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Virtual
Fashion
Show

February 25, 2021 · 7pm

Stunning
IN SILVER



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Welcome to the 14th Annual Fashion Show

Stunning in Silver

This Evening's Program • Thurs. Feb 25 at 7pm

PROGRAM

- Welcome: Jeff Heffelfinger, Director, Oncology Service Line, Mercy Health
- Program Introduction: Dianne Barndt, Executive Director, The Victory Center
- Master of Ceremonies: Chrys Peterson, Cancer Awareness Advocate
- Stunning in Silver Fashion Show
- Choreographer: Katie Maskey
- Winner of Dillard's Franklin Park Accessory Basket announced

Anyone making a donation of any denomination on the event website will automatically be entered into a drawing to win a Michael Kors & Kendra Scott accessory basket valued at \$550 courtesy of Dillard's Franklin Park.

You must register your mobile phone in order to bid on silent auction items, purchase raffle tickets, or make a donation. To register your phone, go to <https://qtego.net/qlink/thevictorycenter/register> Your credit card will only be charged if you make a purchase or win a silent auction item.

Raffle and Silent auction
will close on
Thursday, March 4
at 12:00 noon

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Mager Designs for the lovely set decorations at this year's event!

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Mager Designs, Chris Magers • Decorations

Ragazza • Stunning in Silver Bracelets
Salvatore Capelli e Esthetica Spa & Beauty Lounge
• Hair Styling & Make-up Services for Survivor Models

Cathy Schuster • Graphic Design Services
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The Victory Center

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Thank you Jane Wurth & Ragazza for the donation of 75 Bracelets to sell, with 100% of the proceeds going back to The Victory Center!

Special Thanks

14th Annual Fashion Show Committee

Dianne Barndt, Executive Director
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Featured Boutiques and Stores

Atlas Bridal Shop
Blue by Atlas Bridal
Chico's at Franklin Park
J Jill
Ragazza
Shimmery Belle Boutique
Sophia Lustig Shop
V Collection

Choreographer · Katie Maskey

The Victory Center's Featured Survivor Models

Kristi Biniker
Melissa Carmen
Richard Fisher
Dottie Huls
Jodi Mitchell
Joe Pokrywka
Carol Sharp
Myra Williams

Friends of The Victory Center Models

DeAnn Baker
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Inside the Five
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We sincerely regret if we have missed any individual or company on this list. Please know that we have done our very best to include all of our generous raffle basket donors. We thank you for your understanding if we inadvertently missed listing you.

Survivor Models



Kristi Biniker Kristi is a 1-year survivor of stage 1 invasive ductal carcinoma. She has a strong family history, and says early detection played a big role in her treatment. During treatment, Kristi says, “The Victory Center was and is so amazing. The Healthy Steps class helped me get my range of motion back in my shoulder one week after surgery.” In addition to Healthy Steps, Kristi received comfort from healing touch, reflexology, and massages. Kristi believes these services were important during her cancer journey because “they provided a safe place for me to take time to focus on my healing. I also enjoyed the community of people that I was able to interact with during my services. Everyone was so welcoming, caring, and supportive.”

Kristi is married to Jason, whom she calls “a wonderful and supportive man.” They have been together 20 years and married for 15 of them. Kristi and Jason have three kids, and two of them are twins. She says she loves to craft, paint, read, and relax in her pool, but her favorite activity is to watch her children participate in their passions. She is an Intervention Specialist at Maumee High School, and taught physical education for four years at Toledo Public Schools.

Melissa Carmen Diagnosed in June 2020 with breast cancer, Melissa has completed chemo and surgery, and says she should almost be finished with radiation by today’s show. This is her second cancer diagnosis. Ten years ago, she underwent surgery, chemo and radiation for squamous cell carcinoma of the tonsil. Melissa has been a participant at TVC since her breast cancer diagnosis, taking part in yoga classes twice a week. She has also enjoyed massages, healing touch, and reflexology, and says, “TVC has made a tremendous positive impact on my journey with breast cancer. I have made great friends with people who understand exactly what I am going through. To me, TVC is family.”

Melissa was born and raised in Orlando, Florida, and says her first winter in Northwest Ohio treated her to 80 plus inches of snow and temperatures

that were in the negative 20s. “By the way,” she adds, “throwing hot water in the air when it’s -25 does turn the water to snow!” Her emotional support animal is her stepdaughter’s ball python.

Richard Fisher Known as “Big Guy” to family and close friends, Richard was diagnosed with prostate cancer on July 2, 2020. He had surgery on August 6 to have the prostate removed, and says he just heard the good news on January 13, 2021 that he is now a cancer survivor. He will continue returning for tests every six months. Richard says he has benefited from massages, reflexology and facials at TVC, and says those therapies were “a peaceful time of forgetting all about my problems.”

Richard is married to Paulette who, he calls a “wonderful, caring best friend, love of my life, and soul mate.” He is father to Joseph and Jennifer, and her husband Brian; grandfather of three “beautiful granddaughters,” Logan, Hayle and Kylee Ann, and lovingly calls them “my rotten kids”; and soon-to-be great-grandfather to a little girl who will be named Bonnie, and who he has already nicknamed “my little Bunny.” He also has two fur babies, Willow Grace and Raven Rose. A woodworking hobbyist, Richard says he loves traveling to the Grand Cayman Islands with his wife. They have been there eight times! Richards says he has warm feelings about The Victory Center, and shares, “It’s an amazing, compassionate, caring place. They make you feel so comfortable the minute you walk into the doors.”

Dottie Huls Dottie had two bouts of breast cancer - one in 2006 and one in 2013 - resulting in mastectomies each time. Over the years, Dottie says she has enjoyed reflexology, massages, and healing touch while in treatment, and has been faithfully attending Art Therapy classes. She says, “the spirit of camaraderie among the cancer patients and survivors was quite evident. This helped in reaching out and offering my art skills to TVC.”

Dottie is a retired art teacher from Adrian Public Schools, and The Victory Center is fortunate to have her time and talents via art classes she teaches once a month, something she “thoroughly enjoys!” In addition to teaching art classes at TVC, Dottie enjoys traveling and has taken many trips including a cruise to Spain and Italy, a 10-day land tour of Italy, and a cruise on the Danube River, Germany, Austria, and Hungary.

Survivor Models continued

Dottie shares that one of her biggest joys is being a grandparent. “I am Nana to four beautiful granddaughters and one handsome grandson, and they fill my life with joy!” When she’s not babysitting, she says she enjoys arts and crafts and a good book.

Carol Sharp Carol was diagnosed with breast cancer in July 2019. After two lumpectomies, four chemotherapy treatments, and thirty radiation treatments, she is happy to share that she is now cancer-free. Carol says she felt at home right away at TVC. “Everyone was fantastic. I felt comfortable from the time I walked in the door.” She has received a wig from The Victory Center’s Wig Bank, and enjoyed healing touch, massage, facials, reiki and reflexology. She says, “All of these things helped me get through the tough days I had. Once I started doing them I didn’t want to stop. I looked forward for the next month to come so I could schedule more appointments!”

An LPN for 25 years at The Toledo Hospital, Carol also worked for 10 years as a head cashier at the Andersons Market. She enjoys reading mysteries and sewing masks to give away. She says she loves traveling, has enjoyed trips to Michigan to see all the lighthouses along Lake Michigan, and made memories traveling to Gatlinburg, Nashville, and San Antonio. She raised her great-niece, Courtney, who is married now to Andrew. The couple is expecting their first baby, a girl, in March. One of her favorite activities has been participating in one of The Victory Center’s most thrilling fundraisers (exclamation points are all Carol’s!): “I loved the opportunity to do Over the Edge!!!”

Jodi Mitchell Jodi was diagnosed with stage 1 ovarian cancer on December 27, 2019, and went through chemo during the pandemic. As a healthcare provider, Jodi found being on the other side, as a patient, was both incredibly frightening and emotionally overwhelming. Of The Victory Center, Jodi says, “The kindness and support I received from my very first introduction to The Victory Center was like a lifeline. I met with support groups, I tried reiki, talked to a counselor, and attended a class on essential oils. Every single person I met through The Victory Center was so

sympathetic and understanding - it was an amazing resource during a very difficult time.” Jodi also credits her employer, Mercy Health, for providing not only top notch care, but supporting her through her cancer journey.

2021 is looking up for Jodi who is anxiously anticipating the arrival of her first grandchild this month!

Joe Pokryuka Joe’s wife Diane is a triple negative breast cancer survivor for the last 10 years. He says she enjoyed using the massage therapy to ease her pain, and adds, “This brought a lot of comfort.” As a caregiver, he says they really loved the support from The Victory Center and “all the wonderful people we met there and the amazing stories and journeys. It is amazing what everyone has gone through.”

A collector of Batman memorabilia, Joe also enjoys bowling. He has three children and four grandchildren, and is hoping for more. His son recently married. He and Diane love to golf and Joe says they try and visit Virginia Beach, Virginia annually to see family. Joe has led a busy work life: he worked for 30 years in customer service, and another 10 years as a charter school office manager. After that, he delivered the Toledo Blade for 20 years. Retired now (phew!), Joe still keeps busy working on lawns and snow removal.

Myra Williams Myra was diagnosed in the early stages of ovarian cancer. She heard about the therapeutic art programs available at TVC and came for a welcome interview in 2016. Myra says, “Being with the other ladies in art class helped me so much. They shared their journeys and what I learned from their stories changed my life. Everybody has a story and everyone’s journey is different. The staff and other survivors at TVC are so supportive.”

Myra studied interior design and has a license to teach art. She taught special needs children in the Toledo Public Schools for over 25 years. Since retiring, she has taught art to senior citizens at Genesis Village and is currently tutoring a special needs child. Even though she was an art teacher for years, Myra says she still learns new things when she attends art programs at The Victory Center.




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Friday, August 27, 2021
The Plaza
300 Madison Avenue

Toledo's only rappelling fundraiser is back! The first 85 individuals to raise a minimum of \$1,000 will have the opportunity to rappel 16 stories. Take your support of The Victory Center to new heights and go Over the Edge for someone you love! **Registration opens in May.**

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Celebrity Wait Night

More information coming soon!



Thank you for your support of The 14th Annual Fashion Show and The Victory Center. Your participation enables us to continue providing desperately needed free services to cancer patients in Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan. We are grateful that you have chosen to partner with us in supporting these courageous individuals.

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