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### **“We Have Feelings, Too!” TRANSGENDER AUTHOR SHARES STRUGGLES, CHALLENGES AND TRIUMPHS IN COMPELLING INTERVIEW**

Caitlyn Jenner, Jazz Jennings and Laverne Cox have pioneered a new path of acceptance for transgender people. No longer do transgender people need to feel ashamed or hide their true identity. Because these celebrities have publicly come out, the door has opened for transgender people to step forward and share their stories.

“I lived for 64 years as a man,” says transgender author Holly Maholm. “In 2013, when I first began to transition full-time to living as a woman, I felt wonderful.”

During her transition, Maholm felt an overwhelming urge to read Charles Dickens’ *A Christmas Carol*. What she didn’t expect was to sob while reading it. Feelings of abandonment and rejection so overwhelmed her that Maholm knew she had to share these feelings with others. She decided to rework the holiday classic into a contemporary story, and wrote *Brave in Ribbons* – which features the familiar Christmas Ghosts but adds a new character named Connie: a transgender woman.

“I hope sharing my story will help others realize transgender men and women have the same emotions as everyone else,” shares Maholm, “and recognize we have unique and valuable gifts, abilities and accomplishments to share with the world!”

Educated, open and intriguing, Maholm can discuss:

- Recent events in the transgender community, including her views on the rise of the transgender celebrity
- Struggles faced by transgender women and the inner turmoil they face living openly in society
- How she reconciled her religious upbringing with her life today
- Tips for having a respectful discussion if a family member “comes out”

**Holly Maholm is a transgender woman. She is a graduate of Yale University and The Ohio State University School of Law. She worked as a senior attorney for a major sports marketing agency until she retired in 2004 and went into private practice. She has been married twice and actively co-parented her three daughters from her first marriage. Maholm began her transition to living full-time as a woman in 2013. She is the author of**

several stage and screen plays and two novels: *When Once I Lived* (2011), and *Brave in Ribbons* (November, 2015). She lives in Cleveland, OH and is an active member of the local LGBTQ community.

*Brave in Ribbons* will be available on Amazon and Maholm's new website, [www.hollymaholm.com](http://www.hollymaholm.com), will be launched on November 1.

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