SPREADING THE HOPE—From left, Dr. Solomon Hamburg, president; Tower Cancer Research Foundation (TCRF); Donna Rosen, Tower chairwoman, and Dr. Alan Wayne addressed the crowd at the TCRF Tower of Hope gala. Honorees Lisa and Larry Rosenstein and Randi and Warren Grant flank TCRF Executive Director Linda David.

Nearly 700 gathered at Tower Cancer Research Foundation’s Tower of Hope Gala last month at The Beverly Hilton to honor Lisa and Larry Rosenstein, Randi and Warren Grant, and Dr. Alan Wayne for their ongoing commitment to raising awareness about cancer, and their dedication to ending the disease.

Colin Egglesfield (All My Children, The Client List, Rizzoli and Isles and the upcoming film Backtrace with Sylvester Stallone) recounted how he developed a friendship with pediatric oncologist Dr. Alan Wayne, before presenting him with his award.

The children of honorees Lisa and Larry Rosenstein and Randi and Warren Grant praised their parents’ work before presenting them their respective awards.

Erin Cummings, breast cancer survivor who garnered international visibility when she starred on the Starz flagship series, Spartacus: Blood and Sand, served as emcee.

Margo Rey, cancer survivor and an eight time Billboard top 20 recording artist entertained the crowd with a rendition of “At Last,” among others.

Several cancer survivors in attendance who have benefitted from Tower’s research and patient support service told their personal stories.

The event raised more than $1.25 million and four individual research grants totaling $1.2 million were awarded.

Tower’s first ever $1 million grant to a sole investigator was awarded to City of Hope’s Dr. Xiaochun Yu as part of Tower’s new Power of Precision Campaign for his work focusing on ADP-ribosylation and cancer therapy.

This grant will explore how to use a weakness of cancer cells to target DNA damage repair pathways, and develop novel chemotherapeutic approaches.

Based in Beverly Hills since 1996, Tower provides grants for research, patient support and community education to promote more effective treatments for cancer.