Angela Canada Hopkins: An Artist’s View of Cancer

Just like the innovative researchers funded by the donors of the Conquer Cancer Foundation, Angela Canada Hopkins looks at cancer differently. For this contemporary artist living in Colorado, cancer cells have become an unusual muse worth exploring in her powerful and vibrant mixed-media creations.

Angela found it natural to turn to her art as a therapy tool after her father’s cancer-related death in 2001. “Everyone looks for a way to cope with the devastation caused by cancer. I used paint and canvas to help process my grief. At first my art was dark and full of painful emotion, but then I became intrigued with the actual beauty of cancer cells on a biologic level.”

Today her art is full of color and life, giving people a new and unexpected way to experience cancer. Angela shares, “My work contrasts with the ugliness of cancer and the turmoil many people go through in dealing with the disease.”

She recognizes that looking at things differently is a passion that artists and physician-scientists share.

“Scientific research involves real creativity and challenging current notions. I think art does the very same thing.”

Angela considers her work a connection point for people. “To me, art is more than a pretty picture above the couch. My art invites people to engage with a difficult topic and experience it, and talk about it, in a way that maybe they haven’t done before.”

With vivid greens, shocking pinks, bold reds, Angela’s recent work has progressed to a more abstract style that references general characteristics of molecular patterns and shapes. These images bring observers in, rather than push them away simply because they depict cancer. “One of the most rewarding things is when people come up and talk to me about their experiences with cancer, both positive and negative,” says Angela. “I really believe that art is transformational and has the power to change, educate and impact people for good.”

It’s no surprise that the vision of the Conquer Cancer Foundation – a world free from the fear of cancer – resonates with the artist. “I was very pleased to share my art with CCF to help raise awareness about the progress this great organization is making to improve prevention and treatment for people with cancer, and provide important resources for them and their families.”

While science is leading the way with the power to touch many millions of lives, Angela Canada Hopkins thinks art has a role to play, too. “If my art inspires even just one person to think differently about cancer, this can have an important impact.”
Dedicated donors can be sure CCF is an excellent steward of the resources they generously provide.

Five International Innovation Grants were awarded to organizations in India, Mexico, Nigeria, Romania and Uganda to provide research funding and support for novel and innovative projects that can have a significant impact on cancer control in low- and middle-income countries. 

CCF announced The Campaign to Conquer Cancer with the goal to raise $150 million to support cancer research, education, global oncology, and quality initiatives. Through 2015, with your support, $119 million was raised toward the goal.

CCF grew its social media communities across all platforms including reaching new audiences via Instagram and Pinterest.

Accomplished and distinguished researchers gathered at CCF's first-ever Scientific and Career Development Retreat to exchange ideas and discuss new and exciting research findings.

The ASCO Annual Meeting, the premier scientific event in the oncology community, was attended by more than 30,000 professional attendees from more than 125 countries.

CCF's donor supported website continued to provide oncologist-approved cancer information and helped visitors from 240+ countries who viewed more than 41 million pages of information.

You provided people access to accurate and meaningful information and a platform from which to connect and provide support and inspiration.

Seven additional meetings, which hosted over 8,300 participants, were also held in 2015 including:
- Gastrointestinal Cancers Symposium
- Genitourinary Cancers Symposium
- Breast Cancer Symposium
- Palliative Care in Oncology Symposium
- Best of ASCO (Boston, San Francisco and Chicago)

Social media #ConquerCancer

268% increase in social media followers

Conquer Cancer Foundation
@ConquerCancer
Conquer Cancer Foundation of ASCO
conquercancerfoundation
iConquerCancer
ConquerCancerFdtn

IN 2015

$13m raised for research programs

341 grants and awards

given to support the next generation of cancer researchers worldwide

27 grants and awards

given to support research progress and cancer education in low- and middle-income countries

58 Young Investigator Awards

A record number of Young Investigator Awards were granted to launch the careers of new researchers and bring us closer to important breakthroughs.

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We are grateful for all of the donors who made these accomplishments possible. To view the CCF donor honor roll, visit: ConquerCancerFoundation.org/donors

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Financial review*

You contributed more than $29m to fund breakthrough research and share cutting-edge knowledge.

Revenues

Corporate 16,186,501
Foundation 8,930,584
Individual 4,750,032

Total revenues 29,867,117

Expenses

Programs 21,184,845
Fundraising 3,775,396
Administration 4,231,778

Total expenses 29,192,019

Operating surplus 675,098
Long-term investment -1,224,025
Change in net assets -548,927
Change in unrestricted net assets -1,039,079
Change in restricted net assets 490,152

Unrestricted net assets Beginning of Year 30,285,400
Restricted net assets Beginning of Year 28,723,525
Unrestricted net assets End of Year 29,246,321
Restricted net assets End of Year 29,213,677

*Unaudited

Conducted in 2015 on Charity Navigator

4-star rating in 2015 on Charity Navigator

2015 donor impact report / together we're taking down cancer
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