## Columbus High School students stage video game tournament to raise money for Lung Cancer Foundation of America

Super Smash Bros tournament raises funds to honor young man's grandmother

Thursday, May 18, 2017 — A young man who lost his grandmother to lung cancer and his gamer friend, both juniors at Miami's Christopher Columbus High School, are hosting a Super Smash Bros tournament at the school this weekend to raise money for lung cancer research.

John Suarez and Jonathan Manrique are organizing the tournament fundraiser as part of their school community service project. It's a competitive tournament featuring the wildly popular Super Smash Bros video game. Multiple game stations will be set up around the Columbus High School cafeteria so gamers can challenge each other in matches for a \$10 entry fee per team or individual.

What: Super Smash Bros fundraising tournament for Lung Cancer Foundation of America

Where: 3000 SW 87th Avenue Miami, FL 33165

When: Saturday, May 20

Doors open at 11:30

Doubles: 12:30 pm

Singles 2:00 pm

Proceeds from the tournament, and from the sales of donated soda and water from Winn-Dixie, and hot dogs donated by local favorite Arbetter's Hot Dogs, will go toward funding lung cancer research through the LCFA. Donations toward the young mens' goal of \$4,000 can also be made directly to LCFA through the this link.



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"We are so grateful and impressed with these young men," said LCFA Executive Director Jim Baranski. "They recognize the need for additional funding for lung cancer research, which kills more people than breast, prostate, and colon cancer, combined, and yet is one of the least funded in terms of research dollars."

John lost his grandmother, Celina Suarez, to lung cancer in the summer of 2016. She was a teacher and Cuban immigrant who worked as a schoolteacher. Celina was diagnosed when a persistent cough finally forced her to go to the hospital. The diagnosis of lung cancer was a shock, as she was a non-smoker.

Icfamerica.myetap.org/fundraiser/SuperSmashBros

## **ABOUT LUNG CANCER FOUNDATION OF AMERICA**

LCFA's mission is the dramatic improvement in survivorship of lung cancer patients through the funding of transformative science, with the ultimate goal of curing the disease. To accomplish this, LCFA will work to raise both the funds and the national profile of lung cancer in order to substantially increase support of innovative and groundbreaking research efforts.

The Lung Cancer Foundation of America's Speakers Bureau is a group of survivors and those whose lives have been affected by lung cancer. Their mission is to spread awareness, information and hope in the fight against the leading cause of cancer death. Bureau speakers are available for interviews with the media.

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