



City of Malibu News

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Malibu Library Speaker Series Presents “My Ascension” Film Screening and Discussion with Boys & Girls Club of Malibu on Youth Mental Health

(Malibu, CA) — September 23, 2024 - The City of Malibu, the Harry Barovsky Memorial Youth Commission, the Boys & Girls Club of Malibu, and LA County Library invite all of Malibu to join a special screening of “My Ascension,” on September 30, 2024, a documentary film that raises awareness on mental health and suicide, while spreading a message of hope and healing.

A question-and-answer session will follow the film screening, in partnership with certified mental health professionals from the Boys & Girls Club of Malibu Wellness Center, which offers free mental health supportive services to the community. An RSVP is not required for this free event, which is recommended for audiences ages 13 years and older.

Mayor Doug Stewart emphasized the importance of this event as a way to engage in discussions on mental health with the young people of our community: “Addressing mental health is essential for a thriving community, especially among our youth. I urge everyone in Malibu to attend this meaningful film and guided discussion. It’s a valuable opportunity to deepen our understanding of mental health challenges and discover ways to support and uplift our young people.”

“My Ascension” is a feature-length documentary that chronicles the inspiring journey of 16-year-old Emma Benoit, a varsity cheerleader who was left paralyzed by a suicide attempt. Her recovery and quest to walk again propelled her on a mission to use her experience to help other young people find hope.

The film also highlights the stories of two remarkable young people who tragically did not survive their suicide attempts, and shares the first-hand stories told by their families and friends, school officials, and suicide prevention experts about the devastating effects of suicide and what can be done to prevent it. For more information about the film, visit: <https://www.myascension.us/>.

The free event will take place on Monday, September 30, 5:00 PM in the Civic Theater at Malibu City Hall (23825 Stuart Ranch Road, Malibu). RSVPs are not required. For more information, visit MalibuCity.org/LibrarySpeakers.

If you or someone you know is suicidal, please call 988, the National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in English and Spanish.

For more information about the free mental health services available to the community through the Boys & Girls Club of Malibu Wellness Center, visit: <https://bgcmalibu.org/wellness-center>.

About the Series

Launched in 2013, the Malibu Library Speaker Series is a program in partnership with the Malibu Library, part of LA County Library, and the City of Malibu. It features experts, authors, and other notable figures discussing a wide range of subjects, including the entertainment industry, literature, science, motivation, the arts, education, sports, travel, food, and the environment.

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