



## PFW Helped Grad Student Stacy Abraham Overcome Cancer, Find New Focus

Stacy Abraham lives up to her name. Though she goes by Stacy, her real first name is Anastasia, which means “resurrection.”

“So, I carry my name very proudly, and it’s been my mantle for my life,” the Purdue University Fort Wayne graduate student from Ghana said. “No matter how many times life knocks me down, I would always get back up, always resurrect.”

Abraham arrived at PFW 2023 to pursue her master’s degree in professional communication studies. A month after classes started, she was diagnosed with breast cancer. The devastating news was delivered to her over the phone one morning while she was on campus.

"Ma'am, I'm sorry to see that you have Stage 2 breast cancer," the caller said.

Except for sharing her emotions with immediate family in Ghana and Tracy Peterson, a "wonderful" friend who drove Abraham to her initial doctor appointments, Abraham initially kept everything private out of fear. Would the school take away her assistantship, requiring her to go home? After all, the doctor already told her to pause her studies because fighting cancer would require everything she had. If she stopped now, would she ever be allowed to return?

READ MORE

Share the story:



## NBA Trailblazer Joins PFW Omnibus Series Thursday Night

Atlanta Hawks executive and professional sports trailblazer Melissa Proctor is the next featured guest of the Purdue University Fort Wayne **Omnibus Speaker Series**. She will step onto the Auer Performance Hall stage Thursday at 7:30 p.m. to present "From Ball Girl to CMO," the title of her 2020 biography.

General admission tickets are free and available on a first-come, first-served basis through PFW's **online ticketing platform** or the **Schatzlein Box Office**.

# Eventful

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*There's always plenty to do at Purdue Fort Wayne. To find your favorites—or discover new activities—check the full [events calendar](#) often to see what's happening on campus.*

FEBRUARY

12

Thurs., 5:30–7 p.m.

## Explore the Rhythm of the Balkans: Kud Zlatnik

Enjoy Bosnian folk dances, singing, and Bosnian food. Learn the kolo dance and explore the Bosnian culture...

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FEBRUARY

14

Sat., 2:30–4:30 p.m.

## Music Therapy Client Recital

Share the joy of music with practicing music therapists who will assist their client performers in demonstrating skills they developed through participation in music therapy services...

## On the Job

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*Check out the new faces in new places.*

### New Hires

- Nathan Gulley, assistant director for online content | Office of Strategic Communications
- Jaazib Mallhi, police officer | University Police Department
- Marie Masengu, custodian | Building Services
- Brenda Solares, custodian | Building Services

## In a Snap

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*Seen and noted around campus. Monitor our university social feeds for more great moments of Mastodon life.*



For Mastodons navigating their way to campus this winter, by any means necessary, fortune favors the bold.

News Center



Inside PFW Archive



Athletics



Ripples



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