



# DR. BRANDON D. ROGERS SIMULATION LAB

THE FUTURE OF HEALTHCARE  
IN OUR COMMUNITY



## Honoring a Life Well Lived

In June 2017 the world lost a dedicated doctor, a talented entertainer, but above all, a friend who was like family to us all. The life of Dr. Brandon D. Rogers, a resident at Riverside Brentwood Medical Center, was tragically cut short, but the legacy of his commitment to medicine, education, arts and the community will be carried on. Brandon's musical talents first drew national attention from the 90's hit group, Boyz II Men, after he posted a video of himself singing one of their songs. An offer to join them on stage, performing at the Mirage Hotel in Las Vegas in early 2017 soon followed. Shortly after, his performance earned him an invitation to audition on NBC's America's Got Talent (AGT). "My inspiration for becoming a doctor was kind of born out of a pretty tough experience when I was about six years old," Brandon recalled during a March 2017 interview with AGT. One afternoon, he arrived home from school to find his mother in need of emergency medical treatment. "The doctors were like heroes. They saved her life and it made me want to be the doctor I am today."

# A Remarkable Legacy

Brandon passed away in an auto accident on June 11, 2017—just weeks before his inspirational audition segment could air. Over 7.8 million people have viewed his AGT performance on YouTube.

On October 29, 2017 Riverside, in partnership with the Rogers family, announced plans to honor his memory in a big way. "The Dr. Brandon D. Rogers Simulation Lab at Riverside Regional Medical Center will train this generation of doctors, and the next generation of doctors and the generation of doctors after that," said RRMCM Medical Affairs Vice President Dr. Christopher Stolle, addressing the room full of Brandon's family and friends celebrating what would have been his thirtieth birthday. Simulation Labs offer real life situations—everything from bedside manner and diagnosis under pressure to actual treatment—in a safe and regulated environment. The concept is similar to the training of airline pilots who take part in simulated flight scenarios, both standard and unusual, to test knowledge and skills.

The Dr. Brandon D. Rogers Simulation Lab holds the promise to advance both the science and the art of medicine while also supporting Riverside's mission to care for others as we would care for those we love. The Riverside Foundation plans to raise \$350,000 towards this multi-million-dollar lab with the support of our community and Brandon's family, friends and fans. The lab will provide innovative, life-saving training to residents just like Brandon.



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# The Center for Medical Education and Simulation Training

Healthcare education has experienced significant changes in recent years. Simulation training has been at the forefront of this evolution.

The Simulation and Training Center at Riverside epitomizes the future of healthcare in our community for both patients and providers. More than 80 surgical specialists, over 55 emergency medicine providers, medical residents in multiple specialties, and numerous other nursing and clinical staff will benefit from this state-of-the-art training facility.

At the core of the Center will be the Dr. Brandon Rogers Simulation Lab. As the Daily Press reported, Newport News-based general contractor and construction company W.M. Jordan Co., which has worked on multiple Riverside projects, is donating \$100,000 for the project, company Executive Chairman John Lawson said. W.M. Jordan has been using modeling and simulation for 15 years, so Lawson said he knows its value. "I'm a big believer in continuing education and the use of the latest technology," Lawson said. "I think you'll get better health care."

The Center will help attract new physicians to the medical residency programs housed within Riverside. These residents join us for between one to four years as a critical part of their clinical training, and often stay to practice as part of our medical community. The ability and discipline to train within a setting such as this is reflective of the Riverside Mission - to care for others as we would care for those we love.



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## Daily Press

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2019

# FAKE PATIENTS, REAL LESSONS

Riverside plans simulation lab named after late singing doctor

By TARA BOZICK  
Staff writer

Plans and fundraising are underway for a simulation lab at Riverside Regional Medical Center that would help recruit and retain doctors, nurses and clinical staff with the latest in training technologies like virtual reality. Riverside Regional's recent Pavilion expansion freed up former operating suite space to allow for a full Center for Medical Education that will be based on a simulation lab named after the late Dr. Brandon Rogers. The Portsmouth native was a family medicine resident at Riverside Brentwood Medical Center and was also an aspiring singer. He had auditioned for "America's Got Talent" weeks before he was killed in a car accident in 2017 at

ROB OSTROMA/STAFF BY PRESS

Dr. Gary Kavitt of Riverside Regional Medical Center stands in the new medical simulation lab space, which will allow physicians at all levels to train on state-of-the-art mannequins to simulate medical emergencies.





# Continuing the Work

THE BRANDON D. ROGERS  
MEMORIAL FUND

As a means of honoring the goals and the mission that Dr. Rogers pursued, the Rogers family has partnered with the Riverside Foundation to establish the Dr. Brandon D. Rogers Memorial Fund. This special philanthropic opportunity was created to nurture the continuing education of new doctors in Riverside's physician residency program, as well as nurses, interns, and health career students, by supporting the Dr. Brandon D. Rogers Simulation Lab at Riverside Regional Medical Center in Newport News, Virginia.

For more information about how you can help bring this valuable resource to our community, please contact the Riverside Foundation at 757-234-8740 or visit [riversideonline.com/foundation/](http://riversideonline.com/foundation/)

