

Entertainment

National Museum of American Jewish History to honor real estate developer Ron Rubin at ‘Only In America Gala’

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FILE PHOTO

Ronald Rubin has his hand in some of the city's most prominent development sagas,



by Nick Vadala, Staff Writer [@njvadala](#)

The [National Museum of American Jewish History](#) will honor Philadelphia real estate developer Ron Rubin at next month's [“Only in America” gala](#), which celebrates its sixth anniversary this year.

Set to take place Tuesday, Dec. 13 at the [Hyatt at the Bellevue](#), this year's Only in America gala aims to celebrate Rubin's "service to the community and contributions to the museum," according to a release.

To mark the occasion, the evening will feature a performance from Italian classical crossover singer [Andrea Bocelli](#).

A prominent real estate developer in the Philadelphia area, Rubin currently serves as chairman of the board of trustees at the Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust. He [stepped down as the company's executive chairman](#) in June this year, leaving a role he had occupied since the company acquired his Rubin Organization in 1997.

Rubin has long been a presence in Philadelphia real estate, and is credited with the developing the [Center City District](#) in the 1990s, a move that has since successfully revitalized the city's downtown. In 2009, [Philadelphia magazine](#) called Rubin "the man most responsible, over the past half-century, for building" in Philadelphia.

Rubin is also known for refurbishing One Penn Center, building the Mellon Bank Center, and, through PREIT, developing several prominent area malls, including those in Willow Grove, Christiana, and Moorestown. Prior to his departure from the company, PREIT purchased the Gallery at Market East, and began a [\\$325 million renovation project](#) that is projected to see completion in 2018.

In addition, Rubin previously helped secure the location of the NMAJH on Independence Mall, and raised funds for the museum's construction and operations. He served as co-chair of the NMAJH's board of trustees from 2009 to 2016.

"The Only in America gala celebrates individuals who embody the 'Dream, Dare, Do' spirit of the museum," NMAJH CEO Ivy Barsky said of Rubin in a release, "and Ron Rubin could not be a more deserving honoree."

Couples and group tickets are [currently available](#), and begin at \$2,500 for a pair. Individual tickets, which run \$150 to \$500, will be available this month, according to the museum's website. RSVPs must be made by Nov. 28.

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