

Press Release

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DuPage Children's Museum Celebrates Champions for Children at Annual Benefit Ball

(Naperville, IL) – DuPage Children's Museum (DCM) will host their annual *Champions for Children Benefit Ball* on Saturday, April 14 at Hotel Arista at CityGate Centre in Naperville. Presented under the sparkling stars of a dramatic Venetian night, the black-tie optional benefit will be a glamorous night of live entertainment, unique auction items and special honorees, all to support educating young children.

The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and the silent auction. Afterwards, guests will enjoy dinner and the live auction. Guests can preview auction packages on the gala website as the event grows closer. The evening will continue with dessert and dancing to live music provided by the AI Sofia Band.

Amy Louis will serve as 2012's Honorary Chairperson for the Benefit Ball. Louis is recognized as a Champion for Children because of her many years of support, philanthropic contributions and volunteer efforts on behalf of the Museum, children's causes and those in need in our community. Amy is a former DCM Board Member and past DCM Board President.

Emcee Judy Hsu, ABC 7 News This Morning co-anchor and former Museum member, will carry the evening smoothly through all parts. She is also involved in daily newscasts at ABC 7, participates in community involvement on behalf of various causes and has a passion for speaking to school children on the importance of pursuing their dreams.

The Benefit Ball not only is a celebration of DuPage Children's Museum and its mission, but also serves as a top fundraiser for the Museum, which depends on donations and grants to cover 40% of its operating budget.

All proceeds from this event serve as an investment in early learning by supporting DuPage Children's Museum programs. They also help to ensure the Museum continues to have a positive impact on children's lives by providing open-ended learning experiences in math, science and the arts. The Museum achieves these goals through providing educational programs for 40,000 school children and welcoming more than 300,000 visitors per year.

Lead sponsor is Macy's. Sustainer level sponsor is Coghill Capital Management. Founder level sponsors include BMO Harris Bank, Bulley & Andrews, Calamos Investments, Navistar, Tellabs and Yellowbook360. Patron level sponsor is Sara Lee Corporation.

For more information on tickets, sponsorships and donations, visit www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org. All proceeds go to support DuPage Children's

Museum's mission to stimulate curiosity, creativity, thinking and problem solving in young children.

About DuPage Children's Museum

DuPage Children's Museum is a top Chicago-area cultural attraction...where learning comes in to play@! Via interactive exhibits and programs that make learning fun for children and adults playing together, DuPage Children's Museum helps develop curiosity, creativity, thinking and problem solving in young children. The Museum is located at 301 N. Washington Street in Naperville, Illinois, a quick walk from the Naperville Metra train station. Parking is free and the building is wheelchair accessible. For information about hours, Museum admission and membership packages, visit www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org or call (630) 637-8000.

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ABC 7 News This Morning co-anchor Judy Hsu will return to emcee DuPage Children's Museum's *Champions for Children Benefit Ball* for the second year on April 14, 2012.