



SARCOMA FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

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MARISA PETRORO NAMED 2009 SPOKESPERSON FOR THE SARCOMA FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

January 20, 2008 – Los Angeles, Calif. – Currently, there are about 50,000 people living with sarcoma. Roughly half of who are children. Assisting these patients in their battle is the Sarcoma Foundation of America (SFA), an organization dedicated to increasing sarcoma related research in the hope of finding new and better therapies. In an effort to raise awareness, the SFA today announced that Marisa Petroro will be their 2009 spokesperson to shed needed light on their committed cause.

“Many don’t realize that sarcoma is a rare cancer in adults. It’s about one percent of all adult cancers. But in children it’s much more prevalent. Sarcoma accounts for almost 15 to 20 percent of all childhood cancers,” said Matt Alsante, Executive Director for SFA. “We think Marisa is best suited to be the face and voice of our organization and we’re privileged to lengthen her role into 2009.”

Petroro, an actor, blooming philanthropist and sarcoma survivor accepted a second year as the SFA spokesperson. Coming off a solid year, she’ll continue to participate in a variety of programs and events to help SFA fulfill its mission.

“Like many non-profits out there, our big goal is to raise money this year. It takes hundreds of thousands of dollars to privately fund grants for research,” said Petroro, 2009 spokesperson for SFA. “10,000 to 12,000 patients are diagnosed every year. And we believe they are greatly underserved. More attention and support must be brought to those fighting this battle.”

For more information or to make a donation, please go to Curesarcoma.org.

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About Marisa Petroro:

Marisa Petroro is an American film and television actor, model and philanthropist from Elizabeth, New Jersey. Her flourishing career includes notable film credits like *Roadside Attractions' Everybody Wants to*

be Italian and Comedy Central's *Reno 911!: Miami*. Recently on the small screen, she played opposite Eva Longoria in ABC's *Desperate Housewives* and returned for season four as briefcase model #18 on NBC's hit game show *Deal or No Deal*. Marisa is also known as the proud 2009 spokesperson for the Sarcoma Foundation of America and a 17-year survivor of Rhabdomyosarcoma.

For more information, go to MarisaPetroro.com.

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Quick Facts About Sarcoma

Sarcoma is a rare cancer in adults (1 percent of all adult cancers) but rather prevalent in children (about 20 percent of all childhood cancers). At any one time, 50,000 patients and their families are struggling with sarcoma. Every year, about 10,000 new cases are diagnosed, and about 5,000 people die from sarcoma.

About the Sarcoma Foundation of America

The Sarcoma Foundation of America (SFA), a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit charitable organization, is an advocate for increased research to find new and better therapies with which to treat patients with sarcoma. SFA raises its own funds to provide research grants to sarcoma researchers. SFA also interacts with public, private for-profit, and private non-profit organizations to raise awareness of the treatment needs of sarcoma patients. For more information, please visit www.curesarcoma.org.