

November, 2013

## News Release

### WOWSA!

St. Vincent's SWIM Across the Sound Marathon has been named one of America's Top Open Water SWIMS! Our own Long Island Sound Marathon is in good company. Among the other coveted swims on the WOWSA (World Open Water Swimming Association) list are Manhattan Island's Marathon Swim, Waikiki's Rough Water Swim, Tampa Bay's Marathon Swim, California's Catalina Channel, and San Francisco's Alcatraz Challenge. The World Open Water Swimming Association, or WOWSA, is an international association dedicated to the organization, sanctioning, and recognition of open water swimmers and open water events.



"We are grateful to WOWSA for this prestigious recognition on behalf of St. Vincent's SWIM Across the Sound and all the swimmers and volunteers that make it happen. It is such a privilege to be a part of the SWIM and to support its mission to help patients and their families impacted financially by cancer and to provide screening and support services to our communities," said Liz Fry who is the SWIM Marathon Director.

St. Vincent's SWIM Across the Sound Marathon debuts on WOWSA's top 100 list at a respectable #29. Criteria used to determine the top open water swims include history, uniqueness, popularity, difficulty, attention to safety and global geographic distribution. Swimmers from all over the world have participated in the annual August marathon from Port Jefferson, New York to Connecticut's Captain's Cove Marina in Bridgeport. At 15.5 miles, our swim is one of the longest challenges on the WOWSA list. It's a favorite of marathon swimmers, as SWIM Across the Sound Marathon is one of the elite marathons deemed a qualifying swim for future English Channel Swim hopefuls.

For more information about SWIM Across the Sound, go to [www.SwimAcrossTheSound.org](http://www.SwimAcrossTheSound.org) or call St. Vincent's Foundation Office at 203 576.5451.