

Foundation helping fund cancer research

The Kate Amato Foundation (KAF) is continuing to honor Childhood Cancer Awareness Month this September with two announcements. They are awarding \$75,000 to fund two pediatric cancer research projects, which serves the organization's mission. The organization has also launched Kate's Kindness Project, which provides immediate direct support to local children hospitalized with cancer. Kate Amato, a local Jacksonville Beach child who passed away in November 2016 after a long and difficult battle with cancer, is the inspiration for the Foundation. Through her illness, Amato's parents discovered how severely underfunded research is for pediatric cancer and witnessed first-hand the brutal effects of outdated, toxic treatments. To honor Amato's life and continue the fight for other children, the Kate Amato Foundation was formed

to find safer, smarter, and more effective treatments for children with cancer. Each year, the foundation grants funding to cutting-edge pediatric cancer research projects at some of the leading Immunotherapy and Cancer Genomics research labs in the country including: Duke University, Baylor College of Medicine, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute/Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Duane Mitchell, Director of the University of Florida Brain Tumor Immunotherapy Program, who serves on the KAF Scientific Advisory Board, states, "Kate Amato Foundation is dedicated to supporting research to advance the next generation of pediatric cancer treatments that are more effective and less toxic than current approaches." These grants are predominantly funded by the signature KATE events held each

year: the KATE KUP Triples Tennis Tournament and the KATE CLASSIC Golf Tournament. Both of which these sidelined in 2020 due to the current pandemic. Although COVID-19 has dramatically impacted their fundraising efforts this year, Kate Amato Foundation has announced it is awarding \$75,000 to fund two projects.

One of the 2020 Kate Amato Foundation Grant recipients is Ken Morita, MD, PhD at Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital. Morita's project is titled, "Elucidating Molecular Mechanisms Underlying Exceptionally Wide Therapeutic Window for Small Molecule Allosteric Activators of Protein Phosphatase 2A." This study will investigate a novel, targeted drug compound that is nontoxic, highly potent and could potentially treat a variety of

childhood cancers including T-cell leukemia, acute myeloid leukemia (AML), neuroblastoma and solid tumors. The other recipient of the 2020 Kate Amato Foundation Grant is Matthew Harlow, PhD at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital whose project is titled, "Selective cytotoxic effects of CDK12 inhibition on metastatic osteosarcoma cells." This study will investigate the cellular processes of metastasis to the lungs in order to develop novel drug compounds. This research is critical for the development of safer, targeted immunotherapies for children with metastatic osteosarcoma.

Dr. Timothy Cripe, member of the Cellular, Tissue and Gene Therapy Advisory Committee which reports to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) also serves on the KAF Scientific Advisory

Board and adds, "The fact that the Foundation can continue to provide funding to support research projects during the pandemic is remarkable, and speaks to the dedication of the founders and their network of supporters as well as the Jacksonville community at large. This year's awardees are highly deserving of support. Both Drs. Morita and Harlow propose to study novel targeted agents that selectively attack cancer cells and spare normal cells, which fulfills the mission of finding safer, smarter treatments for children with cancer."

In addition to funding these research projects this year, Kate Amato Foundation is partnering with Once Upon a Room-Jacksonville to launch the Kate's Kindness Project. This initiative will provide direct support to local children and families fighting cancer during COVID-19. The organiza-

tions are teaming up to deliver care packages to children, teens and parents filled with comfort items, room décor and gift cards. Packages will be delivered to Wolfson Children's Hospital every Friday in September. Lisa and Jeff Amato, Kate's parents and founders of KAF, expressed gratitude to the Jacksonville community, saying, "The support we have received is overwhelming, humbling, and inspiring. The outpouring of love and support for Kate throughout her illness was breathtaking and the ongoing support to build her legacy by funding research to help future children is extraordinary. It shows just how kind and caring our community is."

To donate to the Kate Amato Foundation or learn more, visit KateAmatoFoundation.org.



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photos submitted (Right) Dr. Harlow – a Grant Recipient from the Kate Amato Foundation. (Above) Wolfson Child Life Specialists (left) receive Kate's Kindness Project baskets from Lisa Amato with Kate Amato Foundation and Tina Toomey of Once Upon a Room. (Below) Members of Kate's Kindness Project include Angela Tichenor, Tina Toomey, Lisa Amato, and Liz Slade Forman.



Grant offers opportunity for libraries to purchase civic-themed books

Florida Humanities and PBS Books offer Life, Liberty + Libraries, a collaborative grant which brings democratic and civics books to communities across Florida. Awarded libraries and cultural organizations can apply for up to \$2,500 by September 23 to purchase democ-

racy and civics-themed books (either print or digital) for circulation, utilize templated and high-quality promotional materials to further engage communities, and plan for humanities-rich public programming to accompany these new resources. Florida Humanities and PBS Books

have extended this grant opportunity to Florida libraries, K-12 libraries, educational institutions and cultural organizations with widely accessible literary collections. For more information, visit the St. John's Cultural Council website.

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARINGS CITY OF ATLANTIC BEACH

The City of Atlantic Beach has tentatively adopted a budget for fiscal year 2020-2021. A public hearing to make a **FINAL DECISION** on the budget and **TAXES** will be held on Monday, September 28, 2020 at 6:30 PM, or as soon thereafter as can be heard, in the Commission Chamber, 800 Seminole Road, for the purpose of hearing and considering the views of the public concerning the following:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-36

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 20-36 FOR THE MILLAGE RATE. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ATLANTIC BEACH, FLORIDA LEVYING THE AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2020 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021; STATING THE PERCENTAGE BY WHICH THE MILLAGE TO BE LEVIED EXCEEDS THE ROLLED-BACK RATE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ORDINANCE NO. 20-20-157

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 20-20-157, ESTABLISHING THE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020/2021. AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF ATLANTIC BEACH, FLORIDA FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2020 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.

The full text of the above is available for public inspection in the office of the City Clerk. All persons interested are notified to be present at the times and place listed above and they shall be heard. If any person decides to appeal any decision at any meeting or hearing, he will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record shall include the testimony and evidence upon which appeal is to be based.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in these proceedings should contact the City Clerk's Office at City Hall or by telephone at (904) 247-5809 no later than seven (7) days prior to the hearing or proceeding for which this notice has been given.

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