

The 25th Annual *Picasso Pets* WAGS TO RICHES



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Michael Hansen

michael@handinpaw.org

205.322.5144 x160

Hand in Paw's 25th Annual Picasso Pets Set for Saturday, August 22

The annual gala and live auction will be held at Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Hand in Paw will host the 25th Annual Picasso Pets, presented by VP Funds, on Saturday, Aug. 22, 2026, at the iconic Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum. The signature gala will celebrate 25 years of creativity, compassion, and community support for Hand in Paw's Animal-Assisted Therapy programs across Central Alabama and Tuscaloosa.

The evening begins with an exclusive VIP Experience from 5-6 p.m., followed by the gala from 6-9 p.m. Tickets start at \$250, with VIP packages, tables, and sponsorship opportunities also available. Tickets and additional information are available now at picassopets.com.

Picasso Pets is one of Birmingham's most beloved nonprofit events, bringing together art lovers, animal lovers, donors, sponsors, and community leaders for an unforgettable evening benefiting Hand in Paw's mission. This year's theme, Wags to Riches, is inspired by Ginger, the 2026 Face of Picasso Pets, a beloved rescue dog who brought years of joy and comfort to her family. Her story reflects the remarkable journey of rescue animals and the amazing healing connection between people and pets.

Guests will enjoy extraordinary, commissioned pet-inspired artwork, Tito's signature cocktails crafted exclusively for the evening, a Wine Pull, curated silent auction packages, a live auction featuring one-of-a-kind experiences, an elegant plated dinner, immersive photo opportunities, awards presentations, and powerful mission moments highlighting the impact of Animal-Assisted Therapy.



“Picasso Pets has always been more than a gala,” said Margaret Stinnett, executive director of Hand in Paw. “It is a celebration of the bond between people and animals, art, the generosity of our community, and the life-changing work made possible when supporters come together for a shared purpose. It is undoubtedly one of the most unique event experiences in Birmingham.”

Hand in Paw’s professionally trained volunteer Therapy Teams visit hospitals, schools, nursing homes, and community partners to provide comfort, connection, and healing to people facing physical, emotional, and developmental challenges. All visits are provided completely free of charge to Hand in Paw’s Program Partners.

Every dollar raised through Picasso Pets helps Hand in Paw continue meeting the growing need for Animal-Assisted Therapy throughout the Greater-Birmingham area and Tuscaloosa.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for businesses and community leaders looking to align their brand with one of Birmingham’s most distinctive philanthropic events. For sponsorship information, contact Margaret Stinnett at margaret@handinpaw.org, or visit picassopets.com.

###

Hand in Paw is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to improve human health and well-being through Animal-Assisted Therapy. In 2026, Hand in Paw celebrates 30 years of bringing comfort, connection, and healing to people across Central Alabama and Tuscaloosa. Its professionally trained volunteer handler and animal Therapy Teams serve medical centers, schools, and human service organizations throughout the region, always free of charge. handinpaw.org.