

## Hope Funds for Cancer Research

Press Release For Immediate Release Media Contact: Kelly Powers (401) 847-3286

## Hope Funds for Cancer Research Panel Discussion & Dinner Highlights Value of Young Researchers

**NEWPORT, RI -- August 6, 2013** -- The Hope Funds for Cancer Research, an organization dedicated to advancing innovative research for difficult-to-treat cancers, held the fifth in a series of panel discussions on innovative cancer research and treatment on August 4th at Rosecliff in Newport, RI. The provocative discussion was for the lay public and featured some of the world's leaders in treatment and research. The event was attended by philanthropists, physicians and scientists and was the highlight of a weekend of Hope Funds activities in Newport that raised more than \$50,000 towards a postdoctoral fellowship in cancer research.



James D. Watson, Ph.D. addressing Hope Funds Fellows

"I am pleased to report that the event, which included an appearance by Dr. James Watson, Nobel Prize winner for discovering the double-helix or structure of DNA, was a great success. The Panel which included an award-winning journalist, a luminary in cancer research and three Hope Funds-funded postdoctoral fellows was comprehensive and informative," stated Gregory Van Schaack, event co-chair.



The five panelists, moderated by Hope Funds Trustee Leah Rush Cann, addressed the importance basic science discoveries have for revolutionary treatments for patients and the importance of young scientists in the process. The panelists were former NBC Chief Science correspondent Robert Bazell, Dr. Malcolm A.S. Moore Chair of the Hope Funds for Cancer Research's board and principal investigator in cell biology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, and three Hope Funds Postdoctoral Fellows, Dr. Elsa Beyer Krall from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Dr. Jordan Krall from the Whitehead institute at MIT, and Dr. Thales Papagiannakouplos from the Koch Center at MIT.

The audience was astonished to learn from Robert Bazell that most seminal discoveries were made by researchers in their 20s, and to learn that this group of researchers are currently facing an unprecidented scarcity of funding.



The evening began with cocktails on the terrace overlooking the ocean and was capped off with a beautiful dinner in the Grand Ball Room of Rosecliff, where guests had the opportunity to meet with eight of the Hope Funds Postdoctoral Fellows.

The Trustees of the Hope Funds for Cancer Research are especially grateful to the following donors for their support the event:

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Bardorf, Mr. Philip Bilden & Dr. Patricia Bilden, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Doucette, Phyllis Fragola, Dr. & Mrs. Alexander R. Gaudio, Sam Gillson, Mr. & Mrs. David Gordon, Mr. John D. Harris & Ms. Linda Sawyer, Mr. Charles Holland & Ms. Robin Allen, Dr. & Mrs. David Keefe, Drs. Eugene & Debbie Kennedy, Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Lewinstein, Eileen & Andy Marcuvitz, Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Mencoff, Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Paul, Kelly Powers, Mr. & Mrs. Peter Regna, Sarah Rodgers, Gisela Rodgers, Mr. Nicholas Scheetz & Ms. Diana Pearson, David Straus, M.D., Mr. & Mrs. J. Gregory Van Schaack, Dr. & Mrs. Harold Wanebo, Mr. & Mrs. Frederick J. Warren, Mr.& Mrs. Orest Zaklynky.

To view additional photos of this event, please Visit our Website

## About the Hope Funds for Cancer Research

The Hope Funds for Cancer Research was formed in 2006 to establish a funding vehicle that would take a rational scientific, medical, and investment approach to making grants for the most interesting and promising research efforts to address the most difficult-to-treat cancers, including pancreatic, lung, liver, sarcomas, esophageal, brain, gastric, and ovarian cancers, as well as rare leukemias, lymphomas and MDS. These cancers are insidiously aggressive illnesses that kill most of their victims within months, even with aggressive chemotherapy. The Trustees of the Hope Funds for Cancer Research believe that funding young, innovative researchers will lead to breakthroughs in these areas and increase life expectancy for those with these types of cancers. The Hope Funds for Cancer Research is a 509 (a)(1) charity under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service's code.

For additional information about the organization, please visit <a href="www.hope-funds.org">www.hope-funds.org</a> or call 401-847-3286.

Hope Funds for Cancer Research: Advancing innovative research in understudied cancers



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