

# What others have to say about Meghan Rothschild....

---

*"The program definitely affected me. As an avid tanner of two years, I had no intention of letting a program affect me. But it did just that-- Meghan's story literally made me sick to my stomach because of the realization that tanning can kill anyone. Cancer has no standards of who can and can't get sick. After attending the program I never want to get in to another tanning bed."* -**Jillian Saley, Freshman, Western New England College**

*"Your presentation was very timely, extremely informative, deeply personal and thought provoking; most importantly, I believe that it may cause some people to change their behavior. I think that many people assume that skin cancer is just a lesion that is removed from their skin easily--they do not understand that it might require major surgery, especially in a young adult. What you endured after your diagnosis hopefully will help them understand the consequences of tanning. It was a distinct pleasure to meet you, Meghan, and I look forward to working again with you in the near future."* -**Mary Kay Connell, R.N.P. Director University Health Services, Salve Regina University**

*"With her warmth, youth, and extensive knowledge about melanoma, Meghan connected easily and well with our sophomore girls. Relating her personal experiences, she was an effective educator who helped our girls resist the social pressures to use indoor tanning methods."* -**Dr. Cheryl Jenkins, Director of Counseling & Health Education, St. George's School**

The week of February 23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> marked Northeastern University's skin cancer awareness and prevention week. Sponsored by the on-campus group Colleges Against Cancer and the American Cancer Society, students were educated on the prevalence of skin cancer in our society and the unhealthy behavioral choices associated with an increased risk of skin cancer. The educational program consisted of on-campus informational events, a night lecture, and a free skin analysis for all students provided by the American Cancer Society. Amongst all of the planned events, none was as successful or as well- received as the presentation given by Meghan Rothschild, a young melanoma survivor on the night of February 25<sup>th</sup>.

Over 100 students attended the presentation to hear Meghan's story. Upon hearing about the planned event, students were instantly intrigued. Meghan was only 20 years old when she was first diagnosed with melanoma. The fact that she could get cancer at such a young age simply shattered the student's perceived invincibility. One female student said "The sheer fact that she was so young and so much like me is what drew me to the event".

Meghan's presentation was personal and extremely educational. She utilized both anecdotal evidence as well as scientific research to discuss her experience with skin cancer. The student's were greatly impacted by her candor and sincerity. Meghan was willing to share pictures of her body throughout her intensive treatment. By sharing her battle wounds so bravely, Meghan helped to prevent others from going through the same experience.

The evening had a great impact on the student audience. The presentation was described as "incredibly moving" and "truly inspirational". Students accustomed to regular tanning sessions reported that they would reduce their number of visits to the tanning salon. Over half of the student audience (54%) agreed that they would not attempt to achieve a tan this season after listening to Meghan's lecture and 98% of the students in audience reported that they would begin to wear sunscreen consistently. -**Meghan Eaton, Northeastern University**

Meghan is a compelling speaker. Her presentation style is professional and authentic. She is very poised and knowledgeable and holds the audience's attention. This was demonstrated most recently at our Teens on Tanning Forum where she shared her experience as a melanoma survivor. Her presentations to our audiences of students are always extremely well received and she clearly has an impact on the lives of others. -**Amy Mason, Melanoma Foundation of New England**



SurvivingSkin.org