

Elton John's 2025 Oscar Party Raises \$8.6M to End AIDS

Chappell Roan performed. Sheryl Lee Ralph, Jean Smart, Neil Patrick Harris and David Burtka cohosted. And Elton John's two sons made a rare public appearance.

March 4, 2025 By [Trent Straube](#)

Sir Elton John wears a lot of hats: On Sunday night, he was an Oscar nominee, an Oscar party host, an [HIV and AIDS](#) advocate, a performer and a dad. During the [Elton John AIDS Foundation's 33rd Annual Academy Awards Viewing Party](#), he sang a "Pink Pony Club" duet with Chappell Roan who bestowed him with a sparkly pink cowboy hat.

This year's Oscars viewing party raised over \$8.6 million dollars for the [foundation's efforts to end AIDS](#). Since 1992, the parties have brought in more than \$123 million to support [HIV](#) efforts.

Longtime AIDS activist and Abbott Elementary teacher Sheryl Lee Ralph, Hacks comedian Jean Smart and husbands Neil Patrick Harris and David Burtka cohosted the evening. Among the star-studded 1,000 attendees were three very dear to Elton John's heart: his husband David Furnish, who chairs [the foundation](#), and his two sons—Zachary, 14, and Elijah, 12—who rarely make public appearances, [according to the New York Post](#).

Midwest princess Chappell Roan, who just won the Grammy for Best New Artist, performed “Hot to Go!” and a special version of John's “Your Song,” which she dedicated to her parents, saying they introduced her to John's music. The set also included duets with the Rocket Man himself, for his hit “Don't Let the Sun Go Down on Me” and her bop “Pink Pony Club.”

From left: Elton John, Chappell Roan and David Furnish attend the press conference for the Elton John AIDS Foundation's 33rd Annual Academy Awards Viewing Party on March 2, 2025 Courtesy of Michael Kovac/Getty Images for Elton John AIDS Foundation

“You have sacrificed so much for the queer community and made it so I can be the artist I can be,” she told John. She also gave a special dedication to her parents, who were in the audience. Roan thanked them for introducing her to John's music.

The evening also featured a fundraising auction that included \$250,000 worth of Chopard jewelry, a Rolex Cosmograph Daytona engraved with Elton John's signature and a chance to have dinner with John and Furnish.



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“At a time when HIV resources are being cut, our work has never been more urgent. Thousands are being denied lifesaving care and decades of hard-fought progress are at risk,” said Anne Aslett, CEO of the Elton John AIDS Foundation, [in a press statement](#). “But tonight proved what’s possible when we unite—people coming together to fight for a future where lives are saved, stigma is shattered and no one is left behind. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and supporters, we’re able to keep pushing forward when it matters most.”

“Nothing means more to me than being surrounded by friends, family and supporters, for a cause so close to my heart,” added John. “I’m deeply grateful to everyone who continues to stand with us to end new cases of HIV and save lives around the world. Now, more than ever, we need allies by our side to come together and finish this fight to end AIDS.”

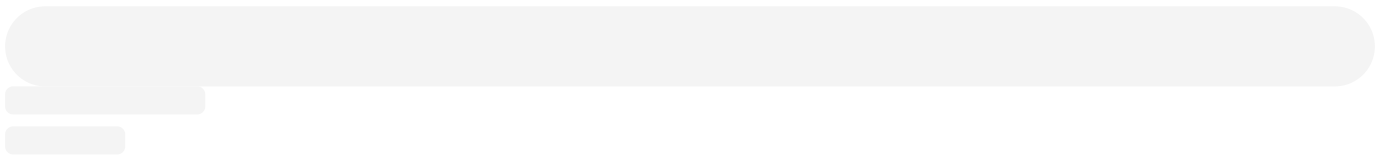


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John performed double duty that night. In addition to attending his viewing party, he also attended the Academy Awards. He was nominated for Best Original Song for “Never Too Late,” which he wrote with Brandi Carlile for the documentary profiling his Farewell Yellow Brick Road tour. Rock legend Mick Jagger presented the award, which wound up going to “El Mal” from Emilia Pérez.

John has won two Oscars (for “Can You Feel the Love Tonight” from The Lion King in 1994 and “(I’m Gonna) Love Me Again” from Rocketman in 2019). In fact last year, he became the 19th person to achieve the coveted EGOT status (winning an Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony award).





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According to the foundation's press release for the Oscar party, attendees included Abby Elliott, Alton Mason, Alyssa Milano, Andrew Watt, Anwar Hadid, Antonia Gentry, Ashlyn Harris, Atiana De La Hoya, Bobby Berk, Brandi Carlile, Brianne Howey, Caitlin Reilly, Camila Cabello, Camilla Luddington, Charlotte Lawrence, Chris Colfer, Chris Olsen, Chrishell Stause, Christian Siriano, Christina Hendricks, Dan Bucatinsky, Daniel Scheinert, Derek Hough, Diplo, Donatella Versace, Dylan Mulvaney, Elizabeth Hurley, Emily Browning, Faouzia, Fortune Feimster, Harry Jowsey, Harry Shum Jr., Heather McMahan, Heidi Klum, Hozier, Jason George, Jackie Tohn, Jacob Lusk, Jake Wesley Rogers, Jane Seymour, JB Smoove, Jessica Gunning, Joe Locke, Jonathan Scott, Julia Fox, Katie Gavin, Kathy Hilton, Kevin Dias, Lana Condor, Lance Bass, Laufey, Lisa Ann Walter, Lucy Dacus, Luke Hemmings, MUNA, Madeline Brewer, Madison Bailey, Malin Akerman, Maria Bakalova, Matt Friend, Mayan Lopez, Megan Thee Stallion, Michael Urie, Michaela Jaé Rodriguez, Nic Kaufmann, Nicky Hilton, Nikki Glaser, NLE Choppa, Olivia Jade, Ozuna, Paris Jackson, Samantha Hanratty, Sonia Mena, Sophia Bush, Spencer House, Stephanie Hsu, The Linda Lindas, Utkarsh Ambudkar, Victoria Justice, Walton Goggins, William Stanford Davis, Whitney Cummings, Xochitl Gomez, Zooey Deschanel and more.

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