



## **Amazing Grace Award 2019 Call for Nominations**

### **About the Amazing Grace Bunke Award**

This award honors Grace Bunke's positive attitude, fearless determination, and infinite spirit. The award will be presented at the Swim Across America - Atlanta open water swim on September 28 as a way of keeping Grace in our hearts as well as a reminder for Why We Swim.

The purpose of the award is to remember that "Hope has no finish line." Grace was loved and admired for her go-getter attitude and display of grit in the face of hardship. Grace represents the passion and commitment that Swim Across America participants and its supporters embrace to swim, to volunteer and to fundraise to the fullest potential and to Make Waves to Fight Cancer. The award honors Grace while simultaneously promoting perseverance and fearless determination, and recognizing an individual who embraces these same qualities of character.

The award was established in 2018 by the members of the SAA - Atlanta Junior Advisory Board as their legacy to SAA - Atlanta and the Aflac Cancer & Blood Disorders Center of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

### **About Grace Bunke**

Grace Bunke battled osteosarcoma, an aggressive form of bone cancer, for nearly four years. While she underwent treatment including a partial leg amputation and two lung operations, she transitioned from running to swimming. Grace never let the cancer stop her. She quickly excelled at swimming making the US Paralympic Team and her varsity high school swim team as a freshman. Before her passing, Grace took to open water swimming and participated in SAA - Atlanta. Grace Bunke passed away on March 25, 2018, the day before her 15th birthday.

## Call for Nominations

This is an open call for nominations. The nominee must meet the requirements listed below.

- A registered 2019 SAA - Atlanta participant (swimmer or volunteer);
- The nominee must have reached Wavemaker status at the time of the nomination (Wavemaker status is an individual who has fundraised a minimum of \$1,000);
- The nominee must exhibit fearless determination, perseverance, and a spirited attitude toward fundraising efforts in support of the beneficiary;
- The nominee must demonstrate leadership, a go-getter attitude, and grit in the face of hardship;
- The nominee must have organized at least one fundraising event or initiative (i.e. bake sale, car wash, pool swim, golf tournament, spirit night, etc.)

The nominator does not need to be registered for the Swim Across America - Atlanta event.

### Important Dates:

- The two-week nomination period begins: Monday, August 5, 2019
- Deadline for nominations: Friday, August 23, 2019 by 11:59pm EST
- Amazing Grace Bunke Award announcement and presentation: Saturday, September 28, 2019 at SAA - Atlanta

### How to Nominate:

Please use this link to complete the nomination form:

<https://forms.gle/EwErt6KjPNjckGgc7>

### 2019 Panel of Judges:

The following judges will determine the final award recipient based on unsighted judging and a comprehensive scoring format.

#### **2019 SAA - Atlanta Junior Advisory Board (JAB)**

Sarah-Grace Thompson, President

Emma Schwartz, Secretary

Abby McCulloh

Kate Pitfield

Abby Pilkenton

LE Crosswell

Abby McKinney

Mary Claire Anderson

Ava Westfall

Parker Solberg

Camille Messonier

Rucker Robinson

Grace Drawdy

Stella Newton

Jaime Matherson

Zoe Mock

Rob Butcher, SAA National Executive Director

Megan Melgaard, SAA National Director of Events

Jessica Cooper, JAB Advisor

Maddie Singletary, JAB Peer Advisor

Questions? Please contact Sarah-Grace Thompson at [sgraceswim@gmail.com](mailto:sgraceswim@gmail.com).