

ATLANTA

LIVE ●

Presented by  
stupidcancer®

**CANCER**CON  
FOR ADOLESCENTS & YOUNG ADULTS



2023

# PROGRAM

**August 17 -20, 2023**

**Omni Atlanta Hotel at CNN Center**

**Atlanta, GA**

[cancercon.org](http://cancercon.org)

# ATLANTA

LIVE ●

Presented by  
stupidcancer®

# CANCER CON

FOR ADOLESCENTS & YOUNG ADULTS



# 2023

## Table of Contents

- 3** Welcome Messages
- 4** Schedule
- 6** Hours For Lounge & Stupid Cancer Store
- 11** Education Gallery Info
- 17** Breakout Session Descriptions
- 28** Speakers
- 31** Crisis Support Info
- 32** Navigate the Omni
- 34** Exhibitors

# WELCOME TO ATLANTA!

## LETTER FROM OUR CEO

Welcome to CancerCon 2023 now in its sweet 16th year! CancerCon has taken different forms over the years, from the original OMG Summit in New York to OMG East & West, and now CancerCon. But at its core the purpose has always been the same....to make cancer suck less. This year we come together to gain meaningful resources specific to our community and connect with others who truly get what it means to be an AYA.



As we acclimate to the post-pandemic world, it is even more important for us to come together at events like this and connect. So much has changed in our world over the past three years, but Stupid Cancer remains committed to the AYA community to help you **GET BUSY LIVING**.

**Alison Silberman**

CEO, Stupid Cancer

## LETTER FROM BOARD CHAIR

Many of you will be experiencing CancerCon for the first time. Some of us have had the honor of attending, sponsoring, supporting, or otherwise being involved in this fabulous event for many years. Either way, I applaud you for taking time from your busy lives to soak in those around you. We strive to make cancer suck less, and the number one ingredient to that outcome is finding out that you're not alone. Everyone is here for you and with you: those dealing with a current diagnosis or battle, survivors, caregivers, professionals, family members...We may not fully understand what you're going through, but we're here with you.

Please introduce yourselves to as many people as you can. Visit with our partners. Attend the breakouts that make the most sense to you. Have fun. Cry and laugh together. Lean on the community as much as you can - it's why we are all here.



**David Richman**

Board Chair

# SCHEDULE

## TIME

## ACTIVITY

## ROOM

12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Registration

Prefunction  
Lobby 3

Head to the Registration Desk to check in to the conference, get your badge, and pick up your attendee t-shirt and tote bag! This will also be your go-to help desk throughout the weekend.

2:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Stupid Cancer Store

Prefunction  
Lobby 2

Stop by the Stupid Cancer Store all weekend long to buy limited-edition Stupid Cancer merchandise.

2:00 pm - 2:45 pm

Cross Stitch & Bitch  
*Sponsored by Skadden*

Juniper

Cross stitch isn't just for grannies. It can be a fun and creative way to express the variety of emotions that come with cancer. It's also an activity that can provide many mental health benefits. Learn the basics of cross stitch and make a witty piece of art while commiserating with others.

3:00 pm - 3:45 pm

Theater Games  
*Sponsored by Amgen*

Magnolia

What better way to meet new friends than by being silly together doing games straight out of the drama department? Theater games are fun, interactive, and always a great laugh. Join us for some creative fun to kick off the weekend.



THURSDAY

# SCHEDULE

## TIME

## ACTIVITY

## ROOM

4:00 pm - 4:30 pm

**First Timer Orientation**

Juniper

First time at CancerCon? You aren't alone! Come to this quick orientation to meet other newcomers and learn the ropes from some CancerCon veterans. You'll leave with a better sense of what is in store and make some new friends while you're at it!

5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

**Welcome Reception**

International  
Ballroom B

Break the ice and meet your AYA cancer community at the Welcome Reception. Enjoy some food and beverages while getting to know your fellow attendees.

7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

**Scavenger Hunt**

Magnolia

*Sponsored by Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Genentech, & Lilly*

The ultimate team building experience! Join a group and compete to see which team can rack up the most points in one hour by hunting down photos and clues around the hotel. The winning team will be announced at Friday's Opening Session.

## DOWNLOAD THE CANCERCON APP

Access the CancerCon program, learn more about breakout sessions, find information on speakers, and chat with other attendees from your phone on the CancerCon app.

[Go to stpdcn.cr/CCL-App](http://stpdcn.cr/CCL-App) for more

THURSDAY

# Weekend Hours for the Lounge and Stupid Cancer Store

## Stupid Cancer Store Prefunction Lobby 2

<b>THURSDAY</b>	2:00 PM - 4:30PM
<b>FRIDAY</b>	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM
<b>SATURDAY</b>	8:00 AM - 9:00 AM 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM
<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:00 AM - 9:00 AM 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM



## Lounge Hours Sycamore

<b>THURSDAY</b>	2:00 PM - 8:30PM
<b>FRIDAY</b>	9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
<b>SATURDAY</b>	8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:00 AM - 1:30 PM







# Supporting you is our **ONE** priority.

For one-on-one support, including educational tools, resources, and help with insurance eligibility and treatment costs, visit [ServierONE.com](https://www.servierone.com).

US-MED-00401 03/23

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**SERVIER** 

# SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

## TIME

## ACTIVITY

## ROOM

8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Registration

Prefunction  
Lobby 3

9:00 am - 9:30 am

First Timer Orientation

Magnolia

First time at CancerCon? You aren't alone! Come to this quick orientation to meet other newcomers and learn the ropes from some CancerCon veterans. You'll leave with a better sense of what is in store and make some new friends while you're at it!

9:30 am - 10:30 am

Fun Run/Walk  
*Presented by Ulman Foundation*

North Tower  
Entrance

Start the day with a fun run/walk in Centennial Olympic Park. Whether you're looking for some intense exercise or a leisurely stroll, all are welcome. Run, jog, or walk with us on a mile-long loop, or do extra laps in the park if you really want to sweat! Meet in front of the North Tower entrance on Marietta Street.

10:30 am - 11:15 am

Beading for Mindfulness  
*Presented by Beads of Courage*

Juniper

Mindfulness is achieved when an individual is able to calmly focus, be aware and accept one's own thoughts and feelings. Join this bead crafting activity to try different tools including mantras, art, and breathwork to promote your own mindful practice.

11:00 am - 11:45 am

Deck of Fun  
*Presented by 13thirty CancerConnect*

Magnolia

Work up a sweat in this fun partner workout that uses a deck of playing cards to work through a full body workout! Each person will take turns choosing a card from the top of a shuffled deck: every suit represents a different exercise and each number tells you how many reps to do. Come with a buddy or get paired up with a new exercise friend!

12:00 pm - 12:45 pm

Puppetry 101  
*Presented by Puppet Nerd*

Juniper

Dive into the captivating world of puppetry! Make your own simple practice puppet and learn the basics to practice anywhere, anytime. Discover puppetry's therapeutic benefits and experience its magic firsthand. Join us to start your puppetry journey!



# SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

## TIME

## ACTIVITY

## ROOM

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Opening Session

International  
Ballroom F

Join us for the official start to CancerCon Live 2023!

- Special Greeting from Stupid Cancer Board Chair, David Richman
- Welcome from Stupid Cancer CEO, Alison Silberman
- Cancer Genetics: Patterns, positives, and perspectives; panel featuring Erin Siebel, MMSc, CGC, Ciara Fleming, and Brooklyn Olumba
- Keynote Address: Surviving and Still THRIVING, featuring Erica Campbell

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Breakout 1\*

- Facing Off with Toxic Positivity
- Filling the Gap: Addressing Transitions in Care
- LOLing through Cancer: Turning your Story into Comedy
- Supporting Your Patient, Supporting Yourself

\*Breakout descriptions are available on pg. 13.  
Some sessions are limited to specific audiences.

3:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Counselor on Call\*\*

Prefunction  
Lobby 2

CancerCon can stir up some big emotions. If you need a few minutes to process with a professional, head to the Counselor on Call table to speak with a therapist that can provide some additional support.

\*\*Additional weekend hours outlined on pg. 23

5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Education Gallery

Prefunction  
Lobby 1

Grab a bite to eat while you visit our Education Gallery to learn about cutting edge research and interventions to support AYAs in this unique poster session.

5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Reception with Exhibitors

International  
Ballroom DE

Connect with our exhibitors and sponsors to hear about the amazing resources they have to offer. Don't forget to pick up an Exhibit Bingo card and get it stamped at each table you visit in order to enter our raffle!

# SCHEDULE

## TIME

## ACTIVITY

## ROOM

5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Feel More Like You Beauty Lounge**

**Magnolia**

*Sponsored by Walgreens*

Visit the Feel More Like You Lounge to meet with Walgreens Beauty Consultants for a little extra pampering! Grab some samples and chat one-on-one with the experts to learn great tips about skin care, hydration, brows, and more to get you feeling like yourself.

6:30 pm - 7:00 pm

**First-Timer Orientation**

**Juniper**

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**Community Meetups**

Our Community Meetups are dedicated spaces for those communities within our community. If you identify with these groups, swing by one or more of these intimate meetups to get to know your peers.

**LGBTQ+ Meetup** ----- **International Ballroom A**

**BIPOC Meetup** ----- **International Ballroom C**

**Metastatic Survivors Meetup** ----- **Juniper**

**Pediatric Survivors Meetup** ----- **Magnolia**

**Professionals Meetup** ----- **Prefunction 1**

8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

**Comedy Open Mic**

**International  
Ballroom A**

*Sponsored by Jazz Pharmaceuticals & Seagen*

Ever wanted to try out your tight five (or three) minutes of comedy? Join this casual open mic to crack up your fellow attendees and enjoy some laughs from some established comics.

9:00 pm - 11:00 pm

**Karaoke**

**International  
Ballroom B**

Sing your heart out! Tap into your inner rockstar with your new friends.

**FRIDAY**

# We're excited to introduce our first-ever Education Gallery at CancerCon!

On Friday from 5:00 - 6:30 pm, come check out our version of a poster session to learn about the latest happenings in the AYA space, from cutting edge research to exciting interventions, and chat with the poster presenters.

Poster Title	Organization
Speak Up for Tech in AYA Cancer Care	Stupid Cancer & Syneos Health
Health Disparities Town Hall	Stupid Cancer
Hollywood Health & Society: Early Onset Breast Cancer	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Sexual Health for Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Survivors	CUNY Hunter Psycho-Oncology Lab
Partnering to Advance Psycho-Oncology Services for Underrepresented AYAs with Cancer	AYA CARES, University of Michigan
Voicing My CHOICES	National Cancer Institute



**Worried about your look for our Super Sweet Sixteen Masquerade?**

**Fear not, because Survivor Glam Squad is coming to the rescue! A team of stylists will be offering soft makeup, Kiss eyelashes, hairstyles/updos, and more.**

**Signup sheet outside Magnolia starting at 10:15 am.**

**SURVIVOR  
GLAM**  
*squad*  
MARKING OVER CANCER

# SCHEDULE

# SATURDAY

TIME	ACTIVITY	ROOM
8:00 am - 6:00 pm	Registration	Prefunction Lobby 3
9:00 am - 6:30 pm	Stupid Cancer Store	Prefunction Lobby 2
8:00 am - 9:00 am	Breakfast with Exhibitors	International Ballroom DE
<p>Enjoy a sit down meal with new friends, and say hello to our exhibitors and sponsors to learn about their great programs and resources.</p>		
9:15 am - 10:15 am	General Session	International Ballroom DE
<p>Kick off a busy day with this dynamic General Session line up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Spotlight Panel: Peds to AYA &amp; Longterm Survivorship featuring Sanyu Janardan, MD; Montana Harstad, RN; James Ludemann, MSN, RN; and Jade Gibson</li> <li>Stand Up Comedy Keynote: A Tale of Two Titties, featuring Julia Johns</li> <li>Community Engagement Awards Ceremony</li> </ul>		
10:30 am - 12:00 pm	Breakout 2	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BIPOC Collective Space: Navigating Disparities in Cancer Care</li> <li>Cancer in the Bedroom: Sex &amp; Intimacy</li> <li>Identifying &amp; Dealing with Triggers</li> <li>Planning Ahead &amp; Documenting Your Wishes</li> </ul>		
12:15 pm - 1:15 pm	Lunch with Exhibitors	International Ballroom DE
1:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Makeovers <i>Presented by Survivor Glam Squad</i>	Magnolia
<p>Get glammed up before our dance party! Sign up for an appointment to be pampered by a team of professionals: choose from makeup, hairstyling, updos, and more! Sign up sheet will be outside Magnolia starting at 12 pm.</p>		

# SCHEDULE

# SATURDAY

## TIME

## ACTIVITY

## ROOM

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

### Breakout 3

- I'm Fine: Men, Cancer, and "Cowboy Culture"
- Oodles of Thoughts: A Doodle Journal Workshop
- Talking with Young Adults about End of Life Planning
- Wellness that Works: Nutrition and Exercise

3:00 pm - 3:30 pm

### Afternoon Snack Break

*Sponsored by Novartis*

Prefunction  
Lobby 2

Stretch your legs and grab a snack or a coffee to power you through the rest of the day.

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

### Breakout Session 4

- Cancer-Related Cognitive Impairment: Strategies and Support for "Chemo Brain"
- Do I Need a Lawyer? Legal Implications of AYA Cancer
- It's Complicated: Cancer, Disability, & Identity
- Self Advocacy for BIPOC Patients

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

### Reception with Exhibitors

International  
Ballroom DE

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

### Storytelling Open Mic

International  
Ballroom B

Join an intimate and powerful open mic event to hear the real, raw, relatable stories of your AYA peers. Each storyteller will have 4 minutes on the mic to share their story, which will be recorded and added to the Stupid Cancer Story Library. Slots are limited, so sign up in advance at the Stupid Cancer exhibit table if you want to share!

8:00 pm - 10:00 pm

### Dance Party: Super Sweet Sixteen Masquerade

International  
Ballroom F

It's our Sweet Sixteen Birthday party, and we are celebrating with a Masquerade Dance! Come decked out in your best party clothes, masquerade mask, or favorite costume and be ready to dance the night away.





**Sign up at the Stupid Cancer  
exhibit table to join the  
Storytelling Open Mic roster!**

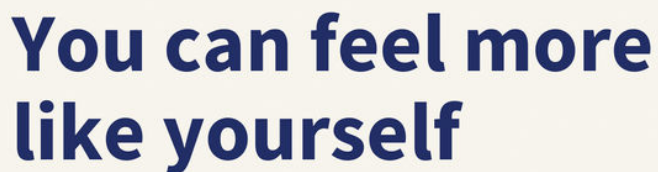
**Saturday, August 19th**  
**6PM EST**



**Your dedication to helping patients with cancer is applauded.**



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**Walgreens can help manage cancer treatment side effects.**

Our Feel More Like You® service, developed in collaboration with the Cancer Support Community and Look Good Feel Better®, features specially trained pharmacists and beauty consultants to help you feel better inside and out.

Check out the Feel More Like You podcast, available on:



*Walgreens*



# SCHEDULE

# SUNDAY

TIME	ACTIVITY	ROOM
8:00 am - 12:00 pm	Registration	Prefunction Lobby 3
8:00 am - 1:30 pm	Stupid Cancer Store	Prefunction Lobby 2
8:00 am - 9:00 am	Breakfast with Exhibitors	International Ballroom DE
9:15 am - 10:45 am	Breakout Session 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Community for Caregivers</li> <li>• Forces for Good: Working Together to Serve the AYA Community</li> <li>• MythBusters: The Palliative Care Edition</li> <li>• Physical Activity: Taking Back Control</li> </ul>	
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Breakout Session 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adolescent Cancer Patients and the Risk of Addiction During Treatment</li> <li>• Creating a Legacy</li> <li>• Eliminating Toxins and Reducing Exposures</li> <li>• Turning Rotten Lemons into Lemonade: Entrepreneurship &amp; AYA Survivorship</li> </ul>	
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch with Exhibitors	International Ballroom DE
1:30 pm - 2:15 pm	Closing Session	International Ballroom F

Close out an incredible weekend with this can't-miss Closing Session.

- Becoming the Patient From Hell: How to Collaborate with Your Cancer Team, ft. Dr. Kimmie Ng & Samira Daswani
- Survivor/Caregiver Keynote: Michael & Mom: How Cancer Became a 4-Letter Word, ft. Michael & Ashlee Cramer
- Farewell Remarks from Stupid Cancer CEO, Alison Silberman



Transforming  
patients' lives  
through science™

We are in the business of breakthroughs—the kind that transform patients' lives. Dedicated to our mission of discovering, developing and delivering life-saving innovations that help patients prevail over serious diseases, we'll never give up our search for more hope, for more people, around the world.



We are proud to support the American Heart Association.

[bms.com](https://www.bms.com)



# BREAKOUT 1 : FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

## 3:30 - 5:00 PM

### Facing Off with Toxic Positivity

Sponsored by **Merck** | Speaker: Julie Larson, LCSW

A cancer diagnosis brings up lots of complicated emotions, and you have the right to experience the full spectrum of feelings. But we often have loved ones who show up with an abundance of positivity. Sometimes their brand of support is helpful, and sometimes it is... just too much. This presentation, followed by an open discussion, will share some tools to help you honor your honest experience, communicate what you really need from others, and deal with toxic positivity.

Audience:  
Survivors &  
Caregivers

International C

### Filling the Gap: Addressing Transitions in Care

Sponsored by **Leukemia & Lymphoma Society** | Speakers: Jennifer Levine, MD, MSW, Katie Reid, MPAS, PA-C & Katherine Donahue, MS, RN, CPNP

As an adolescent or young adult with cancer, you will experience many transitions from diagnosis, through treatment, and into survivorship. Transitions like transferring back to primary care, moving pediatric to adult oncology, or becoming a caregiver after treatment can be incredibly distressing because the structure, education, and support received during treatment may no longer be available. This session will provide tools for navigating difficult transitions and share ways for patients, caregivers, and others to advocate for needs during and after care transitions.

Audience:  
Everyone

International A

### LOLing through Cancer: Turning Your Story into Comedy

Sponsored by **Servier** | Speaker: Julia Johns

When it comes to cancer, laughter might not be the best medicine...but it can help. Using humor as a coping tool can be really powerful for AYA patients and survivors. This workshop will help you turn your cancer story into comedy by exploring the best approach to get laughs out of a difficult subject matter and sharing tips for how to shape your own humor narrative. Then, join our Comedy Open Mic on Friday evening to try out your material in front of a supportive audience.

Audience:  
Survivors

International B

### Supporting Your Patient, Supporting Yourself

Sponsored by **Bristol Myers Squibb** | Speaker: Leeann Terwilliger, LCSW

As a caregiver, you have likely poured lots of time and energy into caring for your loved ones...which can result in burnout. Balancing the demands of caregiving with other responsibilities can make it challenging to prioritize and tend to your own needs; but it's essential for caregivers to learn ways to support themselves as you cannot pour from an empty cup. Join this interactive session to connect with other caregivers while increasing awareness of caregiver burnout and learning practical coping tools for the emotional and practical difficulties of caregiving.

Audience:  
Caregivers

Juniper

**STUPID CANCER WOULD LIKE  
TO THANK MERCK FOR THEIR  
GENEROUS SPONSORSHIP OF  
CANCERCON 2023**



## BREAKOUT 2 : SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

### 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

#### BIPOC Collective Space: Navigating Disparities in Cancer Care

*Speaker: Lisa Nelson, LMSW, OSW-C*

Cancer impacts every race and ethnicity, however cancer patients who identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) must navigate the additional burden of microaggressions or discrimination while seeking health care and treatment. BIPOC healthcare professionals must also manage the weight of systemic racism in healthcare settings. This session, generated out of the work of our Health Disparities Town Hall, is intended to help increase connections and community for BIPOC AYAs and healthcare professionals facing interrelated challenges.

**Audience:**  
BIPOC AYAs &  
Professionals

Juniper

#### Cancer in the Bedroom: Sex & Intimacy

*Sponsored by Merck*

*Speakers: Emily M. Beard, RN, OCN, CBCN; Tori Clear Thompson, LCSW, CST & Marla Stewart*

You may be frustrated by disruptions to your sex life during and after cancer treatment, but there are interventions and tools that can help you regain confidence and increase pleasure. This dynamic panel presentation will share approachable tools and strategies to address the physical and emotional aspects of intimacy and sex after cancer.

**Audience:**  
Survivors &  
Caregivers

International B

#### Identifying & Dealing with Triggers

*Speaker: Leeann Terwilliger, LCSW*

As an AYA going through life after a cancer diagnosis, there are likely to be lots of things that unexpectedly stir up negative memories and memories for you. Unfortunately, daily life doesn't come with a trigger warning. Whether it's the smell of hand sanitizer, a certain time of year, an unexpected pain, or a comment from a stranger – these outwardly common occurrences can be disorienting and upsetting. Join this interactive discussion session to explore your own potential triggers and learn how to better cope with them.

**Audience:**  
Everyone

International C

#### Planing Ahead & Documenting Your Wishes

*Sponsored by Servier*

*Speaker: Nicole Jolicoeur, Esq*

It's not a comfortable topic, but every person – young or old, healthy or sick, in crisis or not – can benefit from making sure their documents are in order and that their end of life wishes are clearly understood. The conversations aren't easy, but thoughtful planning for yourself and your loved ones can create a real sense of relief, and hope, around unanswered questions. This presentation will break down what you need to know for property, financial, and medical decision making, regardless of your current stage in life.

**Audience:**  
Everyone

International A

**TRANSFORMING LIVES. REDEFINING POSSIBILITIES.**

# Jazz Pharmaceuticals is proud to support Stupid Cancer



Jazz Pharmaceuticals is a global biopharmaceutical company whose purpose is to innovate to transform the lives of patients and their families. We are dedicated to developing life-changing medicines for people with serious diseases — often with limited or no therapeutic options.



[www.jazzpharmaceuticals.com](http://www.jazzpharmaceuticals.com)



## BREAKOUT 3 : SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

### 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

#### I'm Fine: Men, Cancer, and "Cowboy Culture"

*Speaker: Trevor Maxwell*

Even in 2023, many men say they feel weak if they ask for help, even when facing a life-threatening illness. Given societal pressures to “stay strong” and the underrepresentation of men in cancer support spaces, being an AYA male can be a particular challenge. This discussion will be an opportunity for male-identifying survivors to share space to normalize the full range of emotions young men feel when facing cancer, including fear, sadness, grief, shame, anger, and withdrawal.

**Audience:**  
Survivors &  
Caregivers

Juniper

#### Oodles of Thoughts: A Doodle Journal Workshop

*Sponsored by Merck*

*Speakers: Mallory Casperson & Aerial Donovan*

Creative expression through art and writing can be a powerful outlet during challenging times, and journaling is a tried-and-true tool to help AYAs navigate a cancer experience. This interactive workshop will give you an opportunity to try journaling in a more expansive way by exploring journal prompts through writing, doodling, or a combination of the two. Join a nurturing, supportive, and safe environment to tap into your creative side and share with your peers.

**Audience:**  
Survivors &  
Caregivers

International A

#### Talking with Young Adults about End of Life Planning

*Speaker: Mandi Zucker, LSW, CT*

As a healthcare provider, you know why it's so important to discuss advance care planning and end of life wishes with patients. However, you also know how difficult it can be to initiate these conversations, especially with young adults. This interactive session for HCPs will provide tools and resources to support you in addressing these challenging yet critical topics with AYAs.

**Audience:**  
Professionals

International C

#### Wellness that Works: Nutrition and Exercise

*Sponsored by Amgen*

*Speaker: Catherine Applegate, PhD, RDN*

As an AYA, you've likely received complex and mixed messages about nutrition and exercise. While recommendations and opinions abound, there is no one nutritional rule to adhere to in the context of cancer, because there are so many nuances involved. This presentation will share what the science and research actually say, so you can better understand the impact and interaction nutrition and exercise have on cancer therapy and your overall well-being.

**Audience:**  
Everyone

International B

Genentech embraces  
the increasingly diverse  
world around us.



[GENE.COM/DIVERSITY-INCLUSION](http://GENE.COM/DIVERSITY-INCLUSION)

**Genentech**  
*A Member of the Roche Group*



## YOUNG ADULTS AND CANCER

As a young adult with cancer, you have specific concerns and needs. You may have never been diagnosed with a serious illness before. This may be the time when you want to focus on school, start a family and work towards your career. Life is changing and The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society wants to help you through those changes.

We offer:

- Personalized information and support, including nutrition consultations
- Online support including chats, First Connection and LLS Community
- Education booklets and programs, including a young adult journal and young adult survivorship workbook
- The Bloodline with LLS podcast and videos

For more information about all  
of our resources, **visit:**

**[www.LLS.org/YoungAdults](http://www.LLS.org/YoungAdults)**



LEUKEMIA &  
LYMPHOMA  
SOCIETY®

**DARETODREAM**  
PROJECT



## BREAKOUT 4 : SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

### 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

#### Cancer-Related Cognitive Impairment: Strategies and Support for "Chemo Brain"

Sponsored by **Skadden** | Speaker: Alique Topalian, PhD, MPH

Cancer-related cognitive impairment (CRCI) aka "chemo brain" impacts up to 75% of all cancer survivors at some time during their cancer experience. This informative, dynamic presentation will explain what it is, why it happens, and what you can do about it. We'll also talk about why we're changing the name and share strategies that you can use to try to combat these frustrating symptoms to make your life a little easier.

Audience:  
Everyone

International A

#### Do I Need a Lawyer? Legal Implications of AYA Cancer

Sponsored by **Novartis** | Speaker: Alique Topalian, PhD, MPH

After a cancer diagnosis, AYAs face many challenges across various aspects of their lives. Many of these situations aren't thought of as legal, but there are relevant laws and policies that exist to protect you. In this presentation, you'll gain information to support you in the workplace, help you navigate health insurance, and manage your mountain of paperwork.

Audience:  
Everyone

International C

#### It's Complicated: Cancer, Disability, & Identity

Sponsored by **Servier** | Speaker: Leeann Terwilliger, LCSW

Cancer can impact our ability to work and can cause temporary medical disability. However sometimes cancer has lifelong impacts. Approximately 40% of cancer survivors experience long-term physical, cognitive, and psychological effects due to their diagnosis and treatment. While the legal definitions of disability are more straightforward, the social experiences of disability can be more nuanced and complex. Join this discussion session to better understand the complexity of disability, its intersection with cancer, and the social challenges to navigating disability.

Audience:  
Survivors

Juniper

#### Self Advocacy for BIPOC Patients

Sponsored by **Jazz Pharmaceuticals** | Speakers: Tiah Tomlin & Lisa Nelson, LMSW, OSW-C

While self advocacy skills are crucial for all AYA patients, patients of color often need additional support to navigate the challenges in the healthcare system. Whether it's pushing for a second opinion after being dismissed by a doctor or dealing with microaggressions from medical office staff, this session will provide a supportive space for BIPOC patients to learn to be your own best advocate. This session is also an opportunity for white allies to learn how they can better support BIPOC patients and peers as they navigate cancer.

Audience:  
Everyone

International B





# Advancing All Angles of Care

While science continues to explore potential cures, every cancer journey is full of challenges from many angles. Through our 360-degree approach, we strive to more comprehensively serve patient needs and seek to raise expectations about how empowered science, treatments, and global care ecosystems can meaningfully improve all angles of care for all people who are touched by cancer. Through our mission and our medicines, we transform what's possible.

Learn more at [AmgenOncology.com](https://www.AmgenOncology.com)

**AMGEN**  
Oncology

# BREAKOUT 5 : SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

## 9:15 AM - 10:45 AM

### A Community for Caregivers

Sponsored by **Genentech** | Speaker: *Leeann Terwilliger, LCSW*

Caregiving for a loved with cancer can provide a sense of purpose during a difficult time but the demands can also feel physically and emotionally overwhelming. The pressures of caregiving can create challenges for connection and leave you feeling isolated. Join this discussion session to connect with other caregivers navigating the unique stressors and challenges of caregiving.

Audience:  
Caregivers

Juniper

### Forces for Good: Working Together to Serve the AYA Community

Speakers: *Ambreen Maan, MSW, LSW & Mindy Freund, MSN, RN, CCRC*

Nonprofit professionals and advocates share the common goal of addressing the unique needs of the AYA cancer community. Meeting these needs, however, can sometimes feel daunting. How can we yield greater impact in the lives of AYA cancer survivors? Join this working group to collaborate with your fellow professionals, problem solve, and learn strategies to improve the work we do.

Audience:  
Nonprofit  
Professionals

International A

### MythBusters: The Palliative Care Edition

Sponsored by **Merck** | Speakers: *C Robert Bennett, PhD, CPNP-AC & Peter Drahms, RN, BSN*

Think palliative care is just for end of life? Let's bust the myth! Palliative care can provide you with an extra layer of support to help maintain quality of life while you explore treatment options and navigate the healthcare system. Join this interactive presentation to learn more about the real purpose of palliative care and how the members of the palliative care team can support your physical, social, emotional, and spiritual needs.

Audience:  
Everyone

International C

### Physical Activity: Taking Back Control

Speaker: *Taylor Hosier, MHA*

Even if you aren't a fitness buff, there are small changes you can make to increase your physical activity and gain real benefits as a patient or survivor. Join other AYAs in learning some basic movements and stretches while learning about the importance of physical activity. This interactive session will provide support and tips to appreciate the journey of exercise, including how to measure and celebrate your baseline, even if it's changed.

Audience:  
Everyone

International B

MANY THANKS TO  
SPENCERS FOR  
THEIR CONTINUED  
SUPPORT OF  
STUPID CANCER

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JOIN THE FIGHT!

@Spencers #SpencersBMMS

100% donations support the efforts of our partners!  
Providing education, prevention & recovery programs  
for young adults fighting to end cancer.

donate now



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Our founder, Colonel Lilly, said, "Take what you find here and make it better and better." Today, this commitment to making life better extends to every aspect of our business and the people we serve. Guided by these words, our commitment to humanity defines the spirit of our company.

Learn more about our heritage and dedication to  
creating medicines that make life better at [lilly.com](https://lilly.com).

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Seagen®

Passion  
for Patients

As a pioneer in antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs), Seagen has led the way in novel cancer therapeutics since 1998. Now, as a global company with four approved therapies and a robust pipeline, we're committed more than ever to improving lives for people with cancer around the world.

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### Adolescent Cancer Patients and the Risk of Addiction During Treatment

*Speaker: Samantha Dyar, LMSW, MBE*

Addiction to narcotics is a national crisis, but adolescents in cancer treatment may be at heightened risk. This presentation for healthcare providers digs into how adolescent cancer patients may be vulnerable to addiction development during legitimate therapies involving controlled substances that can follow them into survivorship. Explore how brain development, the psychological effects of a cancer diagnosis, lack of appropriate support, poor care transitions, and the impact of "Cancer Exceptionalism" make AYAs particularly susceptible to addiction.

**Audience:**  
Healthcare  
Professionals

International A

### Creating a Legacy

*Sponsored by **Servier***

*Speaker: Taylor Hosier, MHA*

Creating a legacy means different things to different people. This session will be about leaving a legacy not just at the end of life, but doing things right now to find meaning and vibrancy in your life. This workshop and discussion will offer a unique way for AYAs to create a story of legacy through memory building, pictures, and physical items to help you cope with the challenges and limitations you may face along the way.

**Audience:**  
Survivors

Juniper

### Eliminating Toxins and Reducing Exposures

*Speaker: Tiah Tomlin-Harris, MS*

In your daily life, you may encounter various toxins and exposures from personal care products or your surrounding environment. This informative workshop is designed to equip you with practical strategies and solutions to evaluate your products and to take actionable steps towards creating a safer and healthier environment for yourself and your loved ones.

**Audience:**  
Everyone

International C

### Turning Rotten Lemons into Lemonade: Entrepreneurship & AYA Survivorship

*Sponsored by **Amgen***

*Speakers: Samira Daswani, Peter Bilzerian,  
& Flávia Maoli*

Creating a legacy means different things to different people. This session will be about leaving a legacy not just at the end of life, but doing things right now to find meaning and vibrancy in your life. This workshop and discussion will offer a unique way for AYAs to create a story of legacy through memory building, pictures, and physical items to help you cope with the challenges and limitations you may face along the way.

**Audience:**  
Everyone

International B

# SPEAKERS



**Catherine Applegate,  
PhD, RDN**  
University of Illinois  
Urbana-Champaign



**Emily M. Beard,  
RN, OCN, CBCN**  
Northside Hospital



**C. Robert Bennett,  
PhD, CPNP-AC,  
PPCNP-BC**  
University of Colorado  
School of Medicine



**Peter Bilzerian**  
Investor & Strategic  
Advisor



**Erica Campbell**  
Erica Survived LLC



**Mallory Casperson,  
MS**  
Cactus Cancer Society



**Ashlee Cramer**  
Caregiver Advocate



**Michael Cramer**  
Patient Advocate



**Samira Daswani,  
MS, BS, BA**  
Manta Cares



**Katherine Donahue  
MS, RN, CPNP**  
Center for Cancer and  
Blood Disorders



**Aerial Donovan**  
Cactus Cancer Society



**Peter Drahms, RN**  
Health Carousel Travel  
Nursing

# SPEAKERS



**Samantha Dyar**  
**LMSW, MBE**

Winship Cancer Institute,  
Emory University



**Jade Gibson**

Childhood Cancer  
Survivor



**Ciara Fleming**

Patient Advocate



**Mindy Freund,  
MSN, RN, CCRC**

American Brain Tumor  
Association



**Montana Harstad,  
RN**

Emory Healthcare



**Taylor Hosier,  
MHA**

Ulman Foundation



**Sanyu Janardan,  
MD MS**

Children's Healthcare of  
Atlanta/Emory University



**Julia Johns**

Comedian



**Nicole Jolicoeur,  
Esq.**

Triage Cancer



**Julie Larson,  
LCSW**

JL Collaborative



**James Ludemann,  
MSN, RN, CPHON**

Children's Healthcare  
of Atlanta



**Ambreen Maan,  
MSW, LSW**

American Brain Tumor  
Association

# SPEAKERS



**Flávia Maoli**  
Instituto Camaleão



**Trevor Maxwell**  
Man Up to Cancer



**Kimmie Ng,  
MD, MPH**  
Dana-Farber  
Cancer Institute



**Katie Reid**  
**MPAS, PA-C**  
Center for Cancer and  
Blood Disorders



**Brooklyn Olumba**  
Breast Cancer  
Patient Advocate



**Erin Seibel, LCGC**  
Emory University,  
Children's Healthcare  
of Atlanta



**Marla Renee  
Stewart, MA**  
Velvet Lips LLC



**Leeann Terwilliger,  
LCSW**  
Stupid Cancer



**Tori Clear  
Thompson,  
LCSW, CST**  
Clear Counseling  
Choice



**Tiah Tomlin-  
Harris, MS**  
My Style Matters



**Alique Topalian,  
PhD, MPH**  
University of Cincinnati  
Cancer Center



**Mandi Zucker,  
LSW, CT**  
End of Life Choices  
New York





# CRISIS SUPPORT INFO



In the event of an emergency or crisis during CancerCon Live, please call or text (646) 223-0896 to get in touch with a Stupid Cancer staff member to assist.

This number is for emergencies **ONLY**. For general questions or concerns, please visit the Registration Desk or email [programs@stupidcancer.org](mailto:programs@stupidcancer.org).

## OTHER RESOURCES FOR FREE

24/7 Mental Health Support  
Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GCAL)  
Call 1-800-715-4225

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:  
Call 1-800-273-TALK (8255)



## Counselor on Call

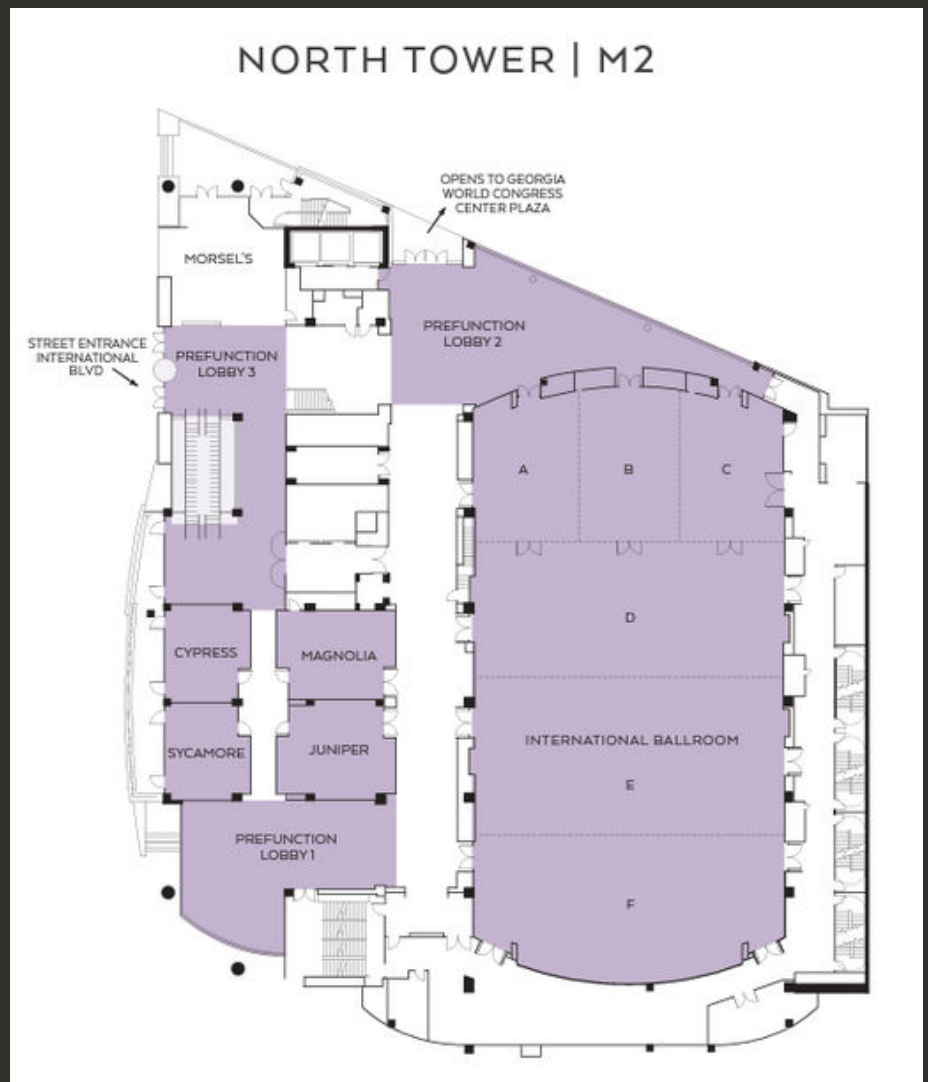
### Located at Prefunction Lobby 3

CancerCon can stir up some big emotions. If you need a few minutes to process with a professional, head to the Counselor on Call table to speak with a therapist that can provide some additional support.

<b>Friday</b>	3:30 PM - 6:30 PM
<b>Saturday</b>	10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
<b>Sunday</b>	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

# NAVIGATE THE OMNI

CancerCon Live 2023 activities will take place on the 2nd floor of the North Tower of the Omni Atlanta Hotel at CNN Center.



Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP and Affiliates

Skadden is proud to support Stupid Cancer in its annual CancerCon and in its mission to empower those affected by adolescent and young adult cancer.



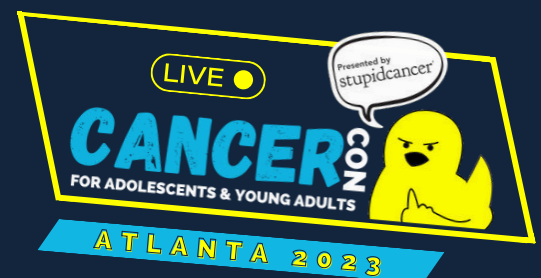
# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



# EXHIBITORS

Visit the [International Ballroom DE](#) to meet our exhibitors and network with fellow attendees. You'll find invaluable resources, makes professional connections, and walk away with a lot of swag and goodies.

13thirty Cancer Connect  
Adaptive Biotechnologies  
American Brain Tumor Association (ABTA)  
American Cancer Society  
Beads of Courage  
Bristol Meyers Squibb  
Cactus Cancer Society  
Center for Disease Control  
Circle Surrogacy  
Count Me In  
First Descents  
Jazz Pharmaceuticals  
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
Man Up to Cancer  
Novartis  
Oliver Patch Project  
Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation  
Phase Scientific  
Rare Patient Voice  
Seagen  
Servier  
Sleep Treatment Program for Young Adult Cancer Survivors  
Stupid Cancer  
Triage Cancer  
Ulman Foundation  
Walgreens



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Chief Executive Officer

**Marlena Matute**  
Communications Coordinator

**Nathea Allonce**  
Operations Coordinator

**Eddie Mouradian**  
Director of Development

**Chelsea Donahue**  
Director of Programs

**Leeann Terwilliger**  
Program Manager

**Alex Hearn**  
Development Coordinator

**Elizabeth Woolfe**  
Strategy Consultant

**Matthew Marroquin**  
Program & Community  
Coordinator

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Assistant Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Washington University School of Medicine

**Rebecca Johnson, MD**  
Founder, AYA Oncology Program at Seattle Children's  
May Bridge Children's

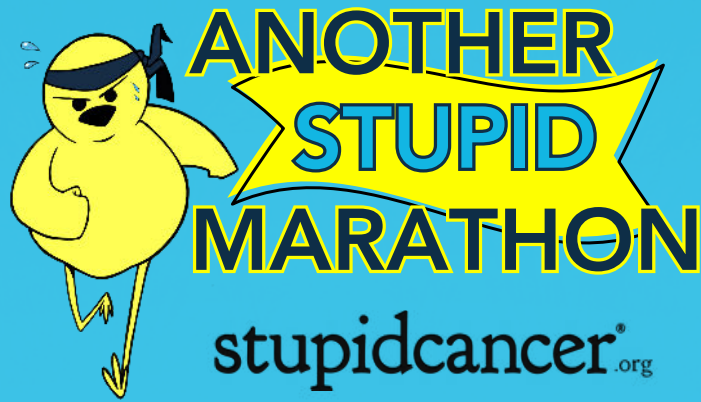
**Julie Larson, LCSW**

**Brad Love, PhD**  
Associate Director for Health Communication,  
University of Texas at Austin

**Lauren Martino**  
Advanced Practice Provider  
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

**Pamela Simon, MSN, CPNP, CPON**  
Program Manager/Nurse Practitioner  
Stanford Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer  
Program

**Bridgett Tho, PsD**  
Senior Research Specialist, Survivorship Center  
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center



It's not just a marathon, its **Another Stupid Marathon!**  
A 30 day challenge to run, walk, crawl,  
jump, cartwheel 26.2 miles.

Stupid Cancer's **Another Stupid Marathon** is a self-directed peer-to-peer fundraising event taking place this fall, where we encourage folks to walk, run or crawl a marathon (26.2 miles) over the course of 30 days, at their own pace, in their own space. **You can join anytime starting October 6th and we're crossing the virtual finish-line on the day of the NYC Marathon, November 5th.**

**Want to get started? Here's how:**

1. Register yourself and/or your team at : <https://stpdcn.cr/ASM2023>
2. Track your progress towards your 26.2 miles on your personal page
3. Fundraise by asking friends and family to donate to support you
4. Earn prizes once you raise \$100
5. Become a finisher by completing your 26.2 by November 5th!

Your fundraising dollars go to support Stupid Cancer's mission to help empower everyone affected by adolescent and young adult (AYA) cancer by ending isolation and building community.

**For help with the registration on the Another Stupid Marathon site, please contact Development Coordinator, Alex Hearn at [ahearn@stupidcancer.org](mailto:ahearn@stupidcancer.org).**

Want to be an Another Stupid Marathon corporate sponsor?  
Get in touch with our Director of Development, Eddie Mouradian at [emouradian@stupidcancer.org](mailto:emouradian@stupidcancer.org)

**GET BUSY ~~LIVING~~**  
**MOVING!**



**Stupid Cancer programs empower all adolescents and young adults impacted by cancer. All of our programs are designed to help you **Get Busy Living** by connecting with other AYAs and gaining access to critical information and resources to improve your quality of life with and after cancer.**

#### Stupid Cancer Stories:

Share your experiences and connect with peers through the power of storytelling at intimate open mic events or by browsing our Story Library.

#### Meetups:

Social gatherings that bring together the adolescent and young adult community, online or in person, to connect with other patients, survivors, caregivers, and professionals that get it.

#### Health Disparities Town Hall:

A 3-year initiative to develop a strategic action plan that addresses the needs of AYAs in historically marginalized groups relating to their experiences during diagnosis, treatment, and/or support.



#### Discussion Series:

Topic-based discussion sessions running over 4 weeks allow participants to engage in sustained, meaningful conversation with each other in a structured setting, led by trained professionals.

#### CancerCon:

Stupid Cancer's annual conference brings together hundreds of patients, survivors, caregivers, and professionals for a weekend of breakout sessions, keynote speakers, and social activities.

#### Access to Care Project

Stupid Cancer, in partnership with professional associations serving cancer patients, is leading a project to support providers serving AYA patients by developing support tools to address the unique needs and challenges of the patient community.

**VISIT [STUPIDCANCER.ORG](https://stupidcancer.org) FOR MORE INFO**

# SAVE THE DATES

**CANCERCON LIVE 2024**  
**AUGUST 15 - 18, 2024**

**CANCERCON LIVE 2025**  
**AUGUST 21 - 24, 2025**





**We help empower  
everyone affected by  
AYA cancer by ending  
isolation and building  
community.**

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**STUPIDCANCER.ORG**