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[Photos and videos are available on request.]



Stories of Obstacles, Survival, and Empowerment

Better Said Than Done Gives Voice to the Challenges of Women

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - - **Better Said Than Done** is hosting a storytelling show, "**Roar: True Tales of Women Warriors**" to benefit the **National Network to End Domestic Violence**. This show features true, first-hand stories about the challenges that women encounter in their lives, personally and professionally. "**Roar: True Tales of Women Warriors**" will be performed at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave East, Vienna, Virginia 22030, at 7:30 PM, on Sunday, April 30, 2017. Doors open at 6:30 PM. Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased in advance at <http://jamminjava.com/calendar> or at the door. All proceeds from tickets sales benefit the **National Network to End Domestic Violence**. Full bar and dinner menus are available at Jammin' Java and seating is limited to first come, first served. (The stories are intended for an adult audience. Some of the stories in this show include portrayals of sex, abuse, and traumatic events.)

"**Roar: True Tales of Women Warriors**" will feature stories about the challenges of womanhood, including family, work, school, relationships, sex, motherhood, and more. Storytellers will include [listed in alphabetical order]: **Stacy Crickmer**, Chantilly, Virginia; **Sharon Few**, Springfield, Virginia; **Sandra Hull**, Arlington, Virginia; **Jessica Robinson**, Fairfax, Virginia; **Ellouise Schoettler**, Chevy Chase, Maryland; **Kathy Stershic**, Alexandria, Virginia; **Allison Stevens**, Falls Church, Virginia; **Anne B. Thomas**, Washington DC; and **Brandy Walker**, Gaithersburg, Maryland.

In addition to the show, **Better Said Than Done** is publishing an anthology of stories by the same name, *Roar: True Tales of Women Warriors*. The book will be available for purchase at the show, "**Roar: True Tales of Women Warriors**," on April 30, and on Amazon.com, in print and Kindle versions.

"I found myself becoming frustrated last year by what seemed to be an escalation of misogyny and anti-feminist rhetoric," said **Jessica Robinson**, founder of **Better Said Than Done**. "As a woman, I have faced sexual assault, discrimination, and various degrees of mistreatment ranging from being treated like a girl to being treated like an object. It's 2017; women deserve respect and equality.

"I launched 'Roar,' the show and the book, because I know I'm not the only woman with a story to share and because I know the power of storytelling; by hearing a personal story, we learn from that person's experience, empathize with that person, and, often, change our own thoughts after sharing in their experience."

The goal of both the show and published anthology is to empower women to share stories of obstacles they have overcome, to inspire those who may share in similar struggles, and to help others understand the obstacles women still face, even in 2017.

Kathy Stershic, one of the storytellers performing on April 30, explained, "I want to share this story because there are times in life that can just seem so defeating and overwhelming and you don't know quite what to do, but they must be overcome. I can now look back and smile at what felt completely defeating to me at the time. If my story can help others get through their own tough times, then there will be value in the lesson for me and for them."

"This story is cathartic for me; others might also find some awareness and resolution," added storyteller **Sharon Few**. "Although the story could have been tragic, I realize through laughter and love, we are able to forgive."

Proceeds from both the show and book will benefit the **National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV)**. "At the center of our work are survivors' experiences and stories," said **Kim Gandy**, NNEDV President and CEO. "We are thrilled to partner with **Better Said Than Done** to lift up women's voices and stories of empowerment. We urge every person to speak out for survivors and build stronger communities together."

Purchasing tickets in advance at <http://jamminjava.com/calendar> is recommended as the show is expected to sell out.

The **National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV)** is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that serves as the leading national voice for domestic violence victims and their allies. NNEDV's membership includes all 56 state and territorial coalitions against domestic violence, including over 2,000 local programs. NNEDV has been advancing the movement against domestic violence over 25 years, having led efforts among domestic violence advocates and survivors in urging Congress to pass the landmark Violence Against Women Act of 1994. To learn more about NNEDV, please visit NNEDV.org.

Better Said Than Done defines storytelling as the art of performing a true, personal story in front of a live audience. Our stories are personal. Each storyteller writes about his or her own true experiences. And they are a *story*, meaning they have a beginning, middle, and end. Most importantly, storytelling is a performance, an art, a form of entertainment, and, from our mouths, a reality the audience will not forget. Better Said Than Done, Inc., was launched in May 2011, by Jessica Robinson, to bring the art of storytelling to Northern Virginia. For more information on upcoming shows, performers, or workshops, please visit bettersaidthandone.com.

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