



**RICK GUIDOTTI**  
**Photographer**  
**Founder and Director of**  
**Positive Exposure**



Rick Guidotti, an award-winning former fashion photographer, has spent the past fifteen years working internationally with advocacy organizations, medical schools, universities and other educational institutions to effect a sea-change in societal attitudes towards individuals living with genetic difference. His work has been published in newspapers, magazines and journals as diverse as Elle, GQ, People, the American Journal of Medical Genetics, The Lancet, Spirituality and Health, the Washington Post, Atlantic Monthly and Life Magazine.

Rick is the founder and director of Positive Exposure, an innovative arts, education and advocacy organization, working with individuals living with genetic, physical, cognitive and behavioral difference. Positive Exposure utilizes the visual arts to significantly impact the fields of genetics, mental health and human rights.

Rick Guidotti's photographic exhibition, Positive Exposure; The Spirit of Difference, premiered at the People's Genome Celebration, June 2001, at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History in DC. and continues to exhibit in galleries, museums and public arenas internationally.

Rick Guidotti's Positive Exposure photo and video presentation explores the social and psychological experiences of people living with genetic, physical, cognitive and behavioral conditions of all ages and ethno-cultural heritages. Positive Exposure provides new opportunities to see individuals living with a genetic difference first and foremost as a human being with his/her own challenges rather than as a specific diagnosis/disease entity.

Rick Guidotti and Positive Exposure continue to celebrate the richness and beauty of human diversity.

**AMY R.U.L. CALHOUN, MD**  
**Assistant Professor of Pediatrics**  
**University of Minnesota Medical School**  
**Minneapolis, Minnesota**



Dr. Calhoun completed her fellowship at the University of Utah within close proximity to mentors that include John C. Carey, MD and Sarah T. South, PhD.

Dr. Calhoun has played important roles in co-chairing and co-organizing several 4p- events. Specifically, she assisted at the informal "meet and greets" between clinicians and families at the 2010 National Conference (Salt Lake City, UT) and the Research Workshop prior to the 2012 National Conference (Indianapolis, IN). In 2010 Dr. Calhoun became the current 4p-Support Group Medical Advisor.

At the 2012 4p- National Conference Dr. Calhoun had the opportunity to personally meet and clinically evaluate over 30 individuals with 4p-, discussing medical histories, previous test results (including karyotype and FISH), and clinical utility of undergoing testing with newer technologies (including chromosomal microarray analysis). These 30 individuals ranged in age from infancy to a woman in her late 20s. It is unlikely that any other scientist and clinical geneticist has had such in-depth experiences with that many individuals who have this condition.

The culmination of these experiences have uniquely positioned Dr. Calhoun to comprehend the medical, natural history of 4p- as well as the psychosocial, familial, and societal implications a diagnosis has on the families. Furthermore, she is in a position to disseminate this information to her genetics colleagues, both in the US and abroad, so that all families with a diagnosis undergo improvements in patient care and also, possibly, quality of life.

**RACHEL COLEMAN**  
**Producer, Actor, Musician**  
**Co-Creator of Signing Time**



Rachel Coleman is Co-Creator of Signing Time; which began as a single video to help friends and family members learn sign language to communicate with Rachel's deaf daughter, Leah.

Responses to the initial video were so well received that Rachel's family began filming more episodes. As word spread, the small community of people learning to sign with Leah grew into an expansive community of parents, educators, and health professionals using Signing Time to introduce the benefits of sign language to children everywhere. Testimonials poured in with touching stories about how Signing Time had been instrumental in dissolving communication barriers and giving a "voice" to children who previously had no way to express themselves.

Rachel's second daughter, Lucy, was born with spina bifida and cerebral palsy. Doctors worried that Lucy would never be able to speak, let alone use her rigid fingers to sign. One day while watching Signing Time, Lucy attempted a gesture for the sign "more." From that point forward, Lucy's sign language vocabulary slowly but steadily increased, despite her physical challenges and gloomy prognosis. Shortly thereafter, Lucy started talking.

The Signing Time series has won many awards and Rachel was nominated for an Emmy® Award. Today, select episodes of Signing Time now air on Netflix, Nick Jr. and on Public Television. Rachel regularly performs Signing Time concerts and is a highly sought-after keynote speaker. She is the head of the Signing Time Foundation and travels to Ghana to create educational opportunities for deaf children.