

PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Celebrating the 20th Year of the Lesbians and Friends Dance to Support Breast Cancer Prevention

On Saturday, October 21, 2017, hundreds of women will come together for the 20th annual “Lesbians and Friends Dance: A Party for Prevention” to raise funds and hope for a future free of breast cancer. Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition (MBCC) hosts the event at the Brookline-Boston Holiday Inn at 1200 Beacon Street in Brookline, MA. To kick the event off, Boston’s premier LGBTQA dance instructor, Liz Nania of OUT to Dance, will teach a free dance lesson from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. The always crowd-pleasing DJ Tiana will keep the dance floor buzzing from 8:00 pm till 12:00 am. Event host MBCC offers delicious complimentary hors d’oeuvres and dessert along with a full cash bar. Dancers can take a brief break in the action to bid in the silent auction on loads of one-of-a-kind items, like hand-crafted jewelry, massages, and sports equipment donated from LGBTQ-friendly businesses across New England.

Nania has been a supporter of MBCC and has donated her dance lessons and silent auction items at the Lesbians and Friends Party for Prevention for years. Nania says, “I am thrilled once again to be part of this spectacularly fun dance event to raise funds for one of my favorite organizations, the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition. MBCC is the only group I know of that does the real and hard work of promoting breast cancer prevention and supporting research that investigates the link between breast cancer and the environment. They don’t get the big drug companies to sponsor them; it’s all on the community to support MBCC ourselves.”

Nania teaches merengue dancing at the start of the event to give party-goers a fun way to get out on the floor. “October is a great time of year to get out, meet new friends, and boogie away during the Fall season while supporting a great cause: breast cancer prevention. DJ Tiana plays great danceable tunes from across the decades. Everyone has a great time, and it’s a terrific feeling knowing it helps MBCC do their vital work.”

Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition is the only breast cancer non-profit working closely with research and sister organization, Silent Spring Institute, to investigate preventable, environmental causes of the disease. This work is funded through annual fundraising events like the upcoming 20th annual Lesbians & Friends Dance: A Party for Prevention. Lesbians and women-of-color are at higher risk for breast cancer than other women according to the American Cancer Association. In Massachusetts, breast cancer rates are over 5% higher than the national average, which estimates that ONE in EIGHT women will develop breast cancer in her lifetime. However, the most commonly cited risk factors - genetic inheritance and lifestyle factors - are present in only 20-30% of

breast cancer cases. This leaves 70-80% of cases unexplained.

Since 1992, we have been honored to work with the LGBTQA community towards MBCC's goal of breast cancer prevention. This year, MBCC will honor all 2017 event sponsors. If you would like more information about sponsoring the event, please contact cosimo@mbcc.org.

Members of the LGBTQA community and allies are invited to purchase tickets in advance for \$45 online at www.mbcc.org or by calling 617-376-MBCC (6222). Tickets are also available at the door on the evening of the dance for \$50.

For more information about the event or to learn about environmental links to breast cancer, visit www.mbcc.org, find MBCC on [Facebook](#), or follow us on Twitter [@mbccprevention](#).