



**Depression and Bipolar
Support Alliance**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DBSA Honors Linea Johnson and Everett Page with 2013 Life Unlimited Awards

(CHICAGO, May 24, 2013)—DBSA is proud to honor Linea Johnson and Everett Page with the 2013 DBSA Life Unlimited Award. The DBSA Life Unlimited Award was established to honor individuals who exemplify a life unlimited by depression or bipolar disorder and who are actively working to help others do the same. Through the DBSA Life Unlimited Award, DBSA celebrates the strengths, inspiration, and accomplishments of peers.

In 2013, DBSA celebrates two outstanding peers who have committed themselves to demonstrating that those with a diagnosis can and deserve to lead full, happy lives.

Linea Johnson is a writer, speaker, and photographer who shares her story to inspire others and fight stigma on a global level. The author of a nationally published memoir, *Perfect Chaos* (St. Martins, 2012), Johnson recently returned from working with a community mental health team in India and working on a documentary about world mental health conditions.

Everett Page came to DBSA Boston 27 years ago and has spent a third of his lifetime helping thousands of DBSA members find hope and support through his leadership and group facilitation. He is known for his consistent support and guidance—no matter what kind of day he's having—to help fellow group members lead their own unlimited lives.

"I congratulate this year's inspiring award winners. Linea's work as an advocate, author, filmmaker, and international mental health worker and Everett's tireless work to advocate with and provide peer support to his colleagues in the greater Boston area are exactly what this award is all about," says DBSA President Allen Doederlein.

Page and Johnson were each nominated for the award by the peers whose lives they've touched.

DBSA will recognize the award winners during an awards ceremony set to take place at the DBSA 2013 National Conference in Miami, FL. DBSA Board Chair Lucinda Jewell will present the awards to Page and Johnson during the conference luncheon on Sunday, June 16 before a crowd of peers, including conference attendees, speakers, DBSA staff, and DBSA Board members.

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The Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA) is the leading peer-directed national organization focusing on the two most prevalent mental health conditions, depression and bipolar disorder, which affect more than 21 million Americans, account for 90% of the nation's suicides every year, and cost \$23 billion in lost workdays and other workplace losses. DBSA's peer-based, wellness-oriented, and empowering services and resources are available when people need them, where they need them, and how they need to receive them—online 24/7, in local support groups, in audio and video casts, or in printed materials distributed by DBSA, our chapters, and mental health care facilities across America. Through more than 700 support groups and nearly 300 chapters, DBSA reaches millions of people each year with in-person and online peer support; current, readily understandable information about depression and bipolar disorder; and empowering tools focused on an integrated approach to wellness.

For more information, please visit www.DBSAlliance.org or call (800) 826-3632.