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## Variety Announces Event Special Guest Star

*Variety Unbound: An Evening of Empowerment* will feature performances from inspirational singer-songwriter Mandy Harvey alongside Variety Kids



**ST. LOUIS, MARCH 10, 2023** – Variety the Children’s Charity of St. Louis is excited to announce the return of *Variety Unbound: An Evening of Empowerment*, a truly unique experience celebrating the abilities of children with special needs. The event will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 20, 2023 at The Factory in Chesterfield and will feature performances by inspirational singer-songwriter Mandy Harvey.

Harvey rose to fame on NBC's *America's Got Talent*, earning acclaim with her Golden Buzzer audition of original song, “Try.” Through her music and global speaking engagement endeavors, Mandy continues to celebrate differences and advocate for the different ability community.

Mandy Harvey will share the stage with Variety Kids and offer her original music along with her incredible story of perseverance and artistry. Mandy’s heart is to help others achieve their dreams by encouraging them to “Try” and move forward as a community.

“True to its name, *Variety Unbound* will offer attendees the chance to break free from their perceptions of what kids and teens who are differently abled can achieve. Mandy exemplifies that spirit and is an inspiration for these children,” said Brian Roy, Executive Director of Variety St. Louis.

In addition to the one-of-kind program, *Variety Unbound* will offer attendees a cocktail hour and sit-down dinner, as well as the chance to empower Variety Kids. Tickets start at \$300 and are available at [www.varietystl.org/events/variety-unbound](http://www.varietystl.org/events/variety-unbound). All proceeds will go towards empowering children and teens with disabilities with access to Variety’s critical programs and services.

**About Variety St. Louis:**

Variety envisions a world where abilities are redefined and opportunities are reimaged for kids with special needs. To make this a reality, Variety empowers children with physical and developmental disabilities by giving access to critical medical equipment and therapies, along with innovative Camp and Performing Arts programs, which provide opportunities for recreation, socialization, and artistic expression. Children gain or maintain independence, boost socialization among their friends and family, demonstrate belief in themselves, and increase skills they need to engage their world as fully as possible. [www.varietystl.org](http://www.varietystl.org)

**About Mandy Harvey:**

“Mandy Harvey lost her hearing – but then found her voice,” hails PEOPLE. Harvey, an inspiring singer-songwriter, is profoundly deaf after losing her hearing at 18 years old as a result of connective tissue disorder Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome. Out now, independently-funded studio album, PAPER CUTS, is a vulnerable collection of lessons learned and emotions discovered. Globally known for her uplifting performance of original song “Try” on NBC’s America’s Got Talent, which earned her the “Golden Buzzer” by Simon Cowell in 2017, her audition video has surpassed over 500 MILLION views collectively. In January 2023, Mandy returned to the AGT stage joined by several of the shows most beloved “All-Stars,” where she delivered a breathtaking performance of her original song, “Something I can Feel.” Dedicated to her ongoing commitment to serve as an advocate for the different ability community, Harvey’s a part of nonprofit organizations like No Barriers USA and “Music: Not Impossible” with Not Impossible Labs. Lauded by critics and top-tier television outlets alike, she's been featured on NBC Nightly News, CNN’s Great Big Story, Dr. Oz, TODAY, and more, plus The New York Times, NPR, Entertainment Tonight, PEOPLE, American Songwriter, among others, with Fox News further stating that Harvey’s “changing the world in a big way.” She is managed by Jonas Group Entertainment.

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