

SURFACE

Color, Creativity, and Community at RxART's Annual Gala

February 9, 2023

By Ryan Waddups



Nina Chanel Abney and Derrick Adams with their awards. Photo by Neil Rasmus/BFA.

On Feb. 8, RxART hosted its annual gala to celebrate the work of the nonprofit's collaborating artists, hospital partners, and major supporters. Held at Nine Orchard in New York, the festivities honored artists Nina Chanel Abney and Derrick Adams with the RxART Inspiration Award to recognize their recent installations in the pediatric departments at NY Health + Hospitals Elmhurst and Harlem, respectively. RxART founder and president Diane Brown welcomed the chic "color-block"-attired crowd, who sat down for a family-style dinner and sipped Negronis be Doce Mezcal before enjoying a soulful music performance by singer-songwriter Madison McFerrin. Notable attendees included Brian Donnelly, Mickalene Thomas, Neil Blumenthal, Jasmine Wahli, Jack Shainman, Nicolas Party, and more.

NEW YORK

"My Week In New York"

February 18, 2023

By Wendy Goodman

In another highlight of the week, I attended a gala, a real live gala, for RxART, thanks to my friend Cary Leitzes, founder and president of LEITZES&CO. RxART is a nonprofit that commissions artists to transform the environment of children's hospitals, and the gala celebrated the work of Derrick Adams and Nina Chanel Abney with the Inspiration Award. It is so fun sitting down at a table with people you don't know (and who are all stylishly dressed and fabulous looking), and it's kind of a magical moment once you break the ice and plunge in with questions and get to know your seatmates. I left feeling so grateful to be there.