

Melanie A. Nix

Melanie A. Nix, mutated BRCA1 gene carrier and triple negative breast cancer survivor by the age of 38, is co-founder of the Breast Cancer Comfort Site—a virtual wellspring where breast cancer patients and survivors can gain nourishment and guidance through their metamorphosis. She is a member of the Advisory Panel on Patient Engagement as well as serves on the panel of judges for the PCORI Challenge for the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research



Institute. A fifth generation breast cancer patient, Melanie's 20+ year health and wellness advocacy began as a founding member of Breast Cancer Resource Committee and SASSi™ (Sisters Accessing Skills for Survival and Intervention).

She is eloquent and thoughtful imparting her experience, knowledge and compassion in her speaking, writing and coaching. Sought after and highly regarded as a passionate and charismatic public speaker, she blends wit, sensitivity and candor into her messages. A spiritually guided woman, she is particularly focused on sharing lessons for maintaining moxie and being indefatigable in the face of devastation and destruction. Her survival story has been the focus of her discussions and profiled by several media outlets including:

- Featured speaker at The Auxiliary to the National Medical Association 2014 Annual Convention Workshop II: “*Women’s Health: My Triple Negative Breast Cancer Story*”
- Melanie is a featured cancer survivor in *Melanie Nix: Cancer Research Saves Lives*, a 30 second commercial produced by the American Association for Cancer Research and airing in National Cancer Research Month 2014 (May 2014). View the video.
- Melanie is profiled in *She’s Not a Statistic: Melanie Nix’s Story* produced by the American Association for Cancer Research for National Cancer Research Month 2014 that underscores the lifesaving effects of cancer research. View the Video.

- Joining other health advocates and families at Presidential remarks – President Obama Explains How Health Reform Is Helping Women
- Featured speaker at Rally for Medical Research
- American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) *Cancer Progress Report 2012*
- Featured speaker at AACR press conference to release the *Cancer Progress Report 2012*
- Roundtable participant with Second Lady Dr. Jill Biden, Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius, and actress and breast cancer advocate Jennifer Aniston
- *An African American Triple Negative Breast Cancer Survivor: Melanie Nix's Story* produced by the National Cancer Institute
- *NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams*
- WUSA 9 (CBS Affiliate)
- *African Views Radio*
- BET.com
- *Honey Magazine*

Her sensitivity and candor are also present in her writings as co-author of *You Have Breast Cancer...Now What? Inspiration for Moving Through Breast Cancer Treatment, Planting Some New Roots and Blossoming Again* and in her blogs. As a life coach, her core tenet and guiding principle is “coloring” outside of the lines when defining the new “normal”.

Through the lessons she learned from her late mother—Belva B. Brissett—her most inspirational breast cancer role model, she is dedicated to providing hope, inspiration and encouragement to breast cancer patients and survivors. A volunteer with national and local breast cancer advocacy and support organizations, including Friends of Zora Brown, she works to build alliances within the corporate and healthcare community to reduce breast cancer disparities, advance research funding and eradicate breast cancer.

She is the founder and owner of huMAN Expressions™ (helping uplift by Melanie A. Nix), a social stationery and design firm that created the 2009 Mother’s Day card for Susan G. Komen for the Cure® and she wants to give the world a huG as the creator of helping uplift Greetings™, the huMAN huGs™ line of greeting cards for breast cancer patients and survivors. Launched in 2002, years prior to her breast cancer diagnosis, she is a pioneer in this space where there had been limited greeting card options addressing breast cancer. She is also a managing partner in Brothers Doing Something apparel and lifestyle brand.

Melanie holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Virginia and a Master of Business Administration, with a Marketing concentration, from the Robert H. Smith School of Business – University of Maryland, College Park. She has also completed leadership training at the Center for Creative Leadership. Melanie is an Alumni Class Co-Chair at Georgetown Day School. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and The Prince George's County (MD) Chapter, The Links, Incorporated. Melanie resides in the Washington, DC area with her cherished family: husband, Raymond; son, Carter; and daughter, Kennedy.