



Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bridge II Sports Founder and CEO Ashley Thomas to be inducted into the NC Women Business Owners Hall of Fame

What: Launched in 2018, the North Carolina Women Business Owners Hall of Fame honors North Carolina's most successful female entrepreneurs and advocates who have made significant and enduring contributions to impact women's entrepreneurial development in the state.

Joining the 2019 Class of inductees is Ashley Thomas, Founder and CEO of the non-profit Bridge II Sports creating opportunities for people with physical disabilities through the power of adapted sports.

As a person that uses a wheelchair, Ms. Thomas knows the barriers, both societal and personal, that people with physical disabilities face and has made it her mission to 'find the YES' and advocate using sport as a tool of empowerment.

Bridge II Sports has grown from an idea around her kitchen table 12 years ago to a leader in the adapted sports movement in North Carolina today. Through large events like Valor Games Southeast and August Madness to year-round sport programming to school-based adapted sports initiatives Bridge II Sports is breaking barriers and changing the way the community sees disability. Through the hard work and persistence of Ms. Thomas Bridge II Sports has woven its self into the fabric of the Triangle making strong connections with universities, corporations and community organizations.

The 2019 Inductee Class will be honored at the NC Women Business Owners Hall of Fame Awards Gala in Charlotte on the evening of May 7.

MEDIA COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS

Media interested in covering the event contact Bridge II Sports' Marketing Manager, Brad Rosell, at bradr@bridge2sports.org or by phone at (866) 880-2742 ext. 3. Media required to review and sign [BIIS Media Policy](#).

Where: Crowne Plaza Charlotte Executive Park Hotel
5700 Westpark Drive
Charlotte, NC 28217

When: May 7, 2019
6:30pm – 9:30pm

Bridge II Sports is a North Carolina non-profit organization dedicated to developing and implementing opportunities for youth and adults with physical disabilities to realize their potential through sports participation. Through adapted sports programming, special events, awareness initiatives and team development, Bridge II Sports aims to empower persons with physical disabilities to "Find the Player Within" and change community perceptions of disabilities. Bridge II Sports provides year-round programming in 11 different adapted sports, the #EVERYBODYPLAYSNC disability awareness in schools initiative and several adapted sports events including Valor Games Southeast for Veterans and members of the armed services with disabilities and regional wheelchair basketball tournaments.