

MATCH CONVERSATION STARTERS

Scroll down if you are an Inspiration looking for questions to ask your Artist.

Questions for Artists to ask Inspirations:

If you are matched with a cancer survivor

- How old were you when you were diagnosed?
- What is/was your cancer diagnosis?
- What did it feel like to hear those three words “you have cancer.”
- Where were you when you were given the news? How did you respond/react?
- How did your family and friends react to your diagnosis?
- What does cancer look like?
- What were or are some of the biggest obstacles for you while going through cancer?
- What lessons have you learned since being diagnosed?
- Are you currently in remission? If so what did that feel like?
- Is your condition chronic? If so, how do you choose to live with the disease?
- Do you feel like you have a new definition/perspective of life?
- What have you promised to do for yourself after cancer?
- What was your support system like?
- What was one of your high moments during treatment?
- What was one of your low moments during treatment?
- What is your twist on cancer?

If you are matched with a caregiver

- How old were you and your loved one when cancer came into your home?
- What is/was your loved one’s cancer diagnosis?
- What did it feel like for you and your loved one to hear those three words “you have cancer.”
- Where were you when you were given the news? How did you respond/react?
- How did your family and friends react to your loved ones diagnosis?
- What does cancer look like?
- What were or are some of the biggest obstacles for you as a caregiver looking after someone diagnosed with cancer?
- What lessons have you learned from your experience with cancer?
- What is your twist on cancer?

- How did your perception of cancer evolve after being personally affected?
- Did it propel you to reach out to others who were in similar situations?
- Did it change the way you lived your life? Cause you to join a support group?

If you are matched with a previvor

- When did you find out you were genetically predisposed to cancer?
- What kind of cancer are you at risk for?
- Now that you know your risk, are there new surveillance requirements or steps you have chosen to take to manage the pre-diagnosis?
- Have you connected with other previvors?
- What is your twist on cancer?
- How did your perception of cancer evolve after being pre-diagnosed?
- What do you want others to know about your story?

Questions for Inspirations to ask Artists:

Getting to Know Each Other

- What drew you to participate in Brushes with Cancer?
- How would you describe your artistic style or creative process?
- What types of art do you most enjoy creating — and why?
- Do you usually create art that tells personal stories, or do you approach it differently?
- What inspires you outside of your art — music, nature, books, people, experiences?

Exploring the Creative Process

- How do you begin a new piece — do you start with an emotion, a story, a visual, or something else?
- Have you ever created a piece inspired by someone else's journey before?

Building Connection

- How do you like to communicate — email, text, calls, video chats?
- What helps you feel most connected when working with someone on a personal project?
- Is there anything you'd like to know about me to help you understand my story or experience better?
- How has cancer impacted you personally?
- Have you had to navigate a health crisis?

Sharing and Storytelling

- What do you hope people feel when they see your work?
- What role do stories play in your creative practice?
- How do you navigate translating someone else's story into art — what guides you?
- Are there themes you find yourself returning to again and again in your art?

Looking Ahead

- What are you most excited about in this collaboration?
- What do you hope to learn from this experience?
- How do you envision our partnership evolving over the next few months?