

Media Announcement

November 30, 2009

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***Richmond Kiwanis Club and Theatre IV Bring Holiday Cheer
to Children's Hospital Patients***

Richmond, VA – On Wednesday, December 9, 2009, the Richmond Kiwanis Club and Theatre IV will help bring holiday festivities to patients at Children's Hospital. The annual Holiday Party is made possible by a donation from the Kiwanis Club of Richmond, which is used to buy gifts for the hospital's inpatients and day patients. During the party, Kiwanis members will be present to help the children unwrap their gifts, and actors from Theatre IV will donate their time to provide entertainment with a performance of their current show, "A Christmas Carol."

"Most of our inpatients will be spending the holiday season at the hospital this year," said Stephanie Allan, Special Events Coordinator at Children's Hospital. "This event allows the children to enjoy the holiday spirit by bringing the festivities to them."

"Our club takes great pride in our long relationship with the Children's Hospital," said Bill McAllister, Co-Chairman of the Children's Hospital Committee of the Kiwanis Club of Richmond. "This will be the fifty-sixth year of our sponsorship of the Holiday Party, and the Kiwanians who visit with the patients are always touched by the one-on-one experience. What a great way to kick off the holiday season."

The Holiday Party will begin at 2:00 p.m. in the Auditorium at Children's Hospital, 2924 Brook Road, Richmond, Va. Patients, families, staff and Kiwanis Club members will enjoy the performance from "A Christmas Carol" at 2:15 p.m., followed by gift opening and a visit from Santa Claus at 3:00 p.m.

"Providing accessibility to the theatre arts is part of Theatre IV's mission and we are grateful for local partners like Children's Hospital for giving us the opportunity to share the wonder of live theatre with these kids. Lifting their spirits, especially at this time of year, is a rewarding experience for everyone involved and something we love to be part of each year," said Jennings Whiteway, Donor Stewardship & Events Manager for Theatre IV.

"We are very fortunate to have generous groups in the community like Theatre IV and the Richmond Kiwanis Club," said Allan. "For our children, clinical accomplishments are only part of the story. We measure success also by the new activities, experiences and fun we can provide, and events like this truly make a difference."

Children's Hospital is a resource and provider of specialized medical and therapeutic services customized to meet the specific needs of children and their families. The hospital began as a small clinic in 1917 and now serves more than 7,000 children each year, providing inpatient, day patient and outpatient services for a wide variety of medical conditions.