



BRUSHES WITH CANCER



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Detroit Shipping Company
Detroit, Michigan

Brushes with Cancer provides psychosocial support to those touched by cancer to improve the quality of life for cancer patients, their family and loved ones through a unique art experience.

Twist Out Cancer

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WHAT IS TWIST OUT CANCER?

Twist Out Cancer provides psychosocial support for individuals touched by cancer through creative arts programming.

The Story

When 29-year-old Jenna Benn Shersher was undergoing cancer treatment in 2010 for a rare form of Lymphoma, she felt disconnected from the world. Isolated at home because of a compromised immune system, she longed to do something she hadn't done since she was healthy...dance. And so she did. With Chubby Checker's, "The Twist," blasting in the background, she recorded herself twisting her heart out. When she posted the video on Facebook, she had one simple request, "Please join me on the dance floor!" The response was astounding. Within days, Jenna was flooded with hundreds of videos from thousands of people from across the globe, all doing the Twist!. These videos came from people she knew and from perfect strangers. There were people twisting at work, at home, and even from the hospital. "As they twisted, I was able to tiptoe out of my room and join the world," recalled Jenna. "I no longer felt alone, but instead connected to and supported by a community of twisters." It was then that Jenna made a vow that once she had completed treatment she would give back in a meaningful way. And so, Twist Out Cancer was born.

Twist Out Cancer

“My mom had breast cancer and throughout the process, I was the primary person helping her,” said a young woman named Emma. “Most of my friends would ask about my mom, but they didn’t think to ask about me. It was difficult because I was struggling to care for her, and I also needed support.” Twist Out Cancer creates exactly that - a place of support for everyone who needs it. What began as a light-hearted way for anyone touched by cancer to connect has turned into a global community of support and inspiration. Established in 2011 as a nonprofit organization, Twist Out Cancer (TOC) offers the platform, tools and community – both online and offline – for anyone touched by cancer to feel connected to a community and for many to take action. TOC does this through online platforms, Brushes with Cancer, Twist-Shops and Health and Wellness programs and events in the community.

The App

The Twist Out Cancer App connects individuals touched by cancer with our dynamic support community as well as resources. The platform allows anyone to create a profile page and a personal call to action. Through videos, photos or essays, those touched by cancer are able to share their unique “twist on cancer.” Sample posts have included everything from “I’m in the midst of chemotherapy and have lost all of my taste buds... host a dinner party, and tell me what it tastes like” to “Help me Kiss Away Cancer. Kiss a friend, a family member or a stranger on the street, and snap a quick selfie and share it on social media.” So far, TOC’s online presence has touched over 300,000 people across the world – and the numbers keep growing.

Brushes with Cancer

This unique celebration of survivorship and hope pairs those touched by cancer (previvors, survivors and caregivers) with talented artists working in a variety of mediums. Those touched by cancer share their ‘twist on cancer’ – their stories, feelings and experiences – with the artist, which serves as the inspiration for the art. The program culminates with a celebratory annual event and fundraiser in which the pairs connect in person and the artwork is revealed for the first time and then auctioned to support TOC. Since its inception in 2012, hundreds of inspirations and artists have been matched, and over 15,000 people have participated in the celebratory art exhibitions and galas. In addition to our Montreal debut, , Brushes with Cancer has expanded to include programs in in Tel Aviv and Philadelphia. “Telling my story in this context and through this creative process was better than any kind of therapy,” said Amy, who lost her mother to breast cancer and who is herself both a survivor of kidney cancer and a ‘previvor’ who was diagnosed with the BRCA2 gene.

Twistshops

TOC workshops or, “Twistshops”, are educational workshops that provide individuals touched by cancer with an opportunity to share their ‘twist on cancer,’ – their unique experiences – with everyone from teens to community members. Trained TOC facilitators lead groups in meaningful discussions related to the critical importance of psychosocial support and guide exercises that foster creativity and encourage team building. To date, over 10,000 people have engaged in Twist-Shops. TOC workshop community partners include Camp Chi, the University of Illinois, Northwestern University, Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago, and Federation CJA in Montreal.

Health and Wellness Third Party Events

TOC understands the importance of health and wellness – particularly mindfulness, strength and resilience – both during and after cancer treatment. Since 2011, over 30,000 people have participated in health and wellness programs run by TOC in partnership with a variety of other health focused organizations. Twist has partnered with Whole Foods and Kitchfix to provide nourishing and healthy cooking classes to help inform participants of how to make healthy choices throughout survivorship.

The Need

“This organization empowers you,” said Alana Dugandzic, a two-time cancer survivor. “It gives you a way out and helps you make your situation the best it can be. It allows you to focus on the positive as opposed to being victimized.” What makes TOC unique is its multi-tiered approach that gives anyone touched by cancer the support and community they need to no longer feel alone and the tools they crave to take action. TOC provides anyone, anywhere in the world, the platform to create, support and inspire. As such, our reach is limitless, targeting everyone from the person who finds out that a dear friend has just been diagnosed with cancer and doesn’t know what to do, to those like Jenna, who feel that because of cancer, they have to sit out the dance. A labor of love, TOC has a network of over 200 active volunteers serving as ambassadors in Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit, Tel Aviv, Toronto and Montreal.

Get Involved

Twist Out Cancer is a community that celebrates creativity, encourages engagement, and believes in the importance of giving back. TOC volunteers donate their time, expertise, and passion to help create a network of support and hope. It is thanks to their commitment and hard work that the TOC community continues to grow and thrive. For more information on volunteering, please visit the volunteer section of our website. We hope you will join us.

**A MESSAGE FROM JENNA BENN SHERSHER,
FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF TWIST OUT CANCER**

Gratitude.

It has been quite a journey. A journey measured in moments, markers and finish lines. A journey artistically preserved in hypercolor. A journey that may have started with the three words, “you have cancer,” but has continued with, “No Evidence of Disease.” I may not be able to choose the cards that I am dealt but my response, my narrative, my journey, is my choice. Over the last few years, with the help of countless people, we have transformed my story into a larger movement. Twist Out Cancer’s foundation is built on hope, is stabilized by support, and is secured by the belief that when you share, the world opens up. Twist Out Cancer emerged out of desperation, blossomed out of loneliness and grew from despair. Today this movement continues to grow because of you. To the countless friends, family and strangers that lifted me out of the shadows and into the sunlight, I thank you. And to the legions of tiny twisters who believe in Twist Out Cancer, we would not be here without you. We hope you will continue to... Share. Connect. Heal.



Welcome to Brushes with Cancer Detroit

AUGUST SPREE, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER, CHAIR OF BRUSHES WITH CANCER DETROIT



At 27 years old and 8 months pregnant, I was diagnosed with a rare fatty tissue cancer and my journey with cancer began. Years later, I became involved with Twist Out Cancer in Chicago in 2014. I didn't realize until I participated as an inspiration, how much I had never verbalized about my experience with cancer. I was able to share things that I had held onto for so long, and have an artist create something beautiful from the story. It was so healing for me and I saw immediately what TOC can do for people who are suffering alone. As a cancer survivor and former caregiver to my grandmother, I am very passionate about helping to provide the emotional support and care that those dealing with cancer are in need of. The use of creative arts in the healing and connecting process is what drew me to Twist Out Cancer, and I have been involved as a participant, volunteer, and as of 2017, as a board member.

I met my partner through the Brushes with Cancer Chicago program after being paired with him, and we are celebrating five years together now. I moved to Michigan 4 years ago and I'm very excited to finally bring the Brushes with Cancer program to the Detroit area.

BRUSHES WITH CANCER

Brushes with Cancer is celebration of survivorship and hope through art, music and storytelling. This event is brought to you by Twist Out Cancer with the generous support of the sponsors featured throughout this program.

TONIGHT

ART: Twist Out Cancer paired 22 artists with 22 survivors, previvors, and caregivers, and challenged the artists to create original works of art influenced by their inspirations' unique "twists" on cancer. Over the last six months, our pairs have been working closely together. These unexpected relationships developed into systems of support and a place for healing. The artwork honors the inspirations' experiences with cancer but it also celebrates the new relationship that has since developed. Tonight we honor their journeys and celebrate the importance of storytelling and utilizing the arts as a mechanism for healing. *All proceeds from ticket sales and the art auction will go towards growing Brushes with Cancer in the United States, Canada, Israel and around the world.*

Program

6:00 PM	Opening Ceremony for Artists, Inspirations and Their Families
6:30 PM	Welcome and Toast by Jenna and August
6:45 PM	Photos of Participants
7:00 PM	General Admission & Art Auction
8:00 PM	General Program Featuring Emcee & Keynote Speaker Dr. Eddie Connor August Spree, Chair of Brushes with Cancer Detroit Jenna Benn Shersher, Founder and Executive Director of Twist Out Cancer
8:30 PM	Performance by Nicole New and Leo Willer
8:45 PM	Dessert courtesy of Hip Hop Bake Shop and Entertainment by DJ Lynda Carter
9:00 PM	Art Auction Closes & Raffle Winners Announced
10:00 PM	Event Conclusion



RULES OF THE SILENT AUCTION

- To bid on art please register with OneCause/BidPal mobile bidding at <https://one.bidpal.net/brushesdetroit/welcome> on your phone. See volunteers at Check-In for assistance.
 - A bid is construed as a legal agreement to purchase the listed item(s) at the amount indicated.
 - All bidders must be 18 years of age or above.
 - All winning bids must be settled before the end of the event by cash, check or credit card.
 - The auction will close at 9:00 p.m., at which time the highest bid on each bid sheet will be declared the winner.
 - Twist Out Cancer is acting as a consignee of the art for the purposes of this auction. All sales are final, as is, and are between the artist and the buyer.
 - If conflict arises over identifying the last valid bid for an item(s) or in the event there is any confusion over any of the rules or procedures of this auction, Twist Out Cancer reserves the right to determine the winner or to impose an alternate method of closing the item for interested parties, including, but not limited to, cancelling the sale or requiring a sealed final bid. All Twist Out Cancer decisions are final and binding on all participants.
- * Payment is required before the conclusion of the event. Art will be on display through August 30 and winners will be notified of pick up arrangements from DSC.

PARTICIPATING SPEAKERS

Jenna Benn Shersher, Founder and Executive Director

Jenna Benn Shersher is a 37 year old cancer survivor, civil rights advocate, world traveler and tiny twister who dreams big. In December 2010, Jenna was diagnosed with a rare blood disorder called Grey Zone Lymphoma that at the time affected fewer than 200 people. Instead of surrendering to cancer, she was determined to find meaning in her suffering. In the course of her fight, Jenna figured out creative ways to leverage social media to process her experience, and in turn create a community that became invested in her fight. In the course of a year, Jenna battled cancer and founded the nonprofit Twist Out Cancer.

Jenna's story was selected as a top ten best read by Mashable. She is a blogger for the Huffington Post and has made television appearances on all major media outlets, including Forbes, CNN, NBC5, CBS, ABC7, WGN and Fox32. She has also been featured in the New York Times, the LA Times, Wall Street Journal, the Chicago Tribune and the Chicago Sun Times. Jenna is a mentor angel with Imerman Angels, and was an Honored Hero and advocate for Team in Training and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

She is an ROI fellow with the Schusterman Foundation and serves on the board of the Anti-Defamation League. Jenna received her Bachelor's degree from McGill University in Montreal, Canada and her Masters in Social Enterprise and Administration from Columbia University. She resides in Philadelphia with her husband Dr. David Shersher and their daughter Noa Pearl who is a miracle.



DR. EDDIE CONNOR

Empowering people to overcome obstacles and walk in their unique purpose, is the real life message shared by Dr. Eddie Connor, who is a survivor of stage 4 cancer. Dr. Connor is the cousin, of one of the world's most influential entertainers, the legendary Prince.

Dr. Connor serves as Graduate Education Professor, at the prestigious Marygrove College. He is an international speaker, best-selling author of 9 books, college professor, actor, and founder of the mentoring program Boys 2 Books, which empowers young males via literacy, leadership, and life skills enrichment. Dr. Connor's efforts assisted in the development of President Barack Obama's My Brother's Keeper initiative.

Dr. Connor has garnered honors, for his community activism and unique leadership ability, such as the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award. Dr. Connor is a recipient of The President Barack Obama Volunteer Service Award and The President Barack Obama Lifetime Achievement Award from The White House.

He is recognized as one of the Top 35 Millennial Influencers in America, listed in the Top 100 Leaders in Who's Who in Black Detroit, and named to Michigan Chronicle's Top 40 Under 40. Dr. Connor has been featured on ABC News, BET, CBS, FOX News, NBC, PBS, TCT, The Steve Harvey TV Show, The Tom Joyner Show, The Word Network, and USA Today. He was an empowerment speaker at Bishop T.D. Jakes' MegaFest. Dr. Connor was also featured on the acclaimed BET documentary, It Takes A Village to Raise Detroit. He also stars in the movie, "Lady Luck...Too."

As a highly sought-after communicator and motivator, Dr. Connor speaks extensively at churches, colleges, and conferences by empowering and inspiring people to maximize their purpose. Dr. Connor grew up in Kingston, Jamaica and lives in Detroit, Michigan.



ENTERTAINMENT

DJ Lynda Carter

International DJ Lynda Carter, Born in West Germany & raised in Detroit, USA, a “Wonder Woman” with a talented force to be reckoned with. This brilliant young star is a student to the teaching of experience. These experiences have been the catalyst for her innovative and successful career. Her entertainment accomplishments include ten years of disc jockeying including opening for P.Diddy’s Making the Band Tour stop, The Alicia Keys Concert After Party, Baileys Get Together feat. John Legend & Corrine Bailey Rae, NYE Cleveland Toast opening up for Biz Markie, Epiphany After Party feat. Chrisette Michele, Opening Act for Spinderella @ Ladies First and more. Although DJ Lynda Carter is locally respected, she looks forward to more opportunities to share her experience with others. Her humble spirit, exemplary experiences and hard work ethic has helped mold “The Lynda Carter Experience”. It is this experience that DJ Lynda Carter is eager to share with the world.



LIVE ART

Live art created by **Leo Willer**

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS AND INDIVIDUALS TOUCHED BY CANCER

MEET THE MATCHES

INSPIRATIONS

Lori Jo Vest
Kristina Simmons
Jennifer Korican
Claudia Magnotte
Cassandra Esselink
Logan Moore
Zell Randle
Diana Fodor
Charlene Durham
Janice McGuire
Tricia Hexter
Clint Lavens
Dr. Eddie Connor
Dana Frost
Joe Saylor
Heather Schepperly
Jennifer Nagy
Lauren Myrand
Amy Thomasson
Emily Draper
Anna Warner-Mayes
Debra Yates

ARTISTS

Christina Czaja
Olivia Seyfarth
Olivia Ezinga
Judy Bowman
Sanda Cook
Valerie Paige
Lauren Bullard
Boisali Biswas
Marty Blackwell
Laura Cavanagh
Jan Brown
Giuseppe Tocco
Brad Young
Monica Manning
Amy Fell
Kyle Irving
Shadia Derbyshire
Doug Jones
Genevieve Claire Klick
Kara Thomas
Nicole New / Leo Willer
Carol Fisher

Lori Jo Vest & Christina Czaja



Lori Jo Vest
Troy, MI
Survivor

Twist on Cancer: A cancer diagnosis and going through treatment is terrifying and changes who you are, in both good ways and bad. Bad in that it negatively impacts your health for years to come if you get radiation or chemo or other treatments that are harsh to your body. The side effects can last a lifetime. Good because it teaches you how precious every minute of life (and health) really is. We all know we're going to die one day, but cancer teaches you this lesson in a much deeper way. Everything becomes more beautiful.

I also feel compelled to tell women to do their monthly self-exams, as the type of breast cancer I had is more common in younger women (younger than the age that they typically start recommending mammograms) and is fast-growing, so it can come up in between mammograms. I have a bumper sticker that says "Check your boobs. Mine tried to kill me." If I can help one other woman with early detection, I'll feel like I've done something meaningful with my experience.

Christina Czaja

Ypsilanti, Michigan
christinaczaja.com

Artist Statement: She described the darkness descending upon her, I painted that darkness comprised of abnormal cells entering her world. She described delving inward and hibernating through the poisoning toxins entering her body. I painted a cocoon hanging in the darkness gathering strength while she was alone and vulnerable. She drew a timeline of her journey for me and separated into three sections detailing different phases of her battle. I painted a triptych replicating her visual description, undulating the darkness moving in and out of this all too real place. She spoke of transformation and the darkness lifting. I painted her butterflies rising. She commented on becoming an unwilling participant of this renown pink ribbon club. I painted the tattered ribbon weaving into her life and the juxtaposition it represents to her. I painted her hand being wrapped and pulled in to this relentless place and I painted another releasing her, allowing the freedom her soul has craved since before she was I.



1.
"Metamorphosis"
Acrylic
Triptych 40 x 48
\$2000

Kristina Simmons & Olivia Seyfarth



Kristina Simmons
Detroit, Michigan
Survivor and Caregiver

Twist on Cancer: Life is a mystery. It can be hard and it can be beautiful.

Dear Cancer,

When you came rushing into my life, I had no idea how long I would be here. I wish I could say I am so done with you but have realized over the years it is a life-long relationship.

Cancer, understand this-you can take so much from us and think you are winning but every time we laugh, smile, hold each other up, live our life, and even cry through this all, WE win. Not you.

During moments of great grief, during moments where life seems the most unfair and the most stifling, I remember the rays.

Embrace the fear, embrace the darkness and the unknown to be given a chance to see life's beauty.

Life only hands us just so many moments and opportunities to seize the day. Do not waste even one. It's not when we are safe on the shore that we make our memories of a lifetime.

It's when we jump in and ride the wave. Life is for living and we are still here for a reason.

Take that Cancer, I'm still here.

Olivia Seyfarth

Northville, MI

oliviaseyfarthphoto.com

Artist Statement: Our artwork represents the highs and lows of cancer. You can be smiling and laughing one minute, devastated and crying the next. Everyone's cancer journey is different, but there are many moments that feel uncertain and blurry. From the moment I met Kristina and she told me her story, I felt her strength. She expressed how important the love and support from her friends and son have been throughout her journey.



2.

“When Life Gets Blurry”

Photography

24x36

\$350

Jennifer Korican & Olivia Ezinga



Jennifer Korican
Dexter, Michigan
Survivor

Twist on Cancer: “Cancer gave me a different perspective on life! Enjoy every little moment, live life!”

Olivia Ezinga

Detroit, Michigan
oliviaezinga.com

Artist Statement: Jenn is a blend of strength, confidence, and perseverance. This work is centered around the femininity and dignity she exudes when she walks into a room, like a queen. Jenn is a survivor; she is fierce. Having faced cancer on the battlefield, this queen never surrenders her crown.



3.

“A Queen Doesn’t Give Up Her Crown”

Photography

24 x 36

\$450

Claudia Magnotte & Judy Bowman



Claudia Magnotte
Roseville, Michigan
3-time warrior

Twist on Cancer: You know the quote, “Dance like nobody’s watching” and “Stop and smell the flowers”? Those must of been written by a cancer patient. I was able to deal with breast cancer by just slowing down. I would go to my backyard and take off my shoes to ground myself. I looked to the sky for advice. I even took up painting and gardening. This is why it is my personal mission to tell everyone to get their mammograms done. Also to get genetic testing done if they have a family history of breast or ovarian cancer. Know your body. You take care of everyone else make sure you take care of yourself too. Early detection saved my life.

Judy Bowman

Romulus, Michigan
judybowman.com

Artist Statement: As a collage artist, it is my job to tell the story. I love the process of finding the right papers, the right colors and textures. With these things, I create a visual emotion.

After spending time with Claudia, I could tell that she was a strong woman and had the determination of a survivor. She told me her story and I was moved. It is no wonder when I asked Claudia how she wanted me to create our piece, she described a Phoenix rising from rubble. She is that Phoenix! My collage is one of determination, strength, courage and power! I am honored to be apart of her story.



4.

"I Still Rise"

Collage

22 x 32

\$2,500

Cassandra Esselink & Sanda Cook



Cassandra Esselink
Mount Clemens, MI
Survivor

Twist on Cancer: Brushes With Cancer has helped me reclaim a part of myself. Sanda inspired me to begin painting again, after years of inactivity. I'm rethinking my perceived limitations, and finding myself again. I'm grateful to Sanda, and Brushes With Cancer, for this gift of rediscovery.

Sanda Cook

Hamtramack, Michigan
studiosanda.com

Artist Statement: Talking with Cassie Esselink on the phone for the first time, I was so touched by her story. Going to cancer and therapy was very hardEven if she is cancer free now, she still needs emotional support, love and understanding from others as her body is not the same.

My first painting of Cassie was so dark and emotional... I painted another painting after I met Cassie in person and saw her beautiful spirit and strength, her kindness and her love for nature and art.

Cassie started to paint again recently after many years. She told me: "If I have to live with pain, I better paint as well." Cassie has fibromyalgia and she has days when her body is in lots of pain.

This painting is about beautiful and magical Cassie Esselink! She is a phoenix bird and her strength and beauty is bigger than life!

I am so thankful to meet her and be apart of this amazing and inspirational experience.



5.

“We are here to help each other”

Acrylic

30 x 40

\$1000

Logan Moore & Valerie Paige



Logan Moore
Canton, MI
Life-Time Patient (stage 4)

Twist on Cancer: As a stage 4 cancer patient I have very little choice of what happens to me. What I do have a choice of is how I react to what happens to me. A terminal diagnosis may mean a shortened life, but I'm determined to truly live every single second of it.

Valerie Paige

South Lyon, Michigan
creativeprocesstherapy.com

Artist Statement: What really made an impression on me was Logan's commitment to living her life as normally and authentically as possible. I admire the way she maintains balance and perspective. She is honest and open about her experience with cancer, but it doesn't define her. She can live in the moment, knowing nothing is promised, while also holding hope for the future. The reality is that none of us knows what the future holds, but it's easy to push that knowledge aside until something catastrophic happens. When we are forced to confront this uncertainty, we may experience anxiety and despair, but it can also empower us to live full, authentic lives. As complex human beings, we can experience both sides at once. In my artwork, I aimed to convey this dichotomy of freedom and fear, grief and gratitude, taking control and letting go, and how gracefully Logan balances it all. I used collage techniques to add texture, but each layer is painted over and integrated into a single piece. Cancer is part of Logan's story, but her story is so much more than that.



6.
"At Once"
Collage
24 x 36
\$250

Zell Randle & Lauren Bullard

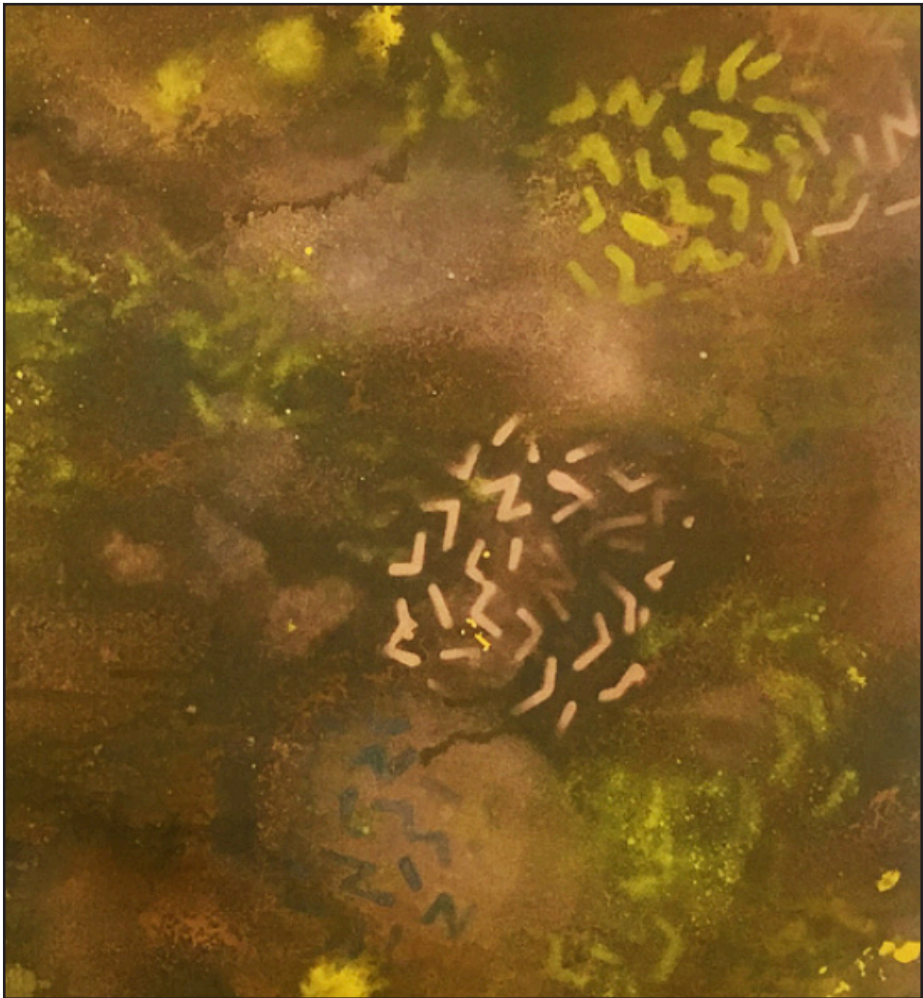


Zell Randle
Southfield, Michigan
Survivor of Breast Cancer

Twist on Cancer: As a two-time cancer survivor, I am thankful I was able to beat it twice, but I also feel guilty. I know there are so many others who didn't survive and I want to help them through their own struggles. My mother had cancer when I was young, and then it came back 30 years later and I feel like her strength was an example to me. She lived so bravely through it all and she left that torch to me now, to live brave through breast cancer.

Lauren Bullard
Detroit, Michigan

Artist Statement: Lauren Bullard is a Detroit-based fine artist and illustrator currently working towards her BFA at the College for Creative Studies. Her work is heavily influenced by Urban graffiti, Pop Art, Art Nouveau, The Natural World, and Science. Lauren enjoys experimenting with different forms of creative expression to create interesting narratives. Her current work "Framing Identity" is centered on highlighting topics such as Gender, Identity, Race, and fashion in hopes of formulating a new artistic hierarchy within the LGBT community. When offered the opportunity to be a participant in this year's Detroit BWC showcase there was no hesitation on the opportunity to use her artistic skills. Working closely with her inspiration she set out to create a compelling competition that would shed light on the difficult beautiful stories that were shared by her inspiration Zell Randle. Each experience has helped my growth as an artist and has moved me to be more active in different communities allowing me to keep an open perspective on the world and things going on around me in the forever changing world.



7.

“Seeking The Torch”

Oil on canvas

16x24

\$250

Diana Fodor & Boisali Biswas



Diana Fodor
Fort Gratiot, Michigan
Survivor

Twist on Cancer: I was diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer in 2015 when I was 23 weeks pregnant with my second child. My child underwent one surgery and three-round of chemotherapy with me before he was born, a strong healthy, baby boy. After his birth, I completed 13 more rounds of Chemotherapy, a double mastectomy, and 25 rounds of radiation. In what seems like no time at all, he has turned into a three year old with a mischievous, loving attitude. He is the comedian of the family. When I think back to that time in my life, it honestly feels as though it was a dream; that couldn't have possibly happened to me. I think when I was in the moment I just keep putting one foot in front of the other. The best advice I have received from a fellow survivor, who now counsels other survivors, was that in order to beat the fear cancer leaves behind, you have to make friends with it. Get to know your enemy and embrace all that it has brought into your life. I do my best to try not to think far into the future. Right now I'm healthy. I am raising two crazy kids who fill my life with light everyday. I am blessed to have an amazing loving supportive family and husband. When I met Boisali, it felt like meeting an old friend. I was instantly comfortable in her presence, with her caring eyes and compassionate soul. When we talked about her vision for a mixed media art piece I was not sure what to expect. Once I saw her masterpiece, the first thought that came into my head was wow I've never had someone get me so completely in such a short period of time.

Boisali Biswas
West Bloomfield
boisalibiswas.com

Artist Statement: I felt really humbled and honored on being selected for this project but at the time did not anticipate the depths of emotional turmoil that I would experience or the form that this project will take. After a few initial chats, Diana and I spent a day together, and I heard her story, heartbreaking yet uplifting. Having raised a girl and a boy of my own, I was devastated by her ordeal. No matter how much my heart cried for her, I could not fathom the trauma that she went through. I was amazed at the strength

and courage that she exhibited. I spent several weeks with a blank mind, searching for an idea to create a piece of art based on this sad yet powerful story. My thoughts would go in a certain direction where I would contemplate and work for a few days and then not look at it for a few days as I wondered about the direction to take it next. What came across to me most strongly from her entire battle was her perseverance and love for life. There were great human beings including her husband, family and friends that continued the journey with her and held her hand during the difficult times. I believe what allowed her to travel through the rough path were her two kids (one still inside her) that gleamed like two little rays of sunshine. This piece depicting Diana's journey into light is my heartfelt dedication to a strong lady. is both an abstract portrait of Rosanne's life, and a work to be able to meditate upon.

8.

"Unbent"

Mixed-media Fibers

24 x 35

\$900



Charlene Durham & Marty Blackwell



Charlene Durham
New Haven, Michigan
Survivor

Twist on Cancer: I was diagnosed over 14 years ago with Ovarian Cancer. Staying positive, being present in the moment, and just appreciating life and the people around you as much as you can is what I try to do everyday.

Marty Blackwell

Royal Oak, Michigan
tayvacollection.com

Artist Statement: My inspiration is exactly that - An Inspiration!

Diagnosed with Ovarian cancer at the age of 31, was to say the least- shocking. The series of events that followed initial diagnosis were confusing, hectic, frightening and bewildering for Char. Not sure if she would live, die or ever have children were what her future held.

At that time in her life she was doing what 31 year olds should. She enjoyed the garage/punk club scene, hanging with friends and wondering what color her hair should be next week.

Those joys were swept aside. The first surgery removed the cancer and one of her ovaries. Post surgery complications wrought a series of continued surgeries, each leading to a new complication. Char never quit. She faced each challenge with a 'move forward' attitude. Today Char is cancer free, happily married and two beautiful children fill her days. Meeting Char has been an inspiration - her smile says it all!

Chaos and Joy is an illustrated interpretation of Char's cancer experience.



9.

“Chaos and Joy”

Acrylic/Gouache/Ink

14 x 17

\$400

Janice McGuire & Laura Cavanagh



Janice McGuire
Clinton Township
Survivor

Twist on Cancer: As a 2 time survivor, and current metastatic breast cancer patient, I have learned that having a positive outlook & attitude really is so important. Cancer has taught me that people who are negative or toxic are not worthy of my time or energy. It has taught me that I can, should and will find the humor in even the most awful situation. Cancer has taught me to put everything in perspective - to not let insignificant things bother me, because in the scheme of it all, what do they matter? Enjoy and cherish every day, and the people around you who love and support and mean the most to you. Cancer is NOT going to define who I am or steal the enjoyment I get from life.

Laura Cavanagh
Rochester, MI
lauracavanagh.com

Artist Statement: This work embodies Janice's perseverance and strong will as she battles her breast cancer. Janice is a strong, funny, hilarious woman who loves vintage things, the color purple, David Bowie, cats and cheese. Though cats and cheese do not present themselves in this piece, I worked from Janice's other "favorite things" to create an environment that is glamorous (like she, and David Bowie, is), retro in feel and saturated with rich color and light to symbolize Janice's own warmth and colorful personality. I used purple, Janice's favorite color, as well as pink, the color synonymous with breast cancer, most predominantly in the piece. The title of the piece derives itself from the David Bowie song, "Golden Years," but includes in the name these other significant colors as well. I hope that when she looks back on these years, Janice views this period as a period of strength and triumph for her, and that they are, indeed, golden...and pink...and purple.



10.
“Pink and Purple and Golden Years”
Soft pastel on paper
26 x 34
\$1125

Tricia Hexter & Jan Brown



Tricia Hexter

Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan

Survivor

Twist on Cancer: What I have learned is cancer sucks. Actually, it more than sucks. But no matter how bad it was, I decided to approach this as a teacher, since that is what I know best. I used my experience to help teach my 3 children what it looks like to face something scary, something unexpected, and how we can learn from it.

We learned how good people can be. We learned that when you live in a true 'community' that the meaning of that word is defined by actions. We learned that cancer is ugly, but we made it look the best we could. We learned that not everyone understands what it's like and that's ok. We learned how to face fear by being calm and proactive. We learned that we were all better because we had our family unit together like a team. We learned what it feels like to do things we didn't want to do, but we did them anyway.

We saw cancer through the eyes of a 3 year old, a 6 year old, and an 8 year old. We learned to take one day at a time, to appreciate the small things, and to be more kind to others. We learned that families just like us are out there and we connect with them so we aren't alone. We learned that this is something we will always carry, but by being open and sharing, we all carry the weight together because it is too much for one of us to hold. We learned that life is different now. We are more aware, more appreciative, more giving.

I try not to look at what cancer took from me, but instead what it taught me. I learned so much on this journey. Hopefully my children will take and use the knowledge I have shared with them as power to move forward in their own lives. Life is not always easy, but being armed with love, support, and skills to cope will certainly make the road ahead a bit less bumpy.

Jan Brown

Novi, MI

janbrownart.com

Artist Statement: I have only met Tricia once and yet she made an impact on me. As she relayed her life with cancer, she became multiple people. She is a mother of three, a wife, a daughter, a sister, and yet she became so much more on her journey. She had to learn to receive help and for nine months she did just that, accepting the gifts that came through people she didn't even know very well. Struck with cancer at an early age (she believes that something in the environment where she grew up has caused many women around her age in the area to be diagnosed) she has had multiple surgeries, drugs that caused congestive heart failure—yet, her strength was in embracing what came, not hiding from it. However, since that time, she has given back repeatedly to those who have needed help in many different ways, taking on immense relief efforts for those who have suffered from tragedies.

I think the thing that impacted me most was her saying that she is still very leery of what is to come, saying she will always have the baggage with her but she is learning to live with it. She has been fighting this battle for eight years and isn't allowed to wave a victory flag, if ever. It seems she has lost her written "story" and, with tears in her eyes, she realizes her memory is not going to be able to recall all that she had recorded to go over someday in the future.

In the painting, I hope you sense a multiple person, one of strength, yet one still fragile—wondering what is to come. With this disease, there is no guarantee and the ghosts linger beyond the cure. Without having anything in writing, Tricia will be searching for more of her story over the rest of her life. However, she will continue to give back in as many ways as she can.



11.

"In the Midst of a Life"

Mixed Media

48 x 30

\$2500

Clint Lavens & Giuseppe Tocco



Clint Lavens
Harrison Twp, Michigan
Survivor

Twist on Cancer: Clint Lavens was diagnosed with bladder cancer in January 2015.

Endured a roller coaster ride of BCG and Chemo, then finally immunotherapy which put me in remission but also gave me type 1 diabetes. During this ride I also had blood clots, many surgeries and infections and went septic and was almost a goner.

I've had GREAT support from my lovely wife, family, friends and I am also a member of Gilda's Club.

I receive GREAT solace from my music. Writing my original songs and performing them, along with some cover tunes has helped my mental outlook immensely. I also met Peter a music therapist at U of M Hospital while undergoing chemo, and he told me to bring my guitar and then we both played for the patients while I was getting treatment.

Keep Positive and Persevere my Peers!

Giuseppe Tocco

Clinton Twp, Michigan
toccoart.weebly.com

Artist Statement: My artwork is created in a raw powerful manner. Brushes are only used for detailing, many of the larger strokes are created using my hands or pieces of cardboard to move the pigment across the canvas.

In this piece I was able to draw inspiration from Clint's musical ability, I incorporated pieces of him as well as myself within the painting.

I prefer not to give too much information, as I like the viewer to decipher it for themselves.



12.

“Singer of Souls”

Mixed paint media

34 x 48

\$1500

Dr. Eddie Connor & Brad Young



Dr. Eddie Connor
Detroit, Michigan
Survivor

Twist on Cancer: I discovered greater determination and strength to overcome any struggle. Yes, cancer made me cry but it didn't make me quit. I'm blessed to be a survivor and find the CAN in cancer.

Brad Young
Almont, Michigan

Artist Statement: The circles form a figure "8" and represent the infinite. The circle of life. Through birth and death within God, it is a never ending cycle of learning how to exist. The horizontal and vertical boards symbolize the paths we choose in our lives. These choices always lead us back to the infinite. The backdrop of the piece is a door, representing possibilities. This piece was created out of an apple basket which signifies Dr. Eddie Connor Jr's educator status. In the 1700s, the less fortunate families gave teachers baskets of apples as payment for teaching their children. Dr. Eddie's path has led him to become an incredible beacon of inspiration for others around the world. It has been my honor to befriend Dr. Eddie and to create this piece.

13.

**“Apple Basket” - with
the collaboration of
Bowen Kline**

Wood collage / Paint
38.25” x 21”

\$900



Dana Frost & Monica Manning



Dana Frost

Detroit & Lake Leelanau

*Two-time Survivor & Caregiver to
both my husband and my dad*

Twist on Cancer: Survivor: 1. “a person who copes well with difficulties in their life.” 2. “A person who continues to live on.”

Being a survivor is a term of power, of strength, and of accomplishment. It means I beat cancer. Twice. I am a two time survivor of Hodgkin’s Lymphoma, diagnosed first at 28 years old and again, after a recurrence, at 29.

Additionally, being the survivor means being the one left surviving when others have not. I am also a survivor, after somehow surviving the immense loss of my husband, Brad, to stage 4 cancer five years after my own battle with the disease. As the survivor, I was no longer standing stronger. I was the only one left standing.

If I have learned anything on this journey, it’s that it’s not just about surviving. It’s about living. It’s about embracing the messiness of being human. The grief, the joy, the loss, the love. Being a survivor is not just about the length of time we have left, it’s about the depth of time. Being a survivor is about recognizing the fickleness of time and choosing to live courageously with the moments we have left.

I am a survivor. And I am the survivor. And I am living boldly through it all.

Monica Manning

Detroit, Michigan

monicamanningphotography.com

Artist Statement: My piece was inspired by rebuilding oneself after the impact and destruction cancer has had on mine and Dana’s life. Cancer can burn, drown, destroy and fog a person’s life, even if they weren’t the individual with the disease. We must learn to rebuild ourselves and one another through love and support.

14.

“Rebuilt”

Photography

27 x 25

This artwork was not ready at the time of publication.

\$499

Joe Saylor & Amy Fell



Joe Saylor

Livonia, Illinois

Previvor & Survivor

Twist on Cancer: When I was first diagnosed, the idea of cancer consumed me. A million questions continually ran through my head and my thoughts kept focusing on the future, or the lack thereof. I had never been so afraid.

One of the smartest things I've done since being diagnosed was to join a support group. While I'm with this group it's comforting to know that they understand what I've gone through. This is a place where I can rage about the disease, a place where I can hear what others have learned, and a place where I can perhaps help others who've been diagnosed.

I found that it's very important to focus on "the now". In a way this means controlling the things you can and giving to God the things you can't. This may sound trite but it's something that has helped me immensely. Worrying about things that are beyond my control is a waste of energy and I would rather spend that energy where it will do some good.

I've also found that attitude is very important to life after a cancer diagnosis. My oncologist told me "I don't want you to turn into a patient". I now know what he meant. I read a quote many years ago and, since my diagnosis, it's played over and over in my mind. It goes "Faith is the bird that feels the light and sings while the dawn is still dark". That bird has the right attitude.

Amy Fell

Novi, Michigan

AmyFellArt.com

Artist Statement: Spending time with Joe Saylor is time well spent. His story, along with his warmth, sensitivity and honesty, inspired me as an artist to bring his feelings to canvas. He was very curious about the artistic process and was an eager participant in the discussion of ideas and concepts, which I really appreciated. We talked a lot about the ways he coped with the many challenging days during his treatment

for cancer. Joe has great support from family, friends and his support group, and for that he is grateful. A meditative technique he turned to seemed particularly perfect to describe on canvas. During dark times, Joe would find great solace in the following quote by Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore: "Faith is the bird that feels the light when the dawn is still dark". Joe and I agreed that Tagore's quote offered a wonderful opportunity to illustrate one of the ways he navigated through the frightening and challenging moments of his cancer treatment. Joe and I chose the oriole for its beautiful color and robust stance. A cup is seen beside the bird from which it appears he is about to take a refreshing and healing drink from. The symbol on the cup is one of healing attributed to the ancient North American Anasazi people. The sun is believed to be a healing power and the spiral brings a natural rhythm of health and harmony.

Today, Joe is bright and optimistic. Joe feels the light wherever he goes.



15.

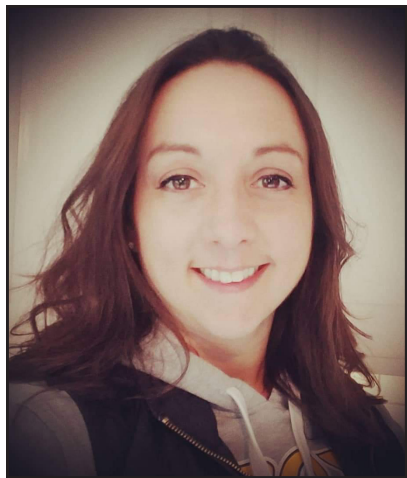
"Faith Is The Bird"

Oil on canvas

30" x 40"

\$950

Heather Schepperly & Kyle Irving



Heather Schepperly

Royal Oak, Michigan

Survivor

Twist on Cancer: I'm a 5 year breast cancer survivor. At 34 years old I was diagnosed with Triple Negative breast cancer caused by the BRCA1 mutation. At the time our children were 7 & 4 years old. My husband Matt and I have tried to focus on what's truly important in life, which is precious time with family. We love the outdoors and do our best to get in as much camping, swimming, boating, biking, and time together as we can. We are so blessed to be here and try not to take things for granted. Life is about the impact you leave on others long after you're gone. Tomorrow is not promised, so spend every day doing and treating others with love and respect. You never know if it will be your last.

Kyle Irving

Clinton Township, Michigan

kyleriseirving.com

Artist Statement: Knowing bits of Heather's story from the start was one thing. But diving into it all, seeing her face through each detail, and seeing that not once did she look sad about it. I wanted this piece to depict that even being through and hell and back, you can still come out on top and smile at life.

16.

“The Torn Struggle”

Ink and paint on canvas

18 x 24

\$450



Jennifer Nagy & Shadia Derbyshire



Jennifer Nagy
Belleville, Michigan
Survivor

Twist on Cancer: I have enjoyed this time to meet with my artist and get to know her and share my story. Together we shared stories of inspiration and realized we are a lot alike but come from different paths. Shadia is very creative and it was very easy for me to talk with her and get to know her and her family. She even gave me the chance to introduce her to my caregiver team of friends. It was a great way for me to honor 10 years and thank some of those that have supported me through this journey.

Shadia Derbyshire

Farmington Hills
ArtofShadia.com

Artist Statement: I was most touched by Jennifer's humility and grace as she shared her story. Through her incredibly challenging experience, she focused on the positive support and love from her friends and family. She shared the various roles they each played in her recovery. I saw this gratitude for those around her as integral to her healing, and found it deeply moving. We chose the color palette of this piece to celebrate the colors for cervical cancer awareness – teal and white. The image portrays Jennifer as the central figure, depicted as her favorite flower – the tulip. She is surrounded by the love and support of the other flowers (friends and family), which support her and one another.

17.

“Garden of Healing”

Mixed Media (Acrylic /

Collage / Foil

24 x 36

\$950



Lauren Myrand & Doug Jones



Lauren Myrand
Westland, Michigan

Twist on Cancer: I am a Fighter

Candor in response to others' curiosity as well as having a sense of humor both go a long way in making the battle against cancer a much less-lonely experience. By being willing to talk openly and crack a few jokes along the way, we can start to break down the stigma and shyness that oftentimes prevents dialogue concerning cancer from occurring in the first place.

Sharing my journey in fighting glioblastoma, whether through programs like Brushes with Cancer or direct conversation with another individual, could mean better awareness of the disease and its treatments, and hopefully eradicate any stereotype that many might picture when imagining "a cancer patient."

Humor brings light into what is typically a very dark, solemn conversation: I truly believe that laughter is a form of medicine, and when you are able to share in such amusement with friends and family, they are included in your journey and become happy memories to recall on the more difficult days.

I am forever grateful to be surrounded by such an incredible community of family, friends, and colleagues who have supported me throughout this whole process and continue to laugh along at every new, corny joke I bring up in our time together. I continue this fight for them as much as myself.

Douglas Jones

Detroit, Michigan

Artist Statement: In October of 2016, after surgery to remove a tumor in her left frontal lobe, Lauren was diagnosed with glioblastoma (GBM), an aggressive – and often fatal – form of brain cancer. She was an overall healthy 27-year-old, and with no immediate family history of this form of cancer, the diagnosis was a complete shock.

In December of 2011, Lauren witnessed her father's death after he was diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) only 5 months earlier. She remembers the emotional pain, watching his health rapidly decline, and helplessness she felt throughout that time. So the diagnosis of GBM was particularly heartbreaking, especially when considering what her mother had already been through. Because of her past experiences, she refused to let history repeat itself, and became determined to not only fight the cancer, but triumph over it.

"Measured Connections" illustrates Lauren's journey using dots. Up close, it is easy to lose oneself in the details, to focus too heavily on one dot. She knows the isolation that such solitary focus can cause and is resolved to not let that define her situation. Like viewing the painting, Lauren recognizes that if one takes a step back, a collection of dots comes together to show the fuller picture.

Pointillism represents Lauren's story well because each dot is in relation to another; when Lauren discusses her fight against cancer, she is always sure to include others and how they have helped her along the way, from the strength she's gained from her mother, to her father's sense of humor that she frequently employs to lighten conversations. Her family, friends, and community are the foundation on which Lauren can stand and fight this disease, and it was therefore important to represent them individually through dots, but together as something bigger and beautiful.



18.
"Measured Connections"
Pixel Technique
36 x 48
\$3500

Amy Thomasson & Genevieve Claire Klick



Amy Thomasson

Goderich, ON, Canada

Somewhere between a previvor and survivor? hopefully?

Twist on Cancer: “If cancer doesn’t stop us from being ourselves, if we’re still the fumbling mistakes we’ve always ever woken up to, how then to deal with this cannonball circumstance and the hole it has made of the way we used to smile”

- from the poem “*Questions for you and I when you have cancer*” by Brendan McLeod

When people ask about the last five years, I usually talk about loss. The list of lost things feels long, and has included people, body parts, and the existential essentials: identity, creativity, thought(s), and hope. Maybe one is supposed to pretend that they didn’t lose hope?... but I did, and I had to watch what that loss (and not knowing how to find it back) did to me and the people around me. In my despair, the fear of death was paled by the possibility of surviving—but having lost so much that the broken bits that remained offered Humpty Dumpty impossibility of being put back together again.

It was my friends and family who had to be witnesses and corroborators, to remind me that every hard earned laugh, every day that I escaped my duvet prison, and every new eyebrow hair were like those little sticky coloured arrows, flagging proof that pieces of me were making it through. Maybe humour, resiliency, and a community that could blow all the king’s horses and all the king’s men out of the water, are a good enough start for the reconstruction project? I’m still here because of the jokes, the potato chips, and the people who dragged (and still drag) my worn body and desperate spirit across the days when I don’t remember how.

I still feel lost, and am searching for that which is gained, but I can confidently say that I am alive. And being alive isn’t the worst.

“Hope is a gift you don’t have to surrender, a power you don’t have to throw away”

-Rebecca Solnit.

(but if you throw it away, it would be great if you had friends and family like mine who are really good at catching it and keeping it safe until you are ready to find it again)

Genevieve Claire Klick

Detroit, Michigan

genevieveklick.weebly.com

Artist Statement: I can't remember exactly how she put it, but at one point in our conversations, Amy spoke of feeling as if there were so many pieces of herself in so many places and the challenge now, after cancer and the deluge that accompanied it, is how to reassemble those separate parts.

Her life-before cancer-was filled to the brim with experiences, adventures and aspirations. Now, in its aftermath, she is searching for the next path to follow and can't seem to find the renewed hope and vigor to accompany her unexpected survival. In our conversations, she appeared to me something like a seabird: the path she is currently on seems more instinctual resiliency than a choice. Arctic terns-the most prolific of travelers-cover enough distance in their lifetimes to make multiple trips to the moon and back. These journeys are not guided with any set of directions; and yet, year after year they make their way to exactly to the place they are meant to be. I hope my artwork for Amy depicts the jumbled ways she may feel pulled apart at this moment, but also inevitable beauty as she finds her way.

19.

“Murmuration (Flight Patterns)”

Mixed media on frosted mylar

24 x 36

This artwork was not ready at the time of publication.

\$400

Emily Draper & Kara Thomas



Emily Draper
Detroit, Michigan
Survivor

Twist on Cancer: Somedays it still doesn't seem real. But it was. It is. And I know myself better today because of it.

I asked for strength; I got cancer. What a lesson this has been – you must choose life. Everyday. Choose happiness and live deliberately. Because time is our greatest asset.

When my mortality became starkly tangible, I became patient. Present. More alive. I stopped solely planning for the future, penciling in happiness and betting on delayed gratification. Woulda coulda shouldas never happened. Past events are lessons we cannot change. Energy is too precious and finite to waste it fretting on that which you cannot control. Focus on what gives you life.

Be good to yourself. Forgive yourself and believe in yourself. Recognize your blessings and always take care of your star player.

Kara Thomas

Detroit, Michigan
karamariethomas.com

Artist Statement: After being diagnosed with metastatic cancer in her 30s, Emily found her biggest challenge was the rarity of her diagnosis in that no standard treatment plan could be offered and her prognosis was unknown. Wanting to live deliberately in every moment, her perspective shifted into mindful thinking.

Together we decided to transform her radiation mask used during treatment into a symbol of this new outlook on life. Deflecting negativity, she now receives only that which makes her stronger. This piece is the embodiment of her taking back control. Made out of porcelain, the carved lines represent the powerfully

positive energy that surrounds her after this experience. Given that Emily first called Detroit proper home in 2001, I arranged imagery from photographs taken around the city to incorporate the environment in which she thrives. These images go from day to night to signify a full cycle, and how the world around us is continuously evolving. The words throughout the piece are lyrics handwritten by Emily from music she found therapeutic during this paradigm shift. All of these elements together create a visual representation of how Emily now views life after battling cancer.

My experience from working with Emily has allowed me to see how many of us go through life making our problems so big while taking our health for granted. Emily is a warrior, and her strength has inspired in me a newfound gratitude for life.



20.
"A Mindful Perspective"

Porcelain

20 x 17

\$2000

Anna Warner-Mayes & Nicole New



Anna Warner-Mayes

Rochester Hills

Survivor, Fighter, Thriver

Twist on Cancer: I have Stage IV metastatic cancer, my fourth recurrence in 10 years but this time metastatic to my lungs. Author Kat Bowler describes it as living in the loop of time. Time does not point to the future anymore but loops around every 3-6 months between scans or treatments. She says that hope (for the future) sometimes poisoned the work of living in the present. I find myself living in this loop. Elizabeth Gilbert said in a recent talk, 'There is no such thing as a dying person. There are living people and there are dead people.' So true. How do you live in the present without falling backward into the wasted time of the past while simultaneously grieving a possible non-future? Well, you just live. I am soaking in the beauty of love and family and friendships. I try to live with purpose, squint at the sun when it decides to show itself in Michigan winter. I keep dreaming, writing goals and going for them. In my case, you start a lipstick company :) Just. keep. living. Every moment is a blessing and maybe hope is a moment thing and not a monumental thing. Maybe hope looks like the kindness of strangers, the new people I'm meeting, the people still praying for me after all these years with cancer off and on, time with my friends and family, and of course, knowing God truly loves me. So, I live in a 3-6 month loop of anger/hope, fear/hope, joy/hope and remind myself that it's ok. I'm alive today and thank you God for the air that I breathe.

Nicole New

Detroit, Michigan

nicolenew.com

Artist Statement: A musical collaboration will result in a song inspired by Anna's journey through cancer and hopefully will lift everyone in unity when shared at the gala.



21.

“Feels”

Music

Debra Yates & Carol Fisher



Debra Yates

Harper Woods, MI

Survivor

Twist on Cancer: Surviving cancer has taught me to live everyday to its fullest, love on the people you care about and take nothing for granted. I have completely changed my perspective on what bravery and strength looks like. I am so grateful to God for allowing me the opportunity to share my story and help other women like myself. My God is Stronger than Cancer!! Cancer touches the lives of everyone involved and I am grateful for my circle for not letting me weep and wallow in sorrow but showing me love, unwavering support and keeping my spirits high through this ordeal. I came out on the other side STRONGER, WISER AND READY TO TAKE ON THE WORLD.

Carol Fisher

Franklin, Michigan

Artist Statement: I've met a lot of people in my day but Debra Yates SHINES! I met up with Debra and her daughter and we proceeded to get to know each other. We are friends on FB and that's where I saw her shine. She became a Minister and her religion guides her. I really respect her journey and vitality and the unabashed love of all things being. I asked her what her favorite colors were and what meaning or association they had to her. Pink was for Breast Cancer. Black is her Mother's favorite color and her champion. White spoke to her as purity and a symbol of God which is a constant in her life. Teal is her daughters favorite color and Navy her son. And Silver, because life is all about the sparkling and shine. That's my inspiration, Debra Yates, beautiful inside and out. It was an honor to create my fiber art for Debra as my inspiration. Thank you Brushes with Cancer for this incredible opportunity.



22.
"Layers of Life"

Fiber

3 x 3

\$200

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The Coleman Foundation

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Peter Gahan



**In Loving Memory Of Our Inspirations
Who Are No Longer With Us
May Their Memory Always Be For a Blessing**

Shawn Green

Matt Gould

Patricia Lundstrom

Alex Niles

Stephanie Pratt

Dan Riordan

Lauren Hubert Smoke

Melissa Tang

Danielle Peress

Andrea Farqhar

Tony Lollo

Terri Allister

Samira Cooper

Kasey Passen

Noelle Gray

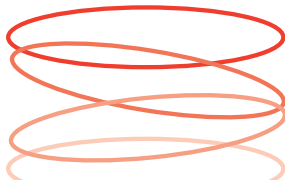


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