



# Sophie Gamand

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“THE PORTRAITS CELEBRATE THESE DOGS’ INHERENT PERSONALITY, VULNERABILITY, AND INDIVIDUALITY AND HAVE NOT ONLY LED TO HUNDREDS OF DOGS FINDING LOVING, FOREVER HOMES, BUT HAVE SPURRED EFFORTS TO DESTIGMATIZE AN ANIMAL WHOSE REPUTATION FOR VIOLENCE SAYS MORE ABOUT US THAN THE CHARACTERS OF THE DOGS THEMSELVES.”





# Sophie Gamand

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“FOR DECADES, PIT BULLS HAVE BEEN DEMONIZED BY SOCIETY AND PORTRAYED AS HELLHOUNDS. THEY’VE BECOME THE MOST FEARED, HATED, AND ABUSED OF ALL COMPANION ANIMALS. SOME CITIES AND EVEN ENTIRE COUNTRIES BAN THEM, WHILE THE MEDIA PERSIST IN ASSOCIATING THEM WITH VICIOUSNESS.”













# DEAN RUSSO ART

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"PIT BULLS ARE ONE OF THE SUBJECTS I'VE FOCUSED MY WORK FOR YEARS, AS THEY ARE OFTEN AS MISUNDERSTOOD AS THE CITY I CALL HOME. IN MY PORTRAITS, MY GOAL IS TO EXPOSE THE JOY AND VIBRANCY IN MY SUBJECTS, JUST AS STREET ART BRINGS LIFE TO COLD WALLS THAT SURROUND US."







# DEAN RUSSO ART

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“ART THAT EMBRACES CHANGE MOVES ME,  
IT MOTIVATES ME TO CREATE. THROUGH  
MY WORK, I HOPE TO CONVEY THE CARE  
AND DEVOTION OF ANIMAL-LOVERS.”





JONNY  
**JUSTICE**



J.J. is a survivor of Vick's Bad Newz Kennels

**Fighting to be Understood**

# Christine J. Head

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CHRISTINE DID "HANDS-ON" RESCUE WORK, HOUSING SEVERAL FOSTER DOGS AND GOING THROUGH THE PAINSTAKING PROCESS OF FINDING THE RIGHT PERMANENT HOME FOR EACH OF THESE DOGS WHO ALREADY FOUND A PERMANENT PLACE IN HER HEART.



# GRACE

The capacity to tolerate, accommodate, forgive



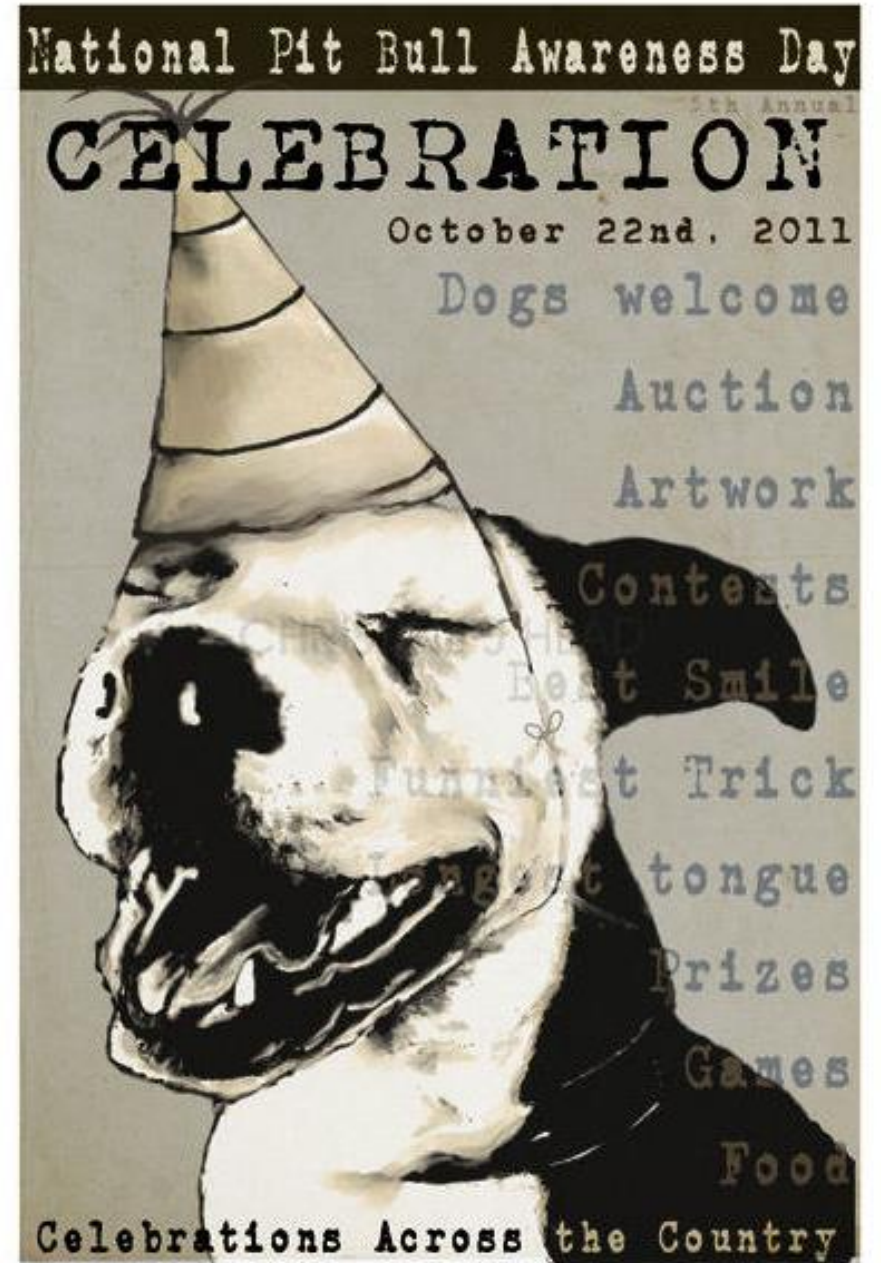
Grace is a survivor of Vick's Bad Newz Kennels

**Sometimes it Wiggles and Snores**

# Christine J. Head

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EVENTUALLY, HER INTERESTS IN THE CREATIVE ARTS AND CANINE NEEDS COMBINED AND SHE DISCOVERED THE BEST WAY TO APPLY HER TALENTS TO RAISE MONEY AND AWARENESS FOR ANIMAL RESCUE.





PINKY



BY  
BADRAP

SAVED

BY  
CUPCAKES

CHRISTINE'S HEAD

# Levity Tomkinson

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Levity Tomkinson is a Kentucky artist who has tackled a serious project — painting all 51 of the dogs seized from Michael Vick's dogfighting operation in 2007.







# Levity Tomkinson

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"I paint for the dogs ... that didn't win in a fight they never wanted anyway, dying from injuries with punctured skin and a mauled lip and face that became raw meat. I paint for the dogs ... with that were forced into a rape stall to unwillingly bring more dogs into the world of dog fighting. I paint for any dog who has been, is, or will be a part of this heinous world. The resiliency of the 51 is my courage, my push, my determination, and my love for this project."







*I chose to feature the artists who show the true side of one of the most discriminated against breeds of dogs, the pit bull. Each of these artists captures these bully blockheads, and their loving, clown-like and endearing personalities. The artists have softened the perception of these dogs through their work. It is my belief their paintings have made a better world for my favorite 4-legged friend.*