

Thurgood's photo series 'Every Scar has a Story'

Orangeville photographer Julie Thurgood is currently working on a photo series, Every Scar has a Story, which is capturing models who have scars ranging from accidents to life saving-surgeries.

For the past year, Thurgood has been working on this project. It all started with a bright idea in the middle of the night.

'I was thinking what my next big project would be, and thought 'hey! What about highlighting a topic that people don't think of as beautiful?' We always capture these photos that highlight beauty, but why not highlight the story and the scars?'

Thurgood is not only the creator of this project, but will be part of the project as well.

At the age of nine, Thurgood was bit in the face by a friend's dog and ended up with 72 stitches. Two plastic surgeries later, by the time she was 13, and the rest is history.

'This is something that I share with the world daily,' she said. 'Some people say they don't notice and others will take me by surprise and ask right out about them.'

This project is solely funded by Thurgood and has had many volunteers, including video and make-up. The goal is to eventually have an exhibit and pursue a book deal.

She also observed that this series has allowed many people to come to terms with their scars and sharing their stories is an amazing journey. She's been touched with all the models who have come forward to tell their stories.

Thurgood will begin shooting more models in the new year. Those who would like to participate are asked to sent their stories to julie@juliethurgood.com. Julie Thurgood Photography is in Orangeville.