

# Brushes with Cancer FAQs

A transformative program by **Twist Out Cancer** that pairs artists with individuals touched by cancer — turning personal journeys into powerful works of art that heal, connect, and inspire.

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# What Is Brushes with Cancer?

## A Unique Creative Partnership

Brushes with Cancer is a unique and transformative program sponsored by Twist Out Cancer that pairs artists with individuals touched by cancer to create meaningful pieces of art that reflect their journey, emotions, and experiences. Through this collaborative process, Brushes with Cancer aims to provide healing, support, and empowerment to both the artist and the individual affected by cancer.

# How It Works

## 1. Matching

Cancer survivors, previvors, caregivers, and supporters, known as Inspirations, are thoughtfully matched with artists based on their locations, personal stories, experiences, and interests

## 2. Artistic Collaboration

Over a period of 4–6 months, matched pairs connect and build a relationship. The artist listens, learns, and ultimately creates a work of art that authentically reflects the Inspiration's journey with cancer

## 3. Exhibition

Completed artworks are showcased in a public exhibition where participants, families, and the community come together to celebrate, reflect, and connect

# Why Brushes with Cancer?

Art has the power to heal what words alone cannot reach. Brushes with Cancer channels that power into something deeply human and profoundly meaningful

## Empowerment

Gives individuals touched by cancer a platform to express themselves creatively and share their stories on their own terms

## Community

Builds lasting bonds between the cancer community and the artistic world, creating support networks that extend far beyond the program

## Awareness

Elevates the diverse, deeply personal experiences of those affected by cancer and showcases art as a genuine vehicle for healing and communication

# Who Are the Inspirations?

An **Inspiration** is anyone whose life has been touched by cancer. This includes:

→ **Survivors**

Those who have completed or are undergoing cancer treatment and want to share their journey

→ **Previvors**

Individuals with a hereditary risk who have taken proactive steps and carry their own powerful story

→ **Caregivers & Supporters**

Family members, friends, and care partners who have witnessed and supported a loved one's journey

📄 **Everyone** is welcome in our community, regardless of their type of experience with cancer

# The Artist's Role

Artists in the Brushes with Cancer program are not only creators, but also listeners and storytellers. They take the time to understand an Inspiration's unique experience and translate it into a visual narrative that resonates with audiences far and wide.

## Deep Listening

Artists engage in meaningful conversations with their Inspiration, building trust and understanding over the course of the collaboration.

## Creative Interpretation

Using their unique artistic voice, each artist translates raw emotion and lived experience into a visual language that speaks universally.

## Giving Back

For many artists, Brushes with Cancer is an opportunity to use their talents in service of something greater than themselves.

# Frequently Asked Questions

Everything you need to know about joining, supporting, or simply learning more about Brushes with Cancer

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## Who can participate?

Brushes with Cancer is open to any individual touched by cancer who wants to share their story, and to artists who wish to give back through their craft.

2

## How are matches made?

Participants are carefully matched based on locations, personal stories, experiences, and shared interests — with intentional focus on creating meaningful, authentic connections.

3

## How long does it take?

The collaboration typically spans 4–6 months, though timing is flexible and adapts to the preferences and availability of each pair.

4

## Where are exhibitions held?

Exhibitions take place in art galleries, community spaces, and event venues across various locations to ensure broad accessibility for participants and the public.

# More Questions Answered

## Is there a cost to participate?

Brushes with Cancer is a **free and open to the public program**. Artists donate their time and materials and the program operations are sustained through generous donations and sponsorships.

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## Do Inspirations need art experience?

Absolutely not. You don't need to know how to hold a paintbrush. What you bring — your story, your perspective, your "twist" on cancer!

## How do I get involved?

Whether you're interested in participating as an Inspiration or as an artist, getting started is simple. Visit the Twist Out Cancer website or reach out to [august@twistoutcancer.org](mailto:august@twistoutcancer.org) directly for information on open enrollment and upcoming cohorts.

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## What if I want to support but not participate?

There are many wonderful ways to support the mission — attend an exhibition, volunteer your time or skills, spread the word in your community, or make a **donation** that helps sustain and grow the program's impact.

# The Impact by the Numbers

Brushes with Cancer has touched countless lives across the country — connecting communities, sparking conversations, and proving that art truly heals.

## 100%

Free to Participate

No cost to Inspiration participants.

## 4–6

Months of Collaboration

Each pair spends meaningful time building connection.

## Countless

Unique artworks

Every piece created reflects a deeply personal, irreplaceable human journey.

# Join the Movement

## Be Part of Something Transformative

Whether you are a survivor carrying a story that deserves to be seen, an artist whose talents can lift someone's spirit, a donor whose generosity fuels healing, or a community member who believes in the power of art — there is a place for you in Brushes with Cancer.

Together, we transform pain into beauty, isolation into connection, and silence into something the whole world can see and feel. Your role in this story matters.



### **Participate as an Inspiration or Artist**

Share your story or lend your artistic voice to someone who needs it.



### **Donate or Sponsor**

Your contribution keeps this life-changing program free and growing.



### **Spread the Word**

Attend an exhibition, share on social media, and help us reach more people.

**"When you share, the world opens up."**

- Jenna Benn Shersher, Founder and CEO of Twist Out Cancer