

Plastic Surgeons Who Make A Difference



by Wendy Lewis

Plastic surgeons make a huge difference in the lives of their patients – correcting less than perfect noses, refreshing faces with facelifts and removing the signs of an aging neck. But for many surgeons, the power to heal does not end with patients who are fortunate enough to pay for cosmetic procedures. They donate their time and expertise to volunteer with programs domestically and abroad, helping patients, particularly children, who need transformative surgery because of congenital facial deformities, domestic violence and even terrorism.

“There are many physicians in cosmetic practice who go beyond providing excellent care to their patients,” said

Dr. John Connolly, President & CEO of Castle Connolly Medical Ltd. In fact, he said, they go beyond our borders or deep into their own communities to identify those most in need of their skills and talents. Then, with the support of colleagues, friends and other volunteers, they travel to often remote areas, or even to places in the United States where excellent medical care may not be available or accessible – and they deliver it in a way that is not only medically superb, but is exemplary on the human level.

GLOW highlights the volunteer pursuits of seven leading surgeons who care.



Thomas Romo III, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Dr. Tom Romo is a Manhattan facial plastic surgeon who has dedicated his considerable talents to advancing Microtia surgery, a procedure which constructs ears for children born without them. As president and founder of the Little Baby Face Foundation, he has donated countless hours to transform the faces of children. He and a dedicated volunteer team of surgeons and medical professionals help children around the world with a variety of facial deformities including cleft lip/cleft palate, microtia, hearing impairment, facial palsy and hemifacialmicrosomia. Since Dr. Romo founded Little Baby Face Foundation (www.LittleBabyFaceFoundation.org) in 2002, more than 150 children born with facial deformities have had their lives transformed. Domestically, children have come from Alabama, Colorado, New York, South Carolina, Oklahoma and Hawaii, as well as many other states and around the world. Surgeries are performed in New York City and the Little Baby Face Foundation team handles all travel arrangements with no expense to the patient or their families.

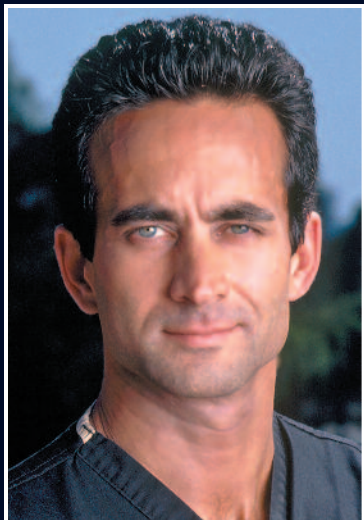
www.RomoPlasticSurgery.com



Renato Saltz, M.D., F.A.C.S.

A native of Brazil, Dr. Renato Saltz, has offices in Salt Lake City and Park City, Utah, and previously taught plastic surgery at the University of Utah as well as the Medical College of Georgia. A pioneer in endoscopic surgery, Dr. Saltz has special interest in facial cosmetic surgery, lasers, body contouring, breast surgery and breast reconstruction. With his expertise in breast surgery and reconstruction, Dr. Saltz is an avid supporter of Image Reborn (www.ImageRebornFoundation.org), an organization for women diagnosed with breast cancer. The group's mission is to provide no-cost healing retreats to women who have received a breast cancer diagnosis. The focus is on encouraging women to reclaim their sense of personal power and to strengthen them in their journey toward healing. Image Reborn's Living Beyond Breast Cancer retreat program is designed and facilitated by a professional staff with backgrounds and experience in addressing the special concerns of women with breast cancer. The retreats take place on weekends and are conducted in the peaceful mountain setting of Park City, Utah. Each retreat accommodates approximately ten women. The programs focus on support, education, nutrition, exercise, massage therapy and rejuvenation time.

www.saltzplasticsurgery.com



Marc Mani, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Beverly Hills plastic surgeon Dr. Marc Mani is renowned for this skill and experience in performing aesthetic procedures, as well as for his many advances and innovations to the areas of facelift surgery, breast surgery, and rhinoplasty. A frequent contributor to plastic surgery journals and textbooks and a sought after presenter at national academic and professional society conferences, Dr. Mani was also featured in the New York Times' ten-episode documentary *Plastic Surgery Beverly Hills*, which aired on Discovery Networks worldwide. Despite his hectic schedule, Dr. Mani has an active interest in charity work and provides free reconstructive surgical services to victims of burns and trauma, as well as charity events to benefit the Children's Burn Foundation (www.childburn.org) in Los Angeles. Since 1985, the nonprofit organization has dedicated itself to preventing childhood burns and serving severely burned children and their families. In the years since its inception, the Foundation's mission has grown to include support for the psychological recovery from burn trauma and the short term emergency needs of families, as well as fire safety and prevention education programs for children, parents and other caregivers. In 2006, the Foundation began its International Outreach Program, in partnership with the American Burn Association, to provide burn care education and training at teaching hospitals in developing countries. Today, the Foundation provides state-of-the-art reconstructive treatment, emergency family assistance, survivor and family camps, counseling, a teen support program, and prevention and education programs that reach more than 36,000 children and families annually.

www.plasticsurgery-beverlyhills.com



Renato Kaveh Alizadeh, M.D., M.Sc., F.A.C.S.

New York plastic surgeon Dr. Kaveh Alizadeh has been the president of Long Island Plastic Surgical Group since 2007, and also directs the Clinical Research Division of the practice's Plastic Surgery Residency Program. Dr. Alizadeh has traveled abroad to lend his expertise to others, having received numerous teaching and training grants for treating patients in Central and South America, the Middle East, and Asia. In addition to his practice, Dr. Alizadeh's passion is to perform volunteer plastic surgery. Ever since he volunteered in the Afghan refugee camps in 1993, he has been involved in developing or helping charity organizations carry out free surgery in dozens of countries around the world. In 2009, Dr. Alizadeh helped found Mission: Restore (www.missionrestore.org), which provides clinical assistance, education, and research for victims of war and trauma around the world. He currently serves as chairman of the organization. Mission: Restore organizes and funds volunteer medical missions to deliver expert plastic and reconstructive surgery to patients in need suffering from conditions such as burns, congenital deformities and facial and body trauma. The organization mobilizes teams of doctors through travel scholarships so that doctors can donate their time and expertise to provide care within the United States and around the world. One current program is in Kabul, Afghanistan, where Mission: Restore is bringing much needed clinical care, education and research to the "forgotten patients" of that war torn country.

www.lipsg.com



Manoj Abraham, M.D., F.A.C.S.

With three locations in the New York area – Poughkeepsie, Ardsley and Manhattan – Dr. Manoj Abraham is a facial plastic surgeon that is double board certified and fellowship trained in Facial Plastic, Reconstructive and Laser Surgery. He specializes in rejuvenation of the face and neck, including facelifts, eyelifts, and laser skin treatments as well as non-invasive techniques. Dedicated to giving back domestically and internationally, Dr. Abraham sits on the medical advisory committee of Healing the Children, Northeast, Inc. (www.htcne.org). This Connecticut based non-profit organization provides medical services to children throughout the world who lack sufficient access and/or the financial resources to obtain services. The group's mission is to heal children with burn injuries, cleft palates and other deformities whose families don't have access to or cannot afford treatment. Since 1985, treatment for more than 33,000 children has been arranged. Heal the Children organizes humanitarian medical missions to perform surgeries on needy children around the globe. It arranges for volunteer medical teams and donated medical supplies. A majority of these Medical Teams Aboard missions are self-funded. The group works directly with international partners in other countries, which includes Haiti, Peru, China, Cape Verde, Thailand, Russia, Ecuador, Cambodia, Brazil, Colombia, India, El Salvador and Guatemala among others.

www.nyfacemd.com



Andrew Jacono, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Facial plastic surgeon Dr. Andrew Jacono, not only has thriving practices in New York City and Great Neck, New York, he also is dedicated to giving back to victims of violence, cancer and birth defects. In fact, you can view his dedication to pro-bono surgery on the Discovery Fit & Health Network's reality show *Facing Trauma*, which follows Dr. Jacono and his team as they work to heal both the internal and external scars of women who are victims of violence. A specialist in facial cosmetic and reconstructive surgery, Dr. Jacono holds two board certifications – one by the American Board of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and the other in Head and Neck Surgery. He is currently director of The New York Center for Facial Plastic & Laser Surgery and for the JSPA Medical Day Spa in Great Neck. He is also a senior advisor to Face to Face (www.facetofacesurgery.org), the humanitarian arm of the education and Research Foundation of the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (AAFPRS Foundation). Staffed by facial plastic and reconstructive surgeons, nurses, speech pathologists and anesthesiologists, the AAFPRS works hand in hand with shelters nationwide to offer support and psychological healing even after surgery. These generous surgeons take time out of their busy practices to reconstruct damaged facial features to help women get their lives back together. "Pro bono plastic surgery plays an important role in the recovery of domestic violence victims because it erases the final reminders of their abuse, the physical scars and facial disfigurement," said Dr. Jacono.

www.newyorkfacialplasticsurgery.com



Marc Mani, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Plastic Surgeon Leo Keegan has a keen interest in giving back. Shortly after he finished his training, Dr. Keegan became the Co Medical Director for the Avon 3-Day Walk to benefit breast cancer research. He regularly volunteers on medical missions despite a full surgery schedule and two offices in New York City and Englewood, New Jersey. He traveled to Honduras with a group of Mt Sinai Medical School students, and to Haiti with a team of colleagues who are members of the New York Regional Society of Plastic Surgeons. In 2011, Dr. Keegan went to Vietnam with the Tran Tien

Foundation (www.trantienfoundation.org) a non-profit organization dedicated to providing medical care and supportive/social services to the underprivileged and underserved in Hue, Vietnam. He looks forward to returning to Vietnam again this spring to continue his work with this group. Along with Dr. Carlin Vickery, Dr. Keegan is part of New York's longest-tenured microsurgical team, and he maintains an academic appointment as an Assistant Clinical Professor of Plastic Surgery at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City.

www.5thavenuesurgery.com

This is the first of an ongoing series of "Doctors Who Make A Difference", featuring plastic surgeons.

Future articles will include physicians from various other medical specialties.