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Groundbreaking Museum Visit for Regional Hospice Patient

(DANBURY, CT) Regional Hospice and Palliative Care, in partnership with [OATS](#) (Older Adults Technology Services) and Finale Consulting, enabled [Nancy Stevenson](#) to experience the first-ever robotic tour of the [Whitney Museum of American Art](#) in New York City – all from the comfort of her hospice bed. Nancy is an artist and illustrator who had lived in the city before her progressing cancer led her to choose hospice care from the [Center for Comfort Care & Healing](#).

When Stevenson, who has been sharing her hospice experience on her blog [hopeandcourage.com](#), expressed her desire to view the [Human Interest: Portraits from the Whitney's Collection](#), Regional Hospice worked to make her wish a reality. The Whitney, whose mission is to feature American artists through an eclectic array of collections, graciously accommodated the request on a day when the museum was closed to the public.

In anticipation of the event, Nancy emailed Regional Hospice staff to express her gratitude. “I’m looking forward to my personal tour of the Whitney Portrait Show – very exciting! It’s a miracle you could set this up and I feel I’ve won a Make a Wish moment.”

The opportunity was so meaningful to Stevenson because, as she wrote, “I have always been a figurative painter. I did my undergraduate work at Syracuse University with one of the world’s most foremost figurative portrait painters, Jerome Witkin. And, I also studied with masters at The Art Student’s League in NYC.”

The first-of-its-kind tour of the Whitney utilized a telepresence robot connected to software on Nancy’s laptop which allowed her to virtually explore the museum. An educator from the museum was on hand for questions, allowing Stevenson to be fully immersed in the experience.

“This is an amazing opportunity and we are very grateful to the Whitney Museum and all of the members of the OATS team and Finale Consulting who made this wonderful event possible for Nancy. She is a special person whose love of creating and sharing artwork has truly brightened our Center,” expressed [Cynthia Emiry Roy](#), President & CEO for Regional Hospice.

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Regional Hospice and Palliative Care's team of experienced clinicians have been providing physical, emotional, spiritual and bereavement support to children, adults and their families through our palliative and hospice care program for more than 30 years. Regional Hospice is a nonprofit, state-licensed and Medicare-certified hospice agency. Now, with the opening of our private-room, specialty hospital for palliative and end-of-life care — the Center for Comfort Care & Healing — Regional Hospice and Palliative Care can bring that same hope and compassionate care close to home and under one roof. For more information, visit www.RegionalHospiceCT.org. Follow us on twitter: @RegionalHospice. Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/RegionalHospiceandHomeCare.

About Older Adults Technology Services (OATS)

Older Adults Technology Services (OATS) harnesses the power of technology to change the way we age. OATS is a social impact organization that builds sustainable new systems to change the way we age. We are design thinkers, constantly testing new ideas and looking for leverage points where our work can help seniors use technology to improve their health, finances, social engagement, learning and creative expression. We partner with government agencies, community-based organizations, national advocacy groups, and major corporations to engineer solutions that put technology in the hands of older adults to achieve meaningful outcomes. For more information, visit: oats.org

About Finale

Finale is a consultancy dedicated to creating a more personal end-of-life experience for our clients. We all face dying in our own unique way, yet often our preferences go unasked or unheeded by those in charge of our care. Finale helps people create a plan for dying that aligns with their style of living. By focusing on what's important and taking care of key legal and logistical tasks, Finale helps people feel a sense of deliverance during their last days, secure in the knowledge that their practical and emotional needs have been met.