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Artist: Nile Moss

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About the cover:



Title: *Nile's Joy, Horses & Hope,* 2006

Beginning with volume 43 (January 2022), the cover of *Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology* (ICHE) will feature art inspired by or reflective of topics within the scope of the journal and their impact on patients, healthcare personnel and our society. These topics include healthcare-associated infections, antimicrobial resistance, and healthcare epidemiology. The intent is to feature original artwork that has been created by individuals who have a personal connection to one or more of these topics through their clinical work, research, or experience as a patient or an affected patient's family member, friend or advocate. The goal is to provide readers with a visual reminder of the human impact of the topics addressed in the journal and the importance of the work being done by those who read or contribute to ICHE and by all who are trying to make healthcare safer through the elimination of healthcare-associated infections.

For more information about the ICHE cover and how to submit artwork for consideration for a future cover, please visit the ICHE website: https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/infection-control-and-hospital-epidemiology/front-covers

Artist: Nile Moss (1990-2006)
Medium: Tissue paper, stained glass technique

Nile's parents, Carole and Ty Moss, spoke to ICHE about his artwork.
What was the inspiration for this artwork? Nile began every morning with a loud announcement, "It's going to be such a great day!" At the end of the day, he would jump off the school bus and announce, "I had such a great day!" Nile's love of horses began very early in life thanks to his school's participation at a nearby therapeutic riding center. His horses brought him great joy and his faith gave him the hope and promise of a rainbow every day. This piece was inspired by the love Nile had for his horses, Tex and Clutch.

Why is this work appropriate for the cover of *Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology*? Nile's art expression and techniques blossomed from August 2005 to April 2006 in his first high school art class. He returned home with this final creation on April 14, 2006. His life ended only days later when physicians failed to recognize the initial symptoms of sepsis caused by methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) that he had acquired while receiving care in a local hospital. Nile's story represents the preventable harm that happens when people are unaware and unprepared to protect their loved ones and their patients. Patient safety begins with a robust bench of healthcare professionals, including healthcare epidemiologists, infection preventionists and antimicrobial stewards, that are given the knowledge, tools, training and support they need to do their work effectively. Our healthcare professionals deserve to feel joy and hope at the start of each new day, just as Nile did, and not doubt that their hard work saving lives is appreciated.

What is your personnel connection to the content of ICHE? When Nile died, our lives were changed forever. After researching the "why" and the "how," we decided to become a part of the solution to end preventable harm in honor of Nile. We became educated on the science of infection prevention to help inform and empower the public and educate healthcare professionals about what happens when healthcare facilities don't maintain a culture of safety and allow preventable healthcare-associated infections to occur. We celebrate his life every day by empowering the public and healthcare professionals with our story of prevention and action to end preventable healthcare harm.

Carole and Ty Moss are the founders and Executive Directors of Nile's Project, a non-profit organization founded in 2007 to end unnecessary deaths due to preventable hospital-acquired infections. Nile's Project works with survivors, families, healthcare professionals, public health officials, and other advocacy groups to increase public awareness and advocate for changes that will make the healthcare system safer. For more information, visit www.nilesproject.com.

Cover image: *Nile's Joy, Horses & Hope,* 2006

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