

AHEAD OF THE CURVE

The Official Newsletter of The Setting Scoliosis Straight Foundation

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Huge THANK YOU to All Our Sponsors, Exhibitors, Donors, Faculties, & Attendees for Making Our 2019 Patient Education Course and Fundraiser a BIG SUCCESS!

GIVE BACKS HOPE

Scoliosis Awareness & Fundraiser

On May 31st, Setting Scoliosis Straight held its 5TH annual fundraiser: **Give BACKS Hope** at the Maryland Science Center in Baltimore, Maryland. The goals of the event were to help raise awareness of scoliosis and to raise funds to support our mission. This year we had incredible VIP guests in attendance; Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford and our new spokesperson Super Model Emm Arruda. Both captivated the audience by sharing their personal experience with scoliosis and how scoliosis has affected their lives. Guests were 'blown away' by the musical talents of Blind Wind, featuring scoliosis patient Cole Moran, who entertained all with their amazing performance. If you were unable to make it this year... save the date for next year's event which will be held in **New York City** on **June 27, 2020**.



BLIND WIND FEATURING COLE MORAN
PERFORMANCE AT GIVE BACKS HOPE



GIVE BACKS HOPE EVENT CHAIRS
AMY & PAUL SPONSELLER, MD



POWER OVER SCOLIOSIS

Patient & Family Education Course

On June 1st, our 4th annual patient education course, **Power Over Scoliosis**, was held at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. The event was chaired by Dr. Paul Sponseller, Chief of Orthopedics and nurse practitioner, Kristen Venuti who both worked tirelessly to put this amazing event together. The half day agenda included over two dozen of the top orthopedic surgeons in the nation who shared with patients and families vital information about spinal deformities and various innovative treatment options available to them. There were several patient speakers that participated in break-out sessions to answer questions about their scoliosis journey. The event allows patients and families to connect with surgeons and learn more about scoliosis. Don't worry if you were unable to attend... you can watch the sessions on our YouTube channel.



POWER OVER SCOLIOSIS ATTENDEES

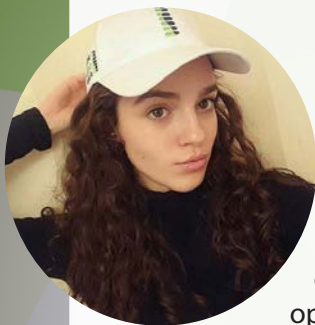


EMM ARUDDA WITH SCOLIOSIS PATIENTS
AT POWER OVER SCOLIOSIS



Visit our website for pictures & video presentations from our 2019 POS event!

www.settingscoliosisstraight.org



MEET OUR NEW SPOKESPERSON SUPER MODEL EMM ARRUDA

Emm Arruda was diagnosed with scoliosis at age 14. She had 2 curves; one was 49 degrees and the other was 66 degrees. Because her curves were so severe, her doctor advised her that spinal fusion surgery was the best option. She had two titanium rods and 19 screws placed in her back to straighten her spine.

“Be patient and find support. It’s a lengthy journey, study your body and find what works for you.”

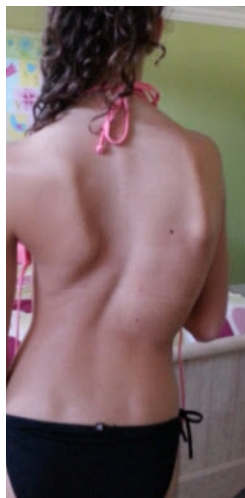
At age 16, she was launched into a modeling career. She has modeled for some of the biggest fashion houses in the world which include Chanel, Christian Dior, and Louis Vuitton, just to name a few.

*“You can overcome anything, nothing is impossible.”
“You can achieve your dreams”*

During her modeling career designers noticed the lengthy scar on her back. “Some embraced it and wanted to show it in photoshoots and others asked me to cover it up.” She decided to post her scar on Instagram and she was overwhelmed by the response. Emm received thousands of messages from girls all over the world thanking her and asking her for advice. That inspired her to want to give back and do more to create awareness for scoliosis.

“Scoliosis made me stronger, it helped build my character & my scar is a mark to show for it. It’s a testament of what I have been put through and overcome.”

Setting Scoliosis Straight is so grateful for Emm’s involvement with our organization and for her participation at our Power Over Scoliosis event. We look forward to many future collaborations. Emm is such an inspiration to so many young individuals with scoliosis and we are honored to have her as a part of our team!



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