# The Melanie and Rosalie Albright Foundation

#### **OUR MISSION**



The Melanie and Rosie foundation was created in honor of two sisters. Melanie

and Rosalie, who found joy in life through participating in theatre while battling Cystic Fibrosis.

The goal of the foundation is to "Breathe Life into Theatre" by providing scholarships and performance opportunities to youth wishing to participate in all aspects of theatre.

#### **EVERYTHING IS COMING UP ROSIE WITH THE BIZ ACADEMY**

In late 2016 Melanie and Rosie's family created the Everything's Coming Up Rosie Award. This award is presented to one male and one female who have participated in musicals at The Biz and have shown the same dedication to theatre, and love and kindness to others as Rosie had shown.

We will be presenting the Rosie Award on January 11 during the Bizies Awards!

Check out thebiz-academy.com or our facebook page for more information about the awards!

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Aimee Albright President

R.D. Albright Vice-President

Adam Albright Vice-President

Rachel Albright Treasurer Joey Meister Secretarv Contact us by email: info@themrafoundation.org

#### **MOTORCYCLES FOR MELANIE OCTOBER 5, 2019**

Indy West Harley Davidson hosted the start of this ride.

Biz Ambassadors from The Biz **Academy** sang a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem.

Local motorcycle club Brothers Grim showed up to lend their support.

**Plainfield Police Department** offered an escort for the day's ride!

Patches were given to participating riders and donors.

The ride concluded at Whiskey Bent Bar and Grill.

45 people participated in the first annual ride and just over 200\$ was raised!

#### **THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING!**



#### DOCUMENTARY: YOU CAN'T TAKE THEM WITH YOU

There are currently over 114,000 people in need of an organ donor and a new name is added every 10 minutes. Each day, 18 people will not get the organ they need and will die as a result.

In 2012, Skyline Films began filming a documentary called "You Can't Take Them With You" to raise awareness for the ever growing need for organ donors. Their film endeavors to dispel common misconceptions as well as offer practical solutions for the organ donor crisis.

Melanie and Rosie, both of whom were affected by the shortage of available, viable organs, appear in this important documentary.

Free screenings are available and will be hosted by The MRA Foundation in the future.

More information can be found at skylinefilms.net

COMING TO NETFLIX AND AMAZON IN 2020!



## MELANIE & ROSIE'S STORY

Melanie and Rosalie Albright are sisters who were born with the genetic disease Cystic Fibrosis. Throughout their short lives on earth, they both lived life to the fullest.

Melanie was very artistic. After taking a theatre makeup class she got involved as a volunteer makeup artist at The Biz Academy of Musical Theatre in Avon, IN.



She also painted set pieces and made props for several musicals as well as taught a theatre makeup class.

At the age of 18, Melanie needed a lifesaving double lung transplant. Melanie passed away on January 14, 2014, waiting for new lungs that would never come.

Rosalie, we say, has been singing since before she could sit up on her own. Rosie became involved in performing at church and was in her first musical at Hendricks Civic Theatre. After that show with HCT, The Biz opened and Rosie enrolled in dance classes, voice lessons and auditioned for every show they offered. If she was too old to be in a show, Rosie was backstage helping with the younger kids.

At the age of 14, Rosie needed her life-saving double lung transplant. On July 14, 2014, exactly 6 months after Melanie lost her battle with Cystic Fibrosis, Rosie received her double lung transplant. 3 months later Rosie was back on stage performing as Goldilocks in Shrek the Musical. Rosie would go on to perform in two more musicals with her new lungs. A year after her she received her new lease on life, Rosie's body rejected her donor's lungs. On May 4th, 2016 Rosie took her last breaths on this Earth and joined Melanie in heaven.

Melanie and Rosie's family decided to create The Melanie and Rosalie Albright Memorial Fund in 2017 to offer scholarships to help other young people continue to participate in youth theatre. In addition they participate in efforts to raise awareness about organ donation and cystic fibrosis research.

## **SPRING 2020 EVENTS TO WATCH FOR**

#### Mutt Strut for Melanie and Rosie

Taking place on campuses around the country, this run/walk/jog with furry friends is being coordinated to bring awareness for cystic fibrosis research and raise scholarship funds to enable a generation of creative minds!

#### Pulled Pork Fundraiser with RD

This popular offering will be back in May of 2020! Orders for RD's delicious pulled pork will be able to be placed on The MRA Foundation website so keep an eye out! Proceeds will go back into the foundation and scholarship.



## Breathing Life Into Theatre



## **APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP**

## http://www.themrafoundation.org/scholarship-application/

#### Qualifications/ Requirements:

The MRA Foundation Scholarship is open to children aged 6 to 18. Funds are available for the pursuit of theatre and performance related expenses such as voice lessons, production costs, as well as theater programs in acting, music and dancing,

Questions about eligibility or the application process can be directed to info@themrafoundation.org.

#### **Application Process:**

1. Gather proof of benefits, if applicable.

2. Have at least one Recommendation Form completed by an adult, non-family member (teacher, neighbor, therapist, etc).

3. Complete the online application and submit it to The Melanie and Rosalie Albright Foundation a minimum of 30 days prior to funds being due.

The Melanie and Rosalie Albright Foundation Scholarship committee will review your application and notify you of your status within 7 days of your application. You must accept or decline this award within 48 hours of award notification. This will allow us to award the scholarship to another student should you decline.

This scholarship is awarded without regard to race, religion, national origin, gender, or sexual orientation.

Your application and the accompanying documents will remain confidential and will only be reviewed by The Melanie and Rosalie Albright Foundation Scholarship Committee.

### FORMER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

#### **PORSCHA FOERSTER**

Porscha was the first recipient of The MRA Foundation's scholarship. Her favorite thing about being involved in Theatre is "being included" by others.



#### **BRANDEN EVANS**

"Through playing a character you get to meet other characters in those characters are people and those people can become your friends."

Branden Evans

