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WORLD and Count Me In Mark National Cancer Survivors Month with Two Televised Storytelling Specials

*On June 5 and June 12 on WORLD's Stories from the Stage series,
BIPOC cancer survivors share deeply personal stories*

Boston, MA (May 18, 2023) – [WORLD](#), public media's premier platform for diverse documentaries and news, and [Count Me In](#), a nonprofit initiative that engages patients to accelerate cancer research, have partnered to share true experiences with cancer, healthcare disparities, and the power of self-advocacy during National Cancer Survivors Month. Over the course of two Mondays in June, WORLD's award-winning live storytelling series [Stories from the Stage](#) will air six unique stories told by patients of color with direct experience in cancer detection, treatment, and survival. Viewers can watch *Stories from the Stage: Living with Cancer* on Monday, June 5 and *Stories from the Stage: Beyond Cancer* on Monday, June 12 on WORLD's 194 member stations across the country. All episodes and bonus stories will be available to stream online at WORLDChannel.org, [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) and the [PBS app](#).

"WORLD is proud to hand the mic over to the extraordinary cancer survivors whose journeys to fight for a correct diagnosis, battle for appropriate treatment, and demand to be treated with dignity will inspire others undergoing what is a tremendously difficult experience, physically, emotionally, and spiritually," said Liz Cheng, GBH and WORLD General Manager for Television and Co-Executive Producer of *Stories from the Stage*. "We are so grateful to our storytellers and to Count Me In for trusting us with their stories and allowing us to share them with the world."

These special episodes are presented in partnership with Count Me In, a nonprofit research initiative with a mission to enable all cancer patients in the United States and Canada to share their experiences, clinical information, and biological samples for research. Founded in 2018 by the Emerson Collective, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, as well as the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Count Me In aims to democratize cancer research opportunities by partnering with

patients and sharing their de-identified information with researchers worldwide. To learn more, visit JoinCountMeIn.org.

"Patient-shared experiences hold immeasurable power within the field of cancer research. When individuals courageously open their hearts to share their journeys, they illuminate a path of better understanding and compassion for others to learn from and follow," said Taisha Hendrickson, Director of Outreach, Engagement, and Communications for Count Me In. "We believe that by learning from our community, we can unlock the future of improved outcomes and hopefully one day offer some sense of long-awaited solace – especially for our multicultural and often marginalized communities, who have historically borne the disproportionate burden of this disease. We extend our appreciation to GBH for amplifying these patients' voices in collaboration with our mission to continuously improve our collective understanding of this disease."

[Stories from the Stage: Living with Cancer](#)

Monday, June 5 at 9:30pm ET/8:30 CT

A cancer diagnosis changes lives forever, marking the beginning of what can be a long and difficult fight. Yet, imagine you have cancer, and you're a person of color, who cannot find a correct diagnosis, appropriate treatment or the hope of a positive outcome and suddenly the defining moments multiply exponentially. Despite losing her hair to chemo, Leslie Nguyen-Okwu finds beauty in her Blackness; Daniel G Garza and his partner use humor to cope with the challenges of caregiving; and Mel Mann fights the odds to overcome "terminal" leukemia and help others with the disease. Three storytellers, three interpretations of LIVING WITH CANCER, hosted by Wes Hazard.

[Stories from the Stage: Beyond Cancer](#)

Monday, June 12 at 9:30pm ET/8:30 CT

A diagnosis of cancer changes someone's life in innumerable ways. It can also teach us many things about ourselves that resonate beyond the illness. Erinn Budd applies lessons learned from Grey's Anatomy to help her get the care she deserves; Megan-Claire Chase becomes an advocate after finding out that breast cancer will alter her dream of motherhood; and Dwayne Brown beats cancer twice and takes his new-found resilience to the football field. Three storytellers, three interpretations of BEYOND CANCER, hosted by Wes Hazard.

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About WORLD

WORLD shares the best of public media in news, documentaries and programming. WORLD's original series examine the issues and amplify the voices of those often ignored by mainstream media. The multicast 24/7 channel helps audiences understand conflicts, movements and cultures from around the globe. Its original work has won a Peabody Award, an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award, an International Documentary Association Award, a National News and Documentary Emmy Award, two Webby Awards and many others honoring diversity of content and makers. WORLD is carried by 194 member stations in markets representing 77% of US TV

households. Funding for WORLD is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Wyncote Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts and Artworks. WORLD is produced by GBH in partnership with WNET and is distributed by American Public Television (APT). Find out more at WORLDChannel.org.

About Count Me In

Count Me In (CMI) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit research initiative on a mission to make every patient's experience count in the effort to understand and overcome cancer. Founded in 2018 by Emerson Collective, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Count Me In engages patients and enables them to accelerate cancer research by sharing their samples, clinical information, and voices. From their contributions, Count Me In analyzes and shares de-identified data freely to catalyze discoveries across cancer. Data generated by Count Me In is shared regularly via scientific platforms so that it can be harnessed by researchers everywhere to make impactful discoveries. All individuals living with cancer, including those from marginalized communities who have historically been excluded from research, no matter where they live, can contribute to breakthroughs and increase the pace of biomedical research.