The Pink Agenda Speaker Series presents young breast cancer survivors Samantha Golkin Nigliazzo and Nicole Seagriff as they put a personal and more tangible spin on breast cancer, the importance of vigilance for young women, how to screen, and survival of the disease. Through personal diagnosis and survival stories, quirky anecdotes and informative handouts, Samantha and Nicole work to educate, inform, inspire and motivate young professional women.

Samantha Golkin Nigliazzo was diagnosed with breast cancer in August of 2013 at the age of 30. From an early age, Samantha knew the importance of maintaining a rigorous screening routine, as every woman on her maternal side had fought the disease. Upon enrolling in the Memorial Sloan Kettering High Risk Screening Program, doctors detected Ductal Carcinoma In Situ, or Stage 0 breast cancer. Samantha underwent a bilateral mastectomy and three subsequent reconstructive surgeries and is proud to be cancer free and an advocate for rigorous screening for young at-risk women. Samantha strongly believes “knowledge is power,” and the more information young women have about their health, the more prepared they will be to make educated healthcare decisions.

Samantha is a regular contributor for the Huffington Post and writes on breast cancer related issues. She appears as a guest commentator on HuffPost Live and has appeared on MSNBC. Samantha is also on the Board of Directors of The Pink Agenda. Professionally, Samantha is an attorney in private practice in New York City. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor’s Degree in 2005, a Juris Doctorate from Seton Hall in 2008 and an LLM from New York Law School in 2013. Samantha will be ran the 2014 New York City Marathon, raising money for breast cancer research through The Pink Agenda’s Marathon Team.

Nicole Seagriff is a three-year breast cancer survivor, receiving the diagnosis shortly after her 27th birthday. Due to a very strong family history of breast cancer, she sought genetic testing which revealed a BRCA2 mutation. Recognizing this increased risk of developing cancer, she met with a team of high-risk oncologists and through early detection found her cancer at Stage IA. She was treated at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center by the same breast surgeon as her mother and underwent a bilateral mastectomy 10 years and 5 days from the anniversary of her mother’s same surgery. Now in full remission, she is dedicated to raising awareness of the disease particularly among young adults. She serves as Secretary of the Executive Board of The Pink Agenda as well as part of their National Expansion Committee.

Professionally, she has worked as a primary care provider at a Federally Qualified Health Center in Connecticut since graduating from Yale University in 2011 with her Master's degree in Nursing. She is currently a candidate for her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at Duke University. She is expected to graduate in the Spring of 2016 with a research focus on implementing BRCA testing into primary care settings among underserved populations. She lives in New York City and enjoys traveling.

The Pink Agenda is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization committed to raising money for breast cancer research and care, as well as awareness of the disease among young professionals. Born of the belief that engaging today’s generation can go a long way toward finding tomorrow’s cure, The Pink Agenda, together with its partner the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, finds, funds, and partners with people and programs that are improving the lives of those suffering from breast cancer and conducting the groundbreaking research necessary to improve their odds.