



Manijeh Nehorai, founder and director of ETTA's Iranian American Community Division, is honored at the organization's 20th anniversary gala. Photo courtesy of ETTA

The Iranian-American Community Division of ETTA, which serves the housing and social services needs of disabled adults in the Los Angeles Jewish community, held a gala on Oct. 25 at the Beverly Wilshire hotel that celebrated 20 years of fundraising. The ceremony honored **Manijeh Nehorai**, founder and director of the Iranian-American Division for more than 22 years, and featured a congratulatory message from **Farah Pahlavi**, the former empress of Iran.

"It was a great privilege to be recognized by ETTA," Nehorai said. "Over my more than 20-year association with ETTA — along with the board, staff and volunteers — we have worked hard to provide much-needed programs and services to individuals with special needs. The growth of ETTA continues to be phenomenal, and it is gratifying to be part of such an influential and important organization."

More than 550 people attended the event that also included a fashion show by Iranian native and acclaimed designer **Simin Couture**, featuring ETTA clients and ETTA Young Professionals.

"Recognizing Mrs. Nehorai is long overdue," said ETTA Executive Director Michael Held. "We are thrilled the Iranian Division board of directors, along with the greater Iranian community, will have the opportunity to express their gratitude for all she has done, and continues to do. Through her vast experience, professional training and dedication, she has changed the hearts and minds within the Iranian community and bettered the lives of the many Iranian clients and their families we serve."

Throughout the past 20 years, the Iranian-American Division has been assisting ETTA, an affiliate of OHEL Children's Home and Family Services, in providing programs and services to aid people with disabilities and their families.

— Virginia Isaad, Contributing Writer