

## New Documentary "Robin's Wish" Reveals Robin Williams' Battle with Deadly Brain Disease

American Brain Foundation to host event Sept. 1st with Susan Schneider Williams and director Tylor Norwood to discuss actor's struggle with Lewy body dementia

MINNEAPOLIS, MN, UNITED STATES, August 30, 2020 /EINPresswire.com/ -- American Brain Foundation to host special live event Sept. 1st with ABF Vice Chair Susan Schneider Williams and director Tylor Norwood to discuss the making of the film, Robin's struggle with Lewy body dementia, and the legacy the iconic actor left behind. This

Robin's Wish
A behind-the-scenes look at Robin Williams' battle with a deadly brain disease

-special guestsSusan Schneider Williams
Tylor Norwood

Join us LIVE
- September 1st at 8pm ET 
AMERICAN BRAIN FOUNDATION

Special evening of intimate conversation to be held on Sept. 1st to coincide with film's release date

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Susan Schneider Williams

American Brain Foundation: Minneapolis — The late Robin Williams didn't know he was fighting a battle with an unbeatable foe: a deadly brain disease called Lewy body dementia (LBD). Now, for the first time since his tragic death in 2014, his widow Susan Schneider Williams along with many of those closest to him have come together to share his story in a new documentary titled "Robin's Wish." Directed by Tylor Norwood, the film, which will be released on Tuesday, September 1 by Vertical Entertainment, sheds

light on the final days of one of the greatest entertainers of all time and his battle with LBD.

In honor of the release of "Robin's Wish," the American Brain Foundation is hosting a live behind-the-scenes conversation with Schneider Williams and Norwood on the making of the film. A special and intimate event, attendees will get a rare look into the life and legacy of Robin Williams. Taking place on the night of the film release Sept. 1, 2020, at 8 p.m. ET, the event will be

moderated by David Dodick, MD, FAAN, chair of the American Brain Foundation and professor of neurology at the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. The webinar is free to attend and open to the first 5000 virtual attendees. Register to attend at <a href="https://www.americanbrainfoundation.org/robins-wish">www.americanbrainfoundation.org/robins-wish</a>.

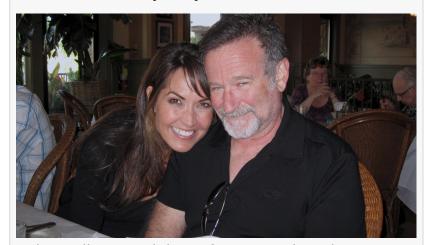
The event will provide a behind-thescenes look at Williams' struggle with LBD, the second most common form of dementia. LBD causes a progressive decline in mental abilities, with symptoms ranging from visual hallucinations to Parkinson's diseaselike symptoms, devastating patients and caregivers.

"In the end, it was a little known disease in his beautifully gifted brain that became his greatest and final battle," says Schneider Williams.

"Robin's Wish' is a moment for us to understand the pain he felt as his talents and faculties rapidly slipped



The late Robin Williams suffered from a rare brain disease called Lewy body dementia



Robin Williams with his wife Susan Schneider Williams

away, and moreover, how in the face of that terrifying reality, he was more heroic, more compassionate than any character he ever played in any of his movies," says director Tylor Norwood.

The film includes Schneider Williams' perspective and her journey from her husband's passing to the coroner's report, which, for the first time, revealed the presence of LBD. Knowing that a diagnosis would have made all of the difference to her family, Schneider Williams has dedicated her life to raising awareness about this fatal disease.

"Armed with the name of a brain disease I'd never heard of, I set out on a mission to understand it, and that led me down my unchosen path of advocacy," said Schneider Williams.

Today, Schneider Williams is the vice chair of the American Brain Foundation board where she helped create the <u>Lewy Body Dementia Fund</u>. This American Brain Foundation fund supports a major scientific investigation to find a biomarker for LBD, innovative research projects by early-career scientific investigators, and programs for patients and caregivers coping with the disease.

To date, the fund has raised more than \$3.25 million.

"I hope this film rights a wrong that was done to him, and takes away a cloud that has unjustly hung over his legacy for far too long," says Norwood.

The film will be available on September 1st on Apple TV.

"We had been discussing what we wanted our legacies to be in life; when it was our time to go, how we wanted to have made people feel," says Schneider Williams. "Without missing a beat, Robin said, 'I want to help people be less afraid.' That was Robin's wish."

To support the Lewy Body Dementia Fund of the American Brain Foundation, please consider making a secure donation on the American Brain Foundation website.

## About the American Brain Foundation

Since 1992, the American Brain Foundation has been investing in research to end brain diseases and disorders. We are a national foundation for the brain in relentless pursuit of causes, improved treatments, and cures. We unite donors and researchers to impact the lives of patients and those around them. We invest in research across all brain and all nervous system disorders knowing they are interconnected. This holistic, innovative approach allows us to build bridges between diseases and break new ground in research and application. Believing in a whole-brain approach gives us an edge in understanding and combating brain disease. We understand that when we cure one of them, we will cure many. Join us in the fight against brain disease at <a href="https://www.americanbrainfoundation.org/">https://www.americanbrainfoundation.org/</a>.

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