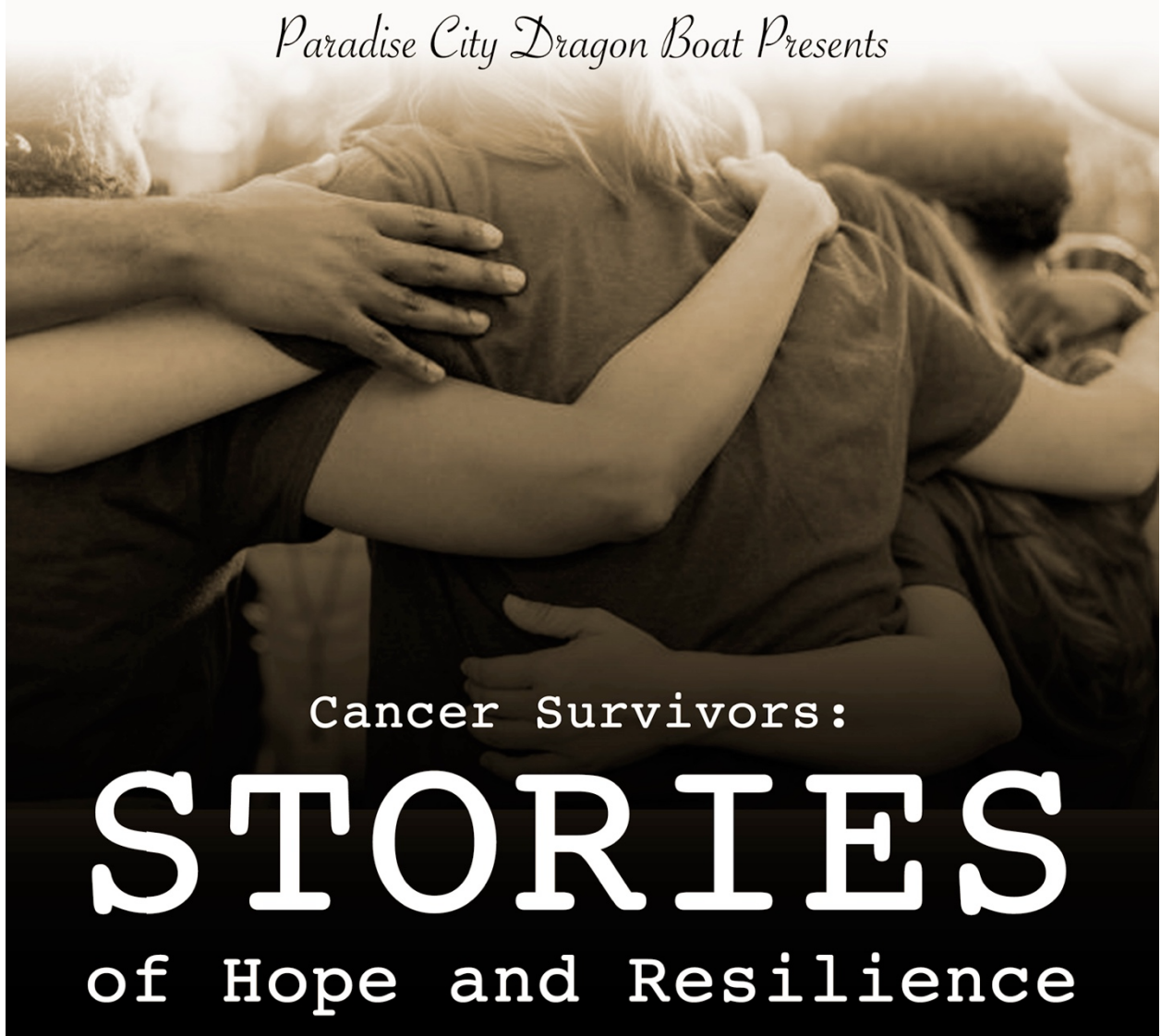


Paradise City Dragon Boat Presents



Cancer Survivors:

STORIES

of Hope and Resilience

STORYTELLER INFORMATION

If you're a cancer survivor, we want you!

Paradise City Dragon Boat will present "Cancer Survivors: Stories of Hope and Resilience," a live storytelling event at the Academy of Music Theatre in Northampton on Saturday, February 11, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

We are looking for seven or eight cancer survivors who are willing to tell their true, first-person stories, live on stage. You could be one of a handful of storytellers chosen by The Moth producer Susanne Schmidt to share your experience of living with cancer in front of a live audience.

Why would you want to do this? For fun, or as a personal challenge. To learn how to tell a great story. To share truths only you know, with our community listening and applauding. To help Northampton's Paradise City Dragon Boat racing team of cancer survivors and supporters make this fundraiser a success.

No professional storyteller experience required! Our story coach will provide support, coaching and encouragement to help you. We ask you to commit to attending a few virtual and live coaching sessions, a dress rehearsal and the performance.

If you would like to be a storyteller, sign up now for one of the free online information sessions to be held September 29, October 12 and October 17. Keep reading for the links and details.

We really hope you will be with us on February 11, 2023, whether you are on the stage or in the audience cheering on our storytellers. Bring your family, friends and neighbors. Tell your cancer treatment team about this event!

Learn more about the event and how to tell a great story

Sign up now for one of these free online information sessions with Susanne:

Thurs., Sept. 29, 6:30 PM (Eastern Time)

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0rc-mpqjvHNZiPng5ZZTMaN8_-qYDnORd

Wed., Oct. 12, 6:30 PM (Eastern Time)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtcu2gqTsiH9ayBJuV7zBICa6kPSCDJ0f4>

Mon., Oct. 17, 6:30 PM (Eastern Time)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAtc-CoqD0oG9KA0GxmZxpEY3dZtvETy9nL>



The Moth producer Susanne Schmidt

Susanne Schmidt will select the storytellers and help them make their stories shine through online workshops and individual coaching. A producer for The Moth, the non-profit group dedicated to the art and craft of storytelling, she is an award-winning storyteller who has been featured on CBS Sunday Morning, The Moth, HBO's Inspiration Room and WGBH Stories from the Stage.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Here are answers to frequently asked questions so you can decide if this opportunity is right for you.

What is the deadline for submitting my story?

Friday, November 11, 2022.

Do I need to be a cancer survivor to be considered?

Yes, for this event we are looking for stories from cancer survivors only. If you are a supporter, we would love for you to attend, but we are only looking for survivor stories to be told.

I have an idea for a story, but what if it isn't finished yet?

Your story does not need to be completely finished, but we need to get a sense of the message you are hoping to convey, submitted either in writing or as a digital recording.

I have a story, but I'm not sure if it fits this event.

PLEASE submit it! Our story coach will help you find how your story can fit!

Will everyone who submits a story get to tell it on stage?

Only certain stories will be selected. Every story must:

- Be TRUE, and yours to tell (no fables, fiction or stories about someone else)
- Relate to the theme of "Cancer Survivors: Stories of Hope and Resilience"
- Fit within the five-to seven-minute time limit.

If my story is selected, can I read it during the show?

Live storytelling means no notes on stage. You can certainly submit a written story, but you will not have notes for the event. Our story coach will help you get the story you submit from the "page to the stage."

I have a story, but I can't be there on Feb. 11. Can I have someone else tell it?

Sadly, no. The power of storytelling is about the audience hearing YOUR story from YOU! Please do not submit a story if you are unable to join us live on Feb. 11.

What is the "Selected Storyteller Workshop?" If I can't be there, can I still submit a story?

The workshop is designed as a time for selected storytellers to get to know each other, learn a few tips from our coach, and practice. This time together can be a very helpful (and fun) part of the process, so we really hope you can make it. That being said, we don't want to miss out on a good story. Please submit your story even if you know you can't attend the workshop.

Still interested? We hope so!

Please read the next section, "Submitting Your Story," to complete the submission process. Or feel free to contact our story coach, Susanne Schmidt, susanneschmidtstories@gmail.com

SUBMITTING YOUR STORY

The deadline for submitting your story is **Friday, November 11, 2022**.

Here are the guidelines for your submission:

Your story doesn't have to be completely finished, but we need to get a sense of the message you are hoping to convey. This means we need to see/hear more than just a few sentences.

Submit the story you intend to tell in writing or as a digital recording:

- Written stories should be no more than 1,000 words or four pages, double-spaced.
- Recorded stories should be no longer than seven minutes. These can be recorded on your phone or computer, saved as an mp3 and attached to your email.

When you are ready to send your story:

- Write an email with the subject heading: February 11 Event
- Include your full name, email and phone number in the body of your email.
- Include your story and send the email to: susanneschmidtstories@gmail.com

If your story is selected:

Selected storytellers will be notified by Friday, November 18, 2022. You will be invited (and expected) to participate in the Selected Storyteller Virtual Workshop with Susanne Schmidt on Thursday, December 1, 2022, 6:30-8:00 p.m., and a dress rehearsal in February just before the event. The workshop and dress rehearsal are limited to the selected storytellers. We will focus on shaping and preparing your story, working together with the other storytellers. Individual assistance will be available throughout the process, based on your needs and availability.

For story questions, contact:

Susanne Schmidt at susanneschmidtstories@gmail.com

For questions about the event, contact:

Jennifer Smith of Paradise City Dragon Boat at EventsPCDB@gmail.com

For information about the Paradise City Dragon Boat team:

www.paradisedragons.org

Tickets for "Cancer Survivors: Stories of Hope and Resilience"

at the Academy of Music Theatre, Northampton, Saturday, February 11, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Reserved seats are \$40 (plus service fees) and general admission is \$25.00 (plus service fees). Tickets are available in advance at the Academy of Music Theatre Box Office at <https://aomtheatre.com> or visit or call the Box Office at 413-584-9032 ext. 105, Tuesday-Friday, 3-6 p.m. Tickets may be purchased at the door Feb. 11.