

Ganymede Arts

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GANYMEDE MOURNS DEATH OF BENEFACTOR, BOARD CHAIR

WASHINGTON -- Ganymede Arts' staff and board of directors are mourning the loss of longtime benefactor and board chairwoman Noi Chudnoff. The owner of the 14th Street mainstay Go Mama Go! died unexpectedly Tuesday morning.

Chudnoff experienced a head trauma Monday night while preparing for colon cancer surgery. She sustained a brain hemorrhage after falling and hitting her head and was kept on life support until her son could arrive from New Mexico.

"We are Ganymede Arts because of her. She was the first person to really believe in the company and she gave her whole heart to make it happen," Ganymede's Artistic Director Jeffrey Johnson said. "She was just as dedicated to us as she was to her store, and her generosity in time, energy, passion, and joy that she brought has laid the cornerstone of how we 'seize the day.'"

In addition to her work with Ganymede, Chudnoff was a donor to a number of GLBT charities and organizations, including the Whitman-Walker Clinic's Lesbian Services Program, the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the Victory Fund.

Chudnoff was born and raised in Bangkok and moved to the United States at a young age. She opened Go Mama Go as a stand at Eastern Market in 2000 and moved to 14th Street the following summer.

She is survived by her husband Jonathan of Silver Spring, Md. and her son Nissim of New Mexico. More information about a community memorial service on Saturday, Nov. 10 will be posted on www.ganymedearts.org.

Ganymede Arts is dedicated to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (glbt) experience. Our mission is to provide high-quality, professional theatre and art (dance and musical performances, poetry readings and art shows) that fosters social and cultural awareness of and for the glbt community.