



OFFICIAL CHARITY PARTNER

**TCS NEW YORK CITY MARATHON**

TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES | **NYRR** NEW YORK ROAD RUNNERS

For the sixth year in a row, the Brain Injury Association of New York State has been chosen as an Official Charity Partners of the TCS New York City Marathon. Please meet the incredible runners for the BIANYS team!



**Dom Di Sabatino:** I am proud—and extremely fortunate—to be both a stroke and aneurysm survivor. The road through the anxiety, medical system and diagnostic unknown was tough to navigate, and I wish that I had known about all the fantastic resources available to help those and their loved ones dealing with brain injuries. So, I am running the NYC TCS Marathon for the Brain Injury Association of New York State (BIANYS) to raise awareness about brain injuries that result from aneurysms and strokes. Please visit [here](#) to support Dom.



**Melissa Doney:** Running the NYC Marathon is a goal I have always wanted to tackle. I am so excited to have this opportunity to run it on behalf of the Brain Injury Association of New York State. As a former athlete, I understand the impacts that concussion can have and I am running on behalf of my friends and family that have sustained a brain injury, whether it be concussion, stroke or a fall. Please visit [here](#) to support Melissa.

**Thomas Grubb:** In January, I suffered from both High-Altitude Pulmonary Edema (HAPE) and High Altitude Cerebral Edema (HACE), while on a trip to Colorado in January. I ultimately collapsed and have no memory of four days. During my time in the ICU, hospital, rehab and recovery, one moment stuck with me. A speech therapist showed me a picture of shapes, then asked me to recall them by drawing them. I hit a roadblock in my mind and was unable to do. This moment signifies the first time in my life that I have ever felt completely helpless. With that said, I am extremely lucky for the care I received, allowing me to make a full recovery. I am running the NYC Marathon this November for the Brain Injury Association of New York State. Please visit [here](#) to support Thomas.



**Lisa Kitchens:** Last year my partner and I were in a life-threatening car accident where I broke my neck and suffered a severe concussion. About a month later, doctors found a dAVF (dural arteriovenous fistula) in my brain, which required surgery. After one of the toughest years of my life, I found solace and strength in walking. This year I am fulfilling a longtime dream of participating in the NYC Marathon as a walker. I am honored to be a part of the BIANYS team, helping to raise awareness about brain injuries and reminding myself that I am more than just my injuries. Please visit [here](#) to support Lisa.



**Paul Kite:** I am an artist and teacher living in Brooklyn. I grew up in Austin Texas and made my way to New York by way of the theater. When I'm not working in the city you can find me teaching at Briarcliff Manor High School. I am a longtime fan of New York and a new fan of running and feel very lucky to be a part of the New York City Marathon this year. I am running with, and in dedication to my partner Lisa. Please visit [here](#) to support Paul.



**Jennifer Lindstadt:** This will be my third time running the NYC Marathon, but my first through the Charity Program. I am running for BIANYS because of all the support and services they provide for people living with brain injury. About four years ago, my brother's girlfriend was struck by a car. She sustained several injuries, had an emergency craniectomy and was placed in a medically induced coma for six days to give her brain time to heal. With a lot of hard work and the support of family, friends and her medical team, she has made a full recovery. She is a fighter, and I am running to support her and others who have suffered from a TBI. Please visit [here](#) to support Jennifer.



**Katy Zales:** This year I'm running every training and race mile for myself, and people affected by brain injuries. Almost five years ago, I acquired a Traumatic Brain Injury from a motorcycle accident and, I've been reminded of it every day since. While recovering, I often found myself longing to do the two things that used to help me clear my mind: running and going for a motorcycle ride. I was unable to do either. So, while I run the NYC Marathon, I will appreciate each step, I will be grateful for every thought, and I will be rooting for all warriors going through a similar journey. Please visit [here](#) to support Katy.

# THE VOICE OF BRAIN INJURY