

Imperial Court of New York

Founded in 1986, the Imperial Court of New York is a community-based, all-inclusive, collaborative effort of individuals, corporations, and charitable organizations across New York, and New Jersey whose mission is to provide a safe, social environment for all communities. The Imperial Court of New York, a 501(c)(3) non-profit volunteer organization, is one of 72 chapters of the International Imperial Court System, a larger group of individuals across the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Although originally founded by a concerned group of LGBT individuals in response to the HIV/AIDS Crisis needs in the New York metropolitan area, our mission has grown and touches all aspects of the community – regardless of sexual orientation, age, gender, race, religion, or social standing.

The Imperial Court of New York (ICNY) has raised much needed funds for organizations including God’s Love We Deliver, The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), Metropolitan Community Church of New York Homeless Youth Services, The Anti-Violence Project, The People with Aids Health Group, The Tyler Clementi Foundation, amfAR, and Safe Space just to name a few. Funds raised have:

- Assisted *God’s Love We Deliver* with providing nutritionally, medically tailored meals to those living with severe illness in the New York City metropolitan area
- Funded safe and secure family-like living spaces for homeless LGBTQ youth at *Trinity Place Shelter* and helping to provide the means of preparing meals for residents.
- Provided assistance and funding for *Bailey House* housing and services across the New York area for people living with AIDS.
- Helped *The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD)* media programs raise awareness and acceptance of the LGBTQ community throughout North America.

We do this in our own *unique fashion*, by producing entertaining fund-raising events throughout the year. Some are small events held in various venues across the metropolitan area and others are major productions, including the ***Night of a Thousand Gowns***, a charity ball and silent auction held each Spring. In addition to the ***Night of a Thousand Gowns***, The Court produces other events throughout the year including Christmas in July, 12 Drags of Christmas, Cocktails, Couture, and Cabaret, and many others.

Our Mission

The mission of the Imperial Court of New York is to raise funds for community service groups, HIV/AIDS service organizations, social service organizations, and youth enrichment programs; to provide a safe, social environment for all people; and to create and promote positive community awareness. We seek to raise awareness and raise funds for the direct services organizations that our community relies on.

Our over 150 members come from all walks of life, contributing their various talents and expertise to each event we organize, stage, and attend. Our members are people, like you, who have chosen to make a commitment, get involved, and make a difference in the community. Our membership is broad and varied: business owners, doctors, lawyers, bankers, carpenters, therapists, ministers, stockbrokers, hairdressers, home makers, marketers, performers, accountants, teachers, pharmacists, florists, antique dealers, jewelers and more!

The Imperial Court of New York is, above all, our supporters, partnering organizations, and our membership; the leagues of uncommon individuals that are imbued with a sense of fun, a sense of the fabulous, and a sense of duty to our community.

The Imperial Court of New York also plays a role in many community fundraising events, we lend our support and talent to other organizations in their ventures by volunteering our abilities and talents. These community events include the Ali Forney “A Place At The Table Dinner”, The Center’s Annual “Garden Party”, and GMHC’s “AIDS Walk”

Imperial Court of New York

Our “unique fashion” emulates the monarchical court societies of Old Europe. Our membership includes Lords and Ladies, Princes and Princesses, and the crowning achievement of becoming Emperor and Empress — all enjoying the “game” of court and royalty while raising social awareness and funds for deserving charities.

We have entertained seniors, visited people living with HIV/AIDS at care facilities, regaled audiences with our unique performances, and helped educate the public by our visibility and community service. Over the past 32 years, the Imperial Court of New York, has raised much needed funds for both social service organizations and HIV/AIDS Services organizations in New York, New Jersey, and across the United States.

Our area’s youth are included as well. Ten years ago, the Imperial Court of New York established a Youth Scholarship Fund, which is awarded each year to deserving LGBTQ+ youth participating in Youth Enrichment Programs throughout the city. The fund was recently renamed the *Imperial Court of New York’s Empress Coco La Chine Youth Scholarship Fund*.

Beneficiaries

Since our founding, the Imperial Court of New York has provided assistance to the following organizations:

ACRIA (AIDS Community Research Initiative of America)	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center
Ali Forney Center	Matthew Shephard Foundation
American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR)	Miracle House
Bailey House	Momentum AIDS Project
Body Positive	NJ Friends for Life
Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS	NYC Gay Men’s Chorus
Callen Lorde Community Health Center	PFLAG
Children’s Hope Foundation	PWA Health Group
Gay Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD)	SAGE (Senior Action in a Gay Environment)
Gay Men’s Health Crisis	NYC Gay & Lesbian Anti-Violence Project
Gender Identity Project	The Trevor Project
God’s Love We Deliver	Trinity Place
Harvey Milk School	True Colors Fund
Hetrick-Martin Institute	Tyler Clementi Foundation
Lambda Legal Defense Fund	
Queens Pride	

Together We Can Make A Difference

While the Imperial Court of New York is entirely volunteer, we can’t do it alone. We need the help of corporate and individual sponsors to compound the effect of our efforts – the Imperial Court of New York needs the support of organizations such as yours that shares our dedication to these charitable organizations as well as a having fun while raising funds for them. In addition to advertising opportunities, other sponsorship and underwriting scenarios are available and can be customized to suit your organization’s needs. Like individuals, no two organizations are alike and we all have differing needs and requirements. No matter the size of your business or corporation, you can be assured that there is an opportunity to work with the Imperial Court of New York suited to your desired level of investment.