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FIGHTER II

Photographer: Alisha Sims

Model: Sarah Gillery

Project Reveal's gallery will feature incredibly moving, inspirational and beautiful photographs of area women sharing stories of their body journey for the third Annual Embrace Your Body Gala event.

This annual fundraising gala is Nov. 12 at the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana and will feature more than 50 photographs of over 40 women telling their stories and being incredibly vulnerable in hopes of inspiring others.

The goal of Project Reveal – a nonprofit organization founded by Stacey Godbold – is for those there to stand together and embrace who we are; every scar, drip of sweat and laugh line is our body's road map telling the beautiful story of where we have been.

"The models this year were more vulnerable than ever," Project Reveal President, CEO and Founder Godbold said. "The images are absolutely stunning. I can't wait for everyone to see how amazing the women in our community are. This night is about everyone. The models, photographers, their families and the community. Everyone who attends the event is standing together to embrace who we all are."

The models featured each have a unique story to tell from cancer survivors to those who have overcome eating disorders to women who are embracing their body's journey during the stages of motherhood.

The photography of Alisha Sims, Alex Slitz, Demario Warren, Randy Land and Jenna Citrus will be featured along with an exhibit of photos submitted by the community with their interpretation of "Embrace Your Body."

The Gala will feature live model body painting, something new and exciting this year. Samantha Scott, owner of Crooked Tree Gallery, will be painting a beautiful mural on a model – during the event. This painting, which you will be able to watch throughout the night, will tell the model's body journey.

The event will also include live music, live and silent auction, a surprise performance and other exciting opportunities. Embracing and loving our bodies is a conversation that needs to be ongoing. Event Co-Chair, Stephanie Train, said she was shocked by the number of women of all sizes who felt empowered to participate when seeking models for the project. Some expressed confidence in their bodies; others said doing it was the first step in accepting themselves.

"We can look in the mirror and love what we see and the next day mentally tear it apart," she said. "Our body journey ebbs and flows, but we can stand together and remind each other that we are not alone, and empower each other to try to love ourselves."

Project Reveal is happy to connect you with one of the photographers and models participating in the project as well as a preview image from this year's show! For more information about the event visit projectreveal.org/embrace16. We look forward to hearing back from you!