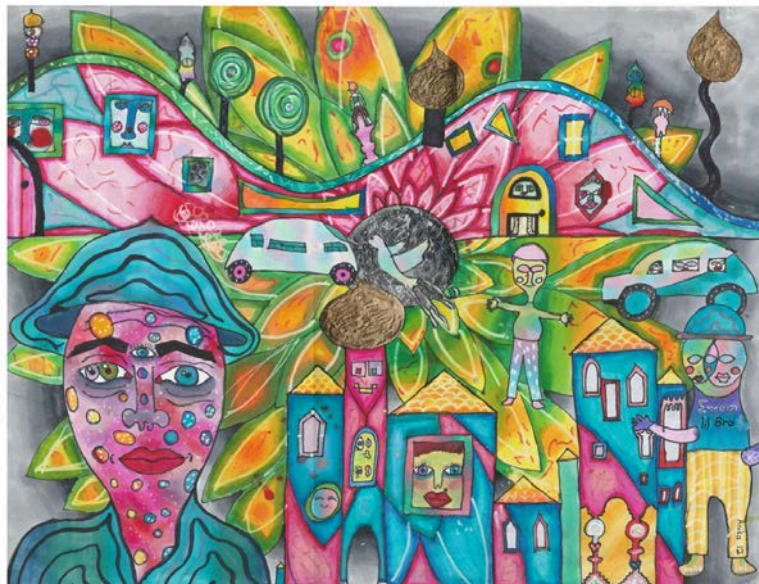


MEET THE ARTISTS



HISTIOCYTOSIS™
ASSOCIATION
A Rare Community™

Anika Alberts



Anika is 14 years old and lives in South Africa. Her brother Ewan, was diagnosed with LCH in 2020 when he was 7-years old.

Her brother Ewan has been a histio survivor for 4 years now. He had a big neck operation to remove the tumor and repair his vertebrae. He can't do any contact sport and has to be careful with his neck.

Ewan feels different from his friends because of this. Anika wants Ewan and other histio warriors to know that it is important to remain happy and positive. Never lose hope. Being different also means you are special.

Ewan Alberts



Ewan is an 11-year old boy from South Africa and a Histio warrior and survivor. He was diagnosed with a LCH lesion four years ago when he was 7-years old. The lesion damaged his C5 vertebra, resulting in a fracture. He had to have a big neck operation and the tumor as well as the damaged vertebra were removed leading to a C4-C6 fusion.

When he was recovering from the operation he couldn't play sport or ride his bike and so he started focussing on art. He loves to draw and to express himself through art. He hopes you will enjoy his drawing of a matador with a sword and a white dove - symbolizing his bravery, like the matador and the white dove symbolizes hope.

John Boyd

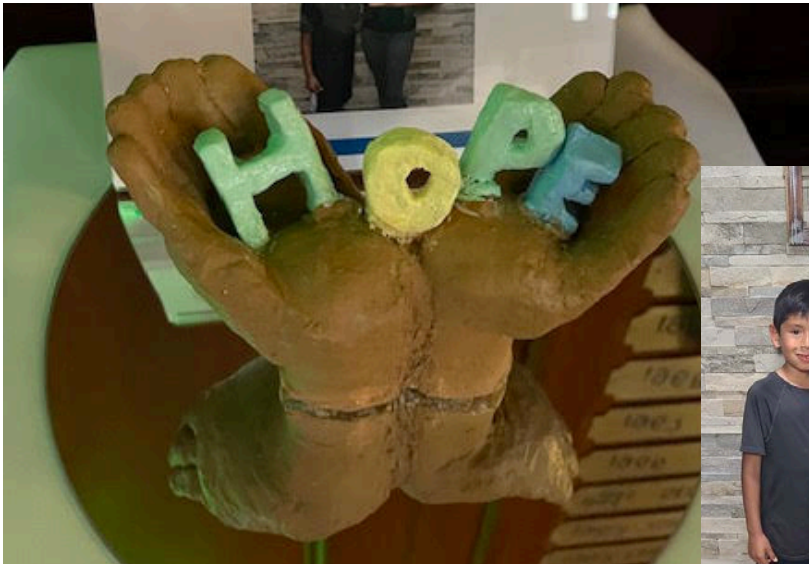


John shared that after his diagnosis, his nephew, Brent Adams, is doing well after many years of treatment. His mom, Barb Adams, is a "Warrior," and Brent's entire extended family is very grateful to his doctors and the Histiocytosis Association.

In retirement after his career as an editor and publisher, he has built up a long-time hobby making and repairing stained glass panels and lamps into a small business that brings him great joy.



Briceida Carraciola



Briceida's little brother was diagnosed with JXG when he was less than a year old (he is six now). She loves arts & crafts and loved creating an art piece that expresses her feelings towards spreading awareness of this disease that people know little about.

Julie Coker



Julie's connection to the Histo Community is her dad, Jon Coker. Her dad has xanthogranuloma (XG) lesions that are primarily on his face, chest, and back. It took multiple visits to different doctors to find someone that would give him the correct diagnosis.

He has found a great doctor that is helping him search for the right treatment. He has tried several medications but is still searching for the one that will cause the lesions to shrink and prevent new ones from developing. Her family is hopeful that with research a treatment will be found for his lesions and that other patients can benefit from what is discovered.

Angelique 'Angie' Goodman



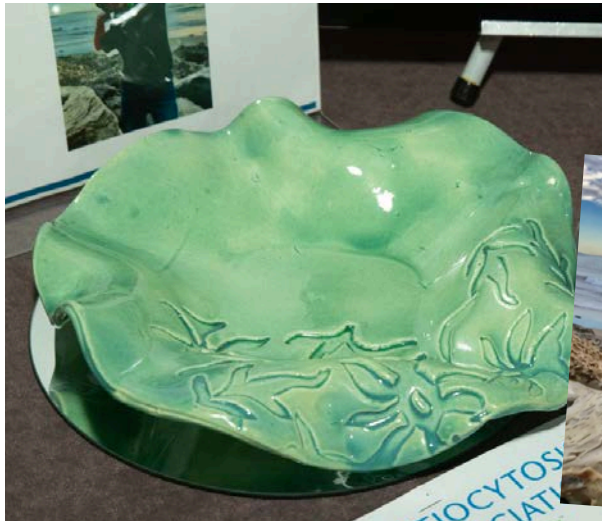
Angie is a novice acrylic painter who enjoys creating paintings that resonate with her as an artist. She finds painting to be very therapeutic and a great way to practice mindfulness. This butterfly represents Hope, Peace, Transformation, Love and Light.



Angie's 6 year old daughter became symptomatic with Diabetes Insipidus, literally overnight. This prompted a brain MRI which came back with multiple lesions and abnormal. That changed everything.

It took lots of advocating to get answers and a final diagnosis of CNS Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis. She is now 15 years old. She has multiple lifelong medical conditions she deals with on a daily basis, including Secondary Adrenal Insufficiency. She is currently on treatment with an inhibitor and has remained stable. She is a absolute gift. Just recently, they celebrated her induction into the National Honor Society. She is a force to be reckoned with and she is a daily inspiration to those around her. Angie told is she is very grateful for her medical team and the Histiocytosis Association.

Andrew 'Drew' Harris



Andrew was born with hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (HLH), a rare and usually fatal form of histiocytosis. He has undergone chemotherapy, radiation, and three bone marrow transplants. In addition to his treatment, his family has had to deal with the loss of two other children who succumbed to this disease.

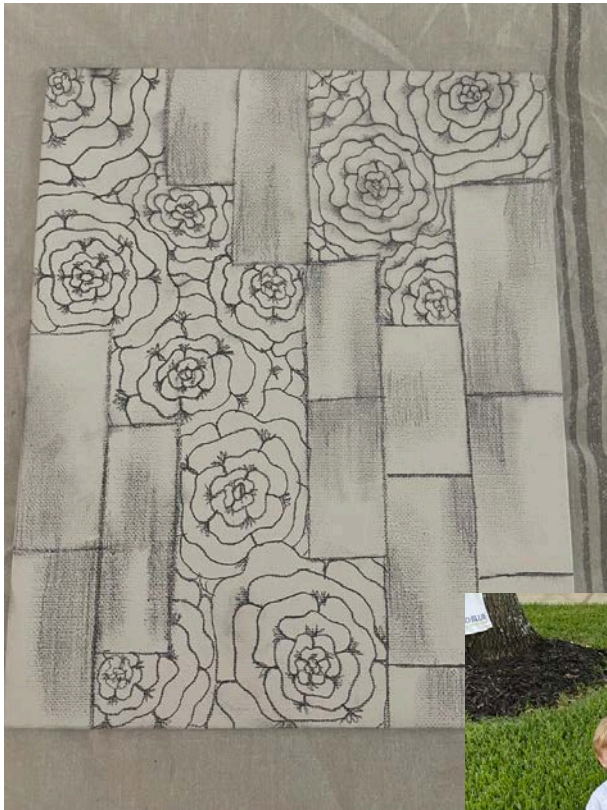
Through Andrew's battles with HLH, numerous complications, chemotherapy and radiation treatments and surgeries, Andrew has many daily challenges. Despite his challenges, Andrew truly embraces life every day.

Andrew is now 17.5 years post his 3rd bone marrow transplant. Andrew is currently being treated for ulcerated invasive squamous cell carcinoma on his lip and in his mouth, requiring surgeries and ongoing treatment.

Andrew started a new day program where he creates artwork.



Avalon McFadden



Avalon is 15 years old and is the second Histo Youth Ambassador for the Histiocytosis Association. Despite having her own health struggles due to an auto immune disease, it is her mission to continue to stand by her brother's side and help fight for a cure for histio. She plans on doing this by helping to raise awareness about Histo and to have fundraisers to raise much needed money to help support the association in its mission to find better treatments and one day, a cure, for Histiocytosis. Avalon hopes to become a pediatric nurse in the histio oncology office where Hudson is being treated at Texas Children's Hospital.



Hudson McFadden



Hudson is 5 years old and full of life! He's been through a lot for such a little boy.

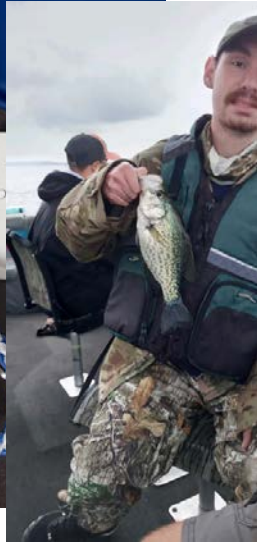
At just 8 months old, Hudson was diagnosed with Rosai-Dorfman disease (RDD). He's had his blood drawn over two dozen times and has been put under more than a half a dozen times for surgeries and testing.

in 2022, Hudson's RDD was reclassified as a slow growing blood cancer. Today, Hudson is overall, a healthy and happy little boy who loves to play in the sand at the beach, swim, play t-ball, go on frog catching adventures, and go for rides in the Jeep with the top off!

Cameron Pegoda



This is Cameron, a Histo warrior! Cameron was diagnosed with multi system LCH in July 2003 at 21 months old (*after about a year of misdiagnosis and searching for an answer*). We were fortunate to find Dr. McClain at Texas Children's and he has been our main doctor for 21 years this summer.



The battle has been a long, hard one with numerous bouts of active disease that is now neurodegenerative LCH. Cameron has had a variety of treatments through the years, most recently he participated in the Cobi study and continues on that medicine.

LCH has robbed Cameron of the life of a typical 22-year-old. He needs complete supervision and suffers mentally and physically from LCH.

Cameron enjoys hunting, fishing, watching TV and working on paracord braiding as a hobby. We dream of a day where LCH can be cured, and no one must suffer from the lifelong effects of LCH. In the 21 years of Cameron's journey, we have seen great strides in research of LCH and know that one day our dream will come true.

Laurie Pegoda

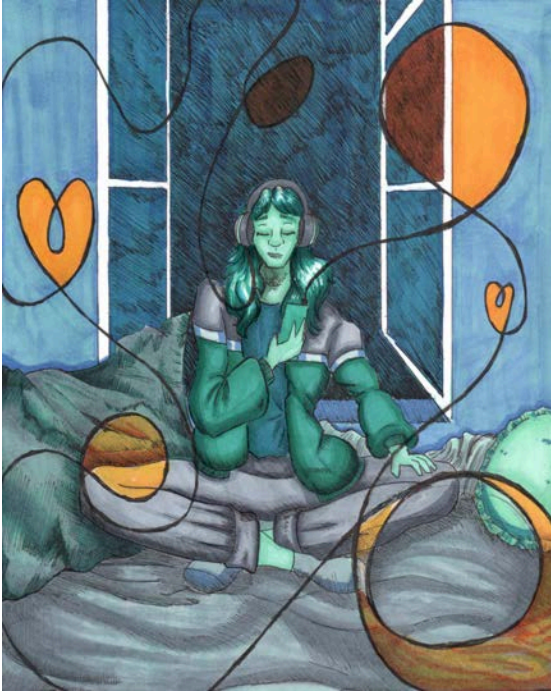


Laurie's son, Cameron was diagnosed with multi system LCH in 2003 at 20 months old (misdiagnosed for almost a year).



They feel fortunate to have Dr. Ken McClain as his doctor. Her son now has neurodegenerative LCH and still receives treatment at TX Childrens with Dr. McClain. It has been a long and hard road and it is a journey, unfortunately, that will never end.

Rebecca Prowse



Rebecca was diagnosed with metastatic juvenile xanthogranuloma in 2018.

A few days after her twelfth birthday, she felt an ache in her right ankle. Over the next few months, her condition only worsened as her ankle ballooned in size, her pain peaked, and her ability to walk came to a halt. After several misdiagnoses, she was recommended to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, where she was successfully treated with a year of chemotherapy. Today, she is histio-free and proud to be a part of the histio community.



Rita Woodward



Rita's daughter Kristen is involved in groundbreaking HLH research at St. Jude and through her, she has learned how histiocytic diseases profoundly impact lives around the world.

Rita is a retired art teacher and continues to paint in her home studio. She shared, 'What a joy it is to create art with the purpose of lifting the spirits of those who are battling serious illnesses. As a three-time cancer survivor, I know personally how visual art, music, written words, and the beauties of nature have given me comfort and strength in difficult times. I hope this painting inspires others as together we pursue our common goals of hope and healing'.

Jennifer Yocum-Dize



At age 47, Jennifer developed a tumor in her ankle. After a 3 month diagnostic process, the tumor was removed for pathological analysis, and Rosai -Dorman disease was the final diagnosis. After having met some others in the Histiocytosis community, generally much younger, she is thrilled to support this Association and its mission to research and treat this class of rare diseases.



Faith Yu



Faith Yu is a 17 year old junior in high school. She was born as a middle triplet and her oldest triplet sister Elyse was diagnosed with HLH three months after birth. At eight months old she lost her fight with HLH.

Faith never fully understood the events surrounding her diagnosis and treatment, but she has always lived wondering what she would have looked like or what her personality would have been.



By drawing a woman from the back, she could start visualizing her. The medium is charcoal on paper and she named the woman, "Hope", which is also the title of her piece. This piece is illustrating the hope and curiosity of what her sister would have been like and is dedicated to all the girls who have survived and will survive HLH and live their lives to womanhood.