



NEWS

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13th Annual HALO Kansas City ArtReach Auction Feb. 23
Benefiting At-Risk and Homeless Children
Announcing 2018 Award Winners: Advocates, Volunteer, Artist,
Supporters, and Star of the Year

Kansas City, MO — Kansas City nonprofit [HALO](#) is hosting its 13th Annual ArtReach Auction Event at [The Brass on Baltimore](#) (1228 Baltimore Ave. Kansas City, MO 64105) on Fri., Feb. 23, 2018, from 6:30 p.m. – 11 p.m. Honorary Co-Chairs are Bryan & Jody Albers. The Diamond Sponsor is Mariner Wealth Advisors.

As featured on [CBS Evening News](#), the ArtReach Auction showcases artwork from orphans around the world and nationally recognized artists. A sit down dinner is by Olive Events Catering. Beer is by Stockyard Brewery. Entertainment is by KC Metro's premiere party band Lost Wax. Unique items are available for live and silent auction. Pictures from the 2017 event are available to view on the [HALO Facebook page](#). Individual tickets are \$150. Sponsor opportunities are still available. Levels include: Platinum \$5,000, Gold \$2,500, Table Captain \$1,500 and Table Host \$500. Sponsorship packet details are [here](#).

"HALO provides the foundation of a family for children without one, providing housing, healing and education to 1,400 children all over the world," said HALO Founder and CEO Rebecca Welsh. "In Kansas City, we serve over 700 children. Please join us on Feb. 23 at our most important event of the year, so we can continue to help one more child spend one less day alone."

Proceeds benefit Kansas City children, as well as providing HALO's international programs with support such as clothing, food, shelter, job training, therapeutic art and education.

HALO announces its 2018 Award Winners who will be honored at the event: Nuance and Apex Systems as Advocates; Elise Brummett as Volunteer; Noah Watson as Artist; Marty and Cheryl Bicknell, Keith and Bonnie Connell and Bill and Becky Krueger as Supporters; and HALO child Alesia McFadden as Star. It takes many to make HALO a success; these individuals and companies are recognized for their exceptional involvement and commitment.

"We are excited to recognize our 2018 HALO Award Winners," said Welsh. "They have raised thousands of dollars to support more than 1,400 HALO children in six countries, expanded our HALO mission within the Kansas City community, and given countless hours creating art that has changed lives. I am so proud of our HALO Stars; they have become incredible role models to all HALO children."

All award videos can be seen [here](#). A group photo will be shared after the ArtReach Auction event. Past winners are listed below.

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About the 2018 Award Winners

❖ **Advocates**

Nuance goes above and beyond to be engaged in the HALO mission, providing ongoing strategy and messaging support, helping us to better communicate with supporters and impact more children. Since 2015, some key projects include a new brand book, website, “ChangeThatCounts” and “I Defy the Odds” campaigns, Art Auction invitations and program support, merchandise and brochures.

HALO first partnered with Apex Systems in 2016. This incredible group has provided 3,501 meals for children in need with the HALO ChangeThatCounts initiative, collected emergency supplies and assembled more than 10 PowerPacks for HALO youth, and led the 2016 and 2017 HALO Youth Holiday Party for more than 40 youth each year.

❖ **Volunteer**

Elise Brummett first participated as a child in the HALO Board Breakathon fundraiser, meeting HALO Founder Rebecca Welsh. In 2015, she became an active HALO volunteer as an intern for international programs. She then began working directly with HALO youth within the HALO Kansas City Learning Center, volunteering regularly at Art & Life Skill workshops with teens. She now leads this workshop, consistently making time every Wednesday evening. She exudes compassion while teaching HALO youth valuable life skills. In addition, she volunteers regularly for HALO events, jumping in wherever she is needed. HALO is made possible by incredible volunteers, like Elise.

❖ **Artist**

Noah Watson has been involved in the HALO Kansas City Learning Center for 5 years participating in HALO Art & Special Events. HALO has watched Noah grow from a teen, to a contributing member of our Kansas City community. During his time with HALO, he graduated from JobCorps with a certificate in HVAC and moved into his own apartment where he works full-time as the apartment complex maintenance manager, making a living for himself. His compassion and selflessness continues to be an example for children currently in the HALO Learning Center. He is a talented artist, creating personal and memorable pieces for past HALO events. Noah has a special piece that is featured in the Kansas City ArtReach Auction on February 23.

❖ **Supporters**

Three special couples have shown unwavering support and has served as the foundation of a family for hundreds of HALO children: Marty and Cheryl Bicknell, Keith and Bonnie Connell and Bill and Becky Krueger. In 2017, they launched the first Kansas City HALO Capital Campaign initiative and are committed to be a part of the HALO family for years to come, combating Kansas City youth homelessness.

❖ **Star**

Alesia McFadden has been a part of the HALO Kansas City Learning Center for over 5 years, participating in a variety of programs from acting, sewing, improv, art & events. She is a talented, natural performer, and shares her passion with the HALO family by singing and performing at HALO events. She is currently excelling her way through middle school, singing and dancing with a bright smile on her face at all

times. Alesia is performing an a cappella song of her choice at the Kansas City ArtReach Auction February 23.

2017 winners include:

Advocates – Jeff Albright and Lene Westerman
Volunteers – Janie Schrader and Irina Protopopescu
Artist – Nina Irwin
Supporters – The Farmer Family and Clockwork
Stars – Marjai, Tiana, Tia and Winnie
Hero – HALO COO Nicole Gerken

2016 winners include:

Advocate – Gould Evans
Volunteer – Kaity Woody
Artist – Lacy Voight Gordon
Supporter – MoroccanOil

2015 winners include:

Advocates – Billy and Mara Hodes
Volunteers – Josh and Leena Fry
Artist – Vera VonHoldenberg
Supporters – Jon and Tara Darbyshire of the Archer Foundation
Hero – HALO Founder Rebecca Welsh

ABOUT HALO:

Featured in the MoroccanOil *INSPIRED* film series, “American Spirit” of CBS Evening News, “Heroes Among Us” and “25 Women Changing the World” of PEOPLE magazine, “The Today Show”, and Variety Magazine, HALO helps one more child spend one less day alone. It is the foundation of a family for homeless and at-risk children, providing housing, healing and education to children who need it the most. HALO believes that every child should have the support of a family. Each year, HALO serves over 1,400 children and supports 21 homes and programs around the globe. Internationally, HALO supports orphanages and programs in Uganda, Kenya, Mexico, India, Guatemala and Nicaragua. Domestically, HALO has Learning Centers and housing programs in Kansas City, and Jefferson City, Missouri, and art programming in New York and Portland. Join the HALO tribe at www.haloworldwide.org.

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