala
Sergeant/K-9 Unit, Public Safety

Sarah Wheeler, RN
Emergency Department
**2024 Black & Red Featured Artwork**

*Maria Sepulveda*, a medical assistant from the Bone & Joint Institute at Hartford Hospital, is the first Hartford HealthCare colleague to be named a Black & Red Featured Artist. Sepulveda’s painting, *Your Trust is in Our Hands*, features bright colors reminiscent of spring—the season of this year’s Black & Red—and bold patterns emblematic of Hartford Hospital’s dynamic, diverse, and innovative environment. The piece was selected amongst dozens of colleague submissions to drive the theme of the 2024 Black & Red.

“...My motivation for this painting is the same motivation I have every day when working with patients individually, empathetically, and responsibly. I want patients to feel that I see them as individuals, that I care about their situation, and that I am not there to judge them. It is of utmost importance that patients feel they can trust us."

~*Maria Sepulveda, 2024 Black & Red Featured Artist*
Hartford Hospital’s Emergency Department

Hartford Hospital and its philanthropic supporters are celebrating Hartford Hospital’s Emergency Department (ED) as the beneficiary of this year’s Black & Red.

Hartford Hospital, as a leading tertiary medical center of Hartford HealthCare, serves as a major gateway to our region’s most advanced care and the medical home to world-class physicians, nurses, and healthcare professionals highly trained and experienced in their specialties—the Emergency Department attends to patients and families from our region and beyond who require immediate medical attention. The ED treats over 100,000 adult patients each year—with conditions ranging from major trauma and heart attacks to strokes and childbirth, as well as many other highly acute and minor illnesses and injuries—who arrive via walk-in, automobile, ambulance, and LIFE STAR helicopter.

Over 20,000 patients are admitted to the hospital each year through our Emergency Department, where they first encounter the speed, skill, and professionalism that has earned the ED its accreditation as a Level I Trauma Center, Stroke Center, and Chest Pain Center.

Net proceeds from the 2024 Black & Red will directly support Emergency Department infrastructure, staffing, and the department’s continuous pursuit of providing accessible, equitable, and high-quality healthcare to whoever comes through its doors.
Saturday, April 6, 2024
The Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts
166 Capitol Avenue | Hartford, Connecticut

**6 PM**
Reception begins
Cocktails | Butlered hors d’oeuvres and a selection of fine cuisine on all three floors of The Bushnell, including the Belding Theater Stage

**8 PM**
Remarks by
Bimal Patel and Jeffrey A. Flaks

Entertainment by
Jennifer Hudson
in Mortensen Hall

**10 PM**
Dessert, coffee and cappuccino
Post-show merriment

**Midnight**
Event concludes
Jennifer Hudson

A two-time GRAMMY® Award-winning recording artist, Academy Award-winning actress, and Tony and Emmy Award-winning producer, Jennifer Hudson is the youngest female EGOT winner in history. From humble beginnings, Hudson began singing in a small Chicago church where, week after week, she brought the congregation to its feet.

From there, she’s gone on to worldwide acclaim. Hudson is currently starring in her nationally syndicated talk show, The Jennifer Hudson Show, which features her powerful voice in a new way—bringing fun, uplifting, and empowering conversations to the forefront.

In 2007, Hudson won an Academy Award for her role as Effie in the smash hit Dreamgirls. She later cemented her historic EGOT status by earning a Tony Award as co-producer on 2022’s Best Musical, A Strange Loop. This followed her electrifying turn as Aretha Franklin in the critically acclaimed biopic, Respect, a role for which she was handpicked by Franklin and garnered her a Screen Actors Guild nomination. She was named “Entertainer of the Year” at the 2022 NAACP Image Awards and one of Time magazine’s “Most Influential People in the World.”

Hudson has starred in countless film and television projects, released chart-topping albums, made her Broadway debut in the Tony Award-winning production of The Color Purple, and has been a celebrated coach on both the US and UK versions of the Emmy Award winning juggernaut The Voice.
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We would like to thank the following for contributing a portion or all services to the success of the 2024 Black & Red:

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