

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 15, 2010**

### **PRE-TEEN SWIMS SAN FRANCISCO BAY TO RAISE MONEY FOR CANCER PATIENTS**

*Colorado 6<sup>th</sup> Grader Shewli Ghosh to complete second swim from world-famous Alcatraz Island to the shores of San Francisco, California.*

Ms. Ghosh first swam over a mile in the blustery waters of San Francisco Bay a year ago. The personal challenge of completing the notorious Alcatraz swim was coupled with her goal of raising awareness of breast cancer.

On September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010, Ms. Ghosh will return to Alcatraz and complete her second swim. Ms. Ghosh will raise funds for therapeutic aids called *My Angels* to present to cancer patients.

*My Angels* are palm-sized soft-foam angel figurines that were designed and created by Ms. Ghosh's mother, Shohini Ghosh. *My Angels* are blank slates for patients to decorate and keep for support and hope as they cope with chronic, terminal illness. Family and friends are encouraged to add messages of encouragement. The figurine truly becomes a support mechanism for the patient, silently sharing moments of joy, sadness, victory and defeat.

Money raised will be used to create *My Angels* in soft foam. Medical staff have provided DonnaBellas Angels with feedback that the soft foam will be helpful for patients to squeeze and hold during the numerous blood draws, as well as, physical therapy, e.g. to reduce swelling in the arm following removal of lymph nodes.

*My Angels* have been donated to hospitals around the United States and have been gifted individually to dozens of patients. *My Angels* have been very well received and there is an ongoing need for greater production. The American Cancer Society, Inc., Surveillance and Health Policy Research Department estimates that over 1.5 million new cancer cases will be diagnosed in 2010. Ms. Ghosh would like to reach out to each of these people as part of her personal mission to help those undergoing treatment.

Ms. Ghosh is raising money to fund *My Angels* in a collaboration with DonnaBellas Angels, a 501(C)3 nonprofit organization. All donations are tax deductible and 100% of funds received on Ms. Ghosh's behalf will be used to provide therapeutic *My Angels* figurines to chronic, terminally ill patients as a symbol of hope, faith and silent support.

#### **About the Swim:**

The South End Rowing Club's 15th Annual Alcatraz Invitational Swim on Saturday 8:30 AM, September 18, 2010. This is a 1.25 mile open water swim from Alcatraz Island back to the South End Rowing Clubhouse at the foot of the Hyde St. Pier in San Francisco. For more information visit:

<http://www.south-end.org/invitational/>

#### **About Shewli Ghosh:**

For more information about Ms. Ghosh and the *My Angels*, please visit: <http://shewli.blogspot.com/> and [www.myangelstory.org](http://www.myangelstory.org)

#### **About DonnaBellas Angels:**

DonnaBellas Angels is a 501(C)3 nonprofit organization which provides inspirational healing art to those coping with a chronic or terminal illness. To donate, please visit

<http://www.donnabellasangels.org/donate/myangel.html>