

- BOCA BOWL CHEFS TAILGATE RETURNS (8)
- JFS HIRES PSYCHIATRIST FOR SENIORS (17)
- GRAND OPENING: REX BARON (30)
- MORE TENANTS SIGN ON FOR UPTOWN BOCA (36)

Ingrid Robison—mother on a mission—curates art show to benefit charities

By: Marisa Herman Associate Editor

When Ingrid Robison moved to West Delray Beach nearly two years ago, she had lost everything—her California home, her only child, a daughter Michelle, and her money.

She said she felt lost.

Then, she found herself in the Kings Point art room and she began to paint. It was a new hobby and she picked it up quickly.

"I was painting and painting and painting," she said.

She paints big and she paints fast. Her water soluble oils are large and many of them tell stories. Some are snapshots of life and others she calls whimsical.

As she painted, she said she struggled to find an audience. So, she created her own.

She did so by forming Artists & Charities | Hand in Hand, which is a third party fundraiser for three nonprofits, Armory Art Center, Dreyfoos School of the Arts Foundation and Peggy Adams Rescue League.

So far, she has coordinated two shows with the biggest undertaking scheduled for Nov. 2-3 at the Palm Beach County Convention Center.

The Artists & Charities | Hand in Hand Fine Art Show will feature 100 artists from across the country. The event is free to attend with a suggested \$10 entry, which is a donation to the nonprofits the group supports. All participating artists have agreed to donate 20 percent of their sales to the three nonprofits that Artists & Charities supports.

She has done it all because she says she is a mother on a mission. Her mission is to leave a legacy in honor of her daughter, Michelle.

"It's beyond my grief," she said. "It's creating a legacy."

Her goal for the show is to have the community come together.

"It's not just a gala or a 5-mile jog," she said. "This is a great way for people to talk without saying anything."

That is what art is about, having a conversation without the need for words, she said.

Putting together an art show isn't her first mission. She was a mother on a mission when she made it her mission to take down a fraudster who bilked money from her. Robison wanted to build a mixed-use

project in Northern California called Michelle's Diamond and the project looked like it would happen when a private investment firm, Remington Financial Group (or

Remington Capital), agreed to fund the entire project.

But that didn't happen. The firm was running an Advanced Fee Scam and Robison along with thousands of others were scammed by the company and lost millions of dollars.

So, Robison made it her mission to take the company and the people involved down. Her story was featured on an episode of American Greed. The founder of the company Andrew Bogdanoff pled guilty to a number of charges in a scheme that involved over 1,900 victims and \$26 million. He was sentenced to about 18 years in federal prison back in 2014.

Robison lost her California home due to a different type of fraud where third parties take over titles to home and force the tenants out. She had five days to move out of the home she had resided in for nearly 40 years. She donated her possessions to victims of California fires, packed up her two dogs, Ace and Clint, along with one painting of her daughter and wound up in South Florida.



Pictured is a painting of artist Ingrid Robison's daughter, Michelle. Robison said she began painting as a way to cope with loss. She is planning an art show at the Palm Beach County Convention Center Nov. 2-3 to benefit local charities.

She said finding painting is what has allowed her to continue her daughter's legacy.

At the event, Manuel Oliver, father of Parkland student Joaquin Oliver, will be on hand to do a live demonstration of his passionate painting, and Miami artist, Romero Britto, is scheduled to make an appearance over the weekend.

For more information, visit <https://artistsandcharities.com>. ■