



Inspiring hope and possibility in young adults who are living with life-threatening illnesses.

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For Immediate Use

Three-Time Cancer Survivor is Awarded Life Grant™

Winner to use \$5,000 award to inspire young adults with life-threatening illnesses

LOS ALAMITOS, Calif., Aug. 31, 2008 – The Cameron Siemers Foundation for Hope, an Orange County-based non-profit, announced its first Life Grant winner, Rachel Baumgartner, a young cancer survivor from Missouri. A Life Grant is a \$5,000 award given to young adults with life-threatening illnesses to be used in the fulfillment of a dream, goal, or project that makes a difference in their lives and in their communities.

“Like me, Rachel is a survivor that defied medical science and is living into a future she wasn’t supposed to have,” explains Cameron Siemers, founder. When Cameron was diagnosed with HIV at seven, doctors told him he wouldn’t live past age 10. With recent advances in medicine, Cameron fought his prognosis and is miraculously outliving his life expectancy. He created the foundation in an effort to help others like him make the challenging transition into adulthood. “The foundation is sort of like the first Life Grant success story. It gave me purpose and direction in my life. Now I’m excited to help Rachel use her Life Grant to make her mark on the world.”

The Life Grant will be awarded at the foundation’s annual benefit to take place at the Hotel Menage on Sept. 20 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$50 and all proceeds benefit the Foundation and its Life Grant program. Cameron is also set to announce his plans for the future of our country. Life Grant winner Rachel Baumgartner is a 25-year-old artist, published writer, inspirational speaker, and a three-time survivor of Askin's tumor of the spinal cord. Rachel attributes her survival to working with her art therapist. It was this experience that has led her to use her grant to complete her schooling and receive her Art Therapy degree. She is looking to help children with cancer express their creativity and inspire the community through art.

To learn more about the organization or purchase tickets for the event, visit the Foundation’s Web site at <http://www.cameronsiemers.org>.

The Cameron Siemers Foundation for Hope is a non-profit organization that engages in education, support and advocacy to inspire hope and possibility in young adults who are living with life-threatening illnesses.

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