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“ALL KIDS INCLUDED” YEAR-LONG SERIES OF FAMILY CULTURAL EVENTS MARKS 10 YEARS OF MAKING THE ARTS ACCESSIBLE TO CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Arts activities include concerts, exhibitions and performances throughout Miami-Dade County

(Miami – March 30, 2016) Everyone is invited as the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs celebrates the tenth anniversary of its popular “All Kids Included” (AKI) program with a year-long series of inclusive and accessible arts activities for children and families starting April 1st at multiple venues countywide, including Actors’ Playhouse, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, New World Symphony and various Miami-Dade parks and libraries. Visit www.AllKidsIncludedMiami.org for a list of fun, family-oriented cultural events including visual arts, musical concerts, storytelling, and Sensory-Friendly shows for audiences of all abilities.

For a decade, All Kids Included has promoted inclusive arts and cultural programs in school settings and throughout the community so that kids of all abilities and their families can participate fully in the arts. Serving thousands of children and families since 2006, AKI continually raises the bar with excellence in programming that promotes the benefit and importance of inclusionary arts and cultural programs for children and youth. To celebrate its 10th anniversary, AKI is presenting a year-long season of arts events to be held at family-friendly locations throughout Miami-Dade County in partnership with several community organizations.

Among the highlights of this year-long celebration is the touring exhibition of the annual AKI district-wide student visual art competition finalists, which was open to all Miami-Dade students in grades K-12. The competition asked student artists to submit original artwork depicting the theme “Celebrating Inclusion, Empathy and Understanding,” inspired by the book, [*A Boy and a Jaguar*](#), by Alan Rabinowitz, illustrated by Catia Chien.

Chien will make an appearance during the [Miami-Dade Public Library System Family Storytelling Festival](#) taking place on April 30th from 1-4pm, at the South Dade Regional Library, and Rabinowitz will make an appearance during the free 10th Annual AKI Family Arts Festival taking place on May 7th from 10am – 4pm at the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center. In addition, free copies of [*A Boy and a Jaguar*](#) will be given away while supplies last at the Miami-Dade Public Library System Family Storytelling Festivals on

April 2nd, April 16th, and April 30th, and at the 10th Annual AKI Family Arts Festival on May 7th.

In addition, the free [10th Annual AKI Family Arts Festival](#) will be held at the [South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center](#) on May 7th from 10am - 4pm. This multidisciplinary community arts festival for children and families with and without disabilities, will feature a Sensory-Friendly production of *Big Bad Wolf* by Australia's award-winning [Windmill Theatre](#); free book give away while supplies last and special guest appearance by Alan Rabinowitz, author of [A Boy and a Jaguar](#); deaf magician [Magic Morgan](#); ASL storytelling from [Waving Hands](#); [Zot Artz – Arts for All](#) adaptive painting and print making; AKI art contest exhibit and awards; fun fair activities; and a community resource fair for parents and caregivers.

Following is a list of upcoming AKI 10th anniversary events. More information about AKI programs and partner events is available at www.AllKidsIncludedMiami.org (dates and times are subject to change):

April 2016

April 1 – New World Symphony Sensory-Friendly Environments

Side-By-Side Concert: Join the New World Symphony during a WALLCAST™ performance and experience music in a welcoming, safe and comfortable Sensory-Friendly Environment designed to include the entire family. Entry is free; **RSVP required**. To RSVP, please visit nws.edu/access no later than 24 hours before the concert time. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

[New World Symphony](#) 8pm (doors open at 7:30pm)

500 17th Street, Miami Beach

April 2 – Poetic Gestures

Join [All Kids Included](#), [Arts for Learning](#), [O, Miami](#) and [Waving Hands](#) as we share the beauty of American Sign Language and celebrate some important birthdays!

Participants will learn how to sign “Happy Birthday” and a short poem, and can enjoy a piece of birthday cake. Free and open to the public.

Highland Oaks Park 11am-12pm

20300 NE 24 AVE, Miami

April 2 – Miami-Dade Public Library System Family Storytelling Festival

Storytellers, music and giveaways make for a great day of family fun.

American Sign Language interpretation provided, free book give away while supplies last of [A Boy and a Jaguar](#), and AKI art contest exhibit. Free and open to the public.

[West Dade Regional Library](#) 1-4pm

9445 Coral Way, Miami

April 9 – Miami Children’s Museum Autism Awareness Day

Meet community professionals, explore assistive technologies, participate in a creative movement class and a sensory-friendly game show, enjoy a musical performance by Reid Soria, and add your own art to a collage mural. Admission \$7 from 9am-11; RSVP required to sensorysaturday@miamichildrensmuseum.org. Admission after 11am: \$18 general admission, \$14 Florida residents, free for U.S. military personnel and veterans, \$6 for military family members (based on a family of four), free for children under 1 year, free for Museum members.

[Miami Children’s Museum](#) 9am-6pm
980 MacArthur Causeway, Miami

April 9 – Poetic Gestures

Join [All Kids Included](#), [Arts for Learning](#), [O, Miami](#) and [Waving Hands](#) as we share the beauty of American Sign Language and celebrate some important birthdays! Participants will learn how to sign “Happy Birthday” and a short poem, and can enjoy a piece of birthday cake. Free and open to the public.

Miller Drive Park 11am-12pm
5510 SW 94 CT, Miami

April 9 – New World Symphony Sensory-Friendly Environments

Symphonic Dances: Join the New World Symphony during a WALLCAST™ performance and experience music in a welcoming, safe and comfortable Sensory-Friendly Environment designed to include the entire family. Entry is free; **RSVP required**. To RSVP, please visit nws.edu/access no later than 24 hours before the concert time. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

[New World Symphony](#) 8pm (doors open at 7:30pm)
500 17th Street, Miami Beach

April 16 – Poetic Gestures

Join [All Kids Included](#), [Arts for Learning](#), [O, Miami](#) and [Waving Hands](#) as we share the beauty of American Sign Language and celebrate some important birthdays! Participants will learn how to sign “Happy Birthday” and a short poem, and can enjoy a piece of birthday cake. Free and open to the public.

Camp Matecumbe 11am-12pm
13841 SW 120 ST, Miami

April 16 – Miami-Dade Public Library System Family Storytelling Festival

Storytellers, music and giveaways make for a great day of family fun. American Sign Language interpretation provided, free book give away while supplies last of [A Boy and a Jaguar](#), and AKI art contest exhibit. Free and open to the public.

[North Dade Regional Library](#) 1-4pm
2455 NW 183 St., Miami Gardens

April 23 – Youth Arts in the Parks Spring 2016 Culminating Event

Student performance and exhibition free and open to the public.

[Joseph Caleb Auditorium](#) 3-5pm
5400 NW 22nd Avenue, Miami

April 23 – New World Symphony Sensory-Friendly Environments

The Mahler Legacy: The Song of the Earth: Join the New World Symphony during a WALLCAST™ performance and experience music in a welcoming, safe and comfortable Sensory-Friendly Environment designed to include the entire family. Entry is free; **RSVP required**. To RSVP, please visit nws.edu/access no later than 24 hours before the concert time. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
[New World Symphony](#) 8pm (doors open at 7:30pm)
500 17th Street, Miami Beach

April 30 – Miami-Dade Public Library System Family Storytelling Festival

Storytellers, music and giveaways make for a great day of family fun. American Sign Language interpretation provided, AKI art contest exhibit, free book give away while supplies last and **special guest appearance by Catia Chien**, illustrator of [A Boy and a Jaguar](#). Free and open to the public.
[South Dade Regional Library](#) 1-4pm
10750 SW 211 St., Cutler Bay

May 2016

May 7 – 10th Annual All Kids Included Family Arts Festival

Free innovative, multidisciplinary community arts festival for children and families with and without disabilities, featuring a Sensory-Friendly production of *Big Bad Wolf* by Australia's award-winning [Windmill Theatre](#); free book give away while supplies last and **special guest appearance by Alan Rabinowitz**, author of [A Boy and a Jaguar](#); deaf magician [Magic Morgan](#); ASL storytelling with [Waving Hands](#); [Zot Artz – Arts for All](#) adaptive painting and print making; AKI art contest exhibit and awards; fun fair activities; and community resource fair.
[South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center](#) 10am-4pm
10950 SW 211th Street, Cutler Bay

May 7 – New World Symphony Sensory-Friendly Environments

Season Finale with MTT: Berlioz and Sibelius: Join the New World Symphony during a WALLCAST™ performance and experience music in a welcoming, safe and comfortable Sensory-Friendly Environment designed to include the entire family. Entry is free; **RSVP required**. To RSVP, please visit nws.edu/access no later than 24 hours before the concert time. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
[New World Symphony](#) 8pm (doors open at 7:30pm)
500 17th Street, Miami Beach

May 14 – Arts for All Family Fun Day with the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum FIU

Free fun for the whole family! The [Zot Artz](#) art tools and experiences, created by acclaimed artist and inventor Dwayne Szot, offer individuals of all abilities an opportunity for creative expression through arts and mobility. Everyone can join the fun, choosing colors, creating patterns, stamping, rolling and printing to make their mark. Developing skills through play!
[Ronselli Park, Sweetwater](#) 10am-2pm
SW 114 Avenue at SW 2nd Street, Miami

May 21 – Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre Presents a Sensory-Friendly Performance of [Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day](#)

Tickets \$10 general admission.
[Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre](#) 11am
280 Miracle Mile, Coral Gables

June 2016

June 28 – [Fantasy Theatre Factory](#) Presents a Sensory-Friendly Performance of *Whales, Magic & Cheese... Oh my!*

Tickets \$7 (includes admission to the garden).
[Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden](#) 11:30am
10901 Old Cutler Road, Miami

July 2016

July 23 – Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre presents a Sensory-Friendly Performance of *Pippi Longstocking*

Tickets \$10 general admission.
[Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre](#) 11am
280 Miracle Mile, Coral Gables

All Kids Included is an initiative of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, made possible with the support of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, and in part through grant funding provided by The Children's Trust. The Children's Trust is a dedicated source of revenue established by voter referendum to improve the lives of children and families in Miami-Dade County by making strategic investments in their future.

For more information about AKI and all its programs visit www.AllKidsIncludedMiami.org

It is the policy of Miami-Dade County to comply with all of the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. To request materials in accessible format, sign language interpreters, and/or any accommodation to participate in any Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs program or meeting, please contact Francine Andersen at 305-375-4634 culture@miamidade.gov at least five days in advance to initiate your request. TTY users may also call 711 (Florida Relay Service).

Follow us on social media @MiamiDadeArts, and #AllKidsIncluded #MiamiDadeArts

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Alan Rabinowitz has dedicated his life to wildlife conservation. A zoologist and conservationist, he is CEO of Panthera, a nonprofit organization devoted to protecting the world's thirty-eight wildcat species. He has written numerous scientific articles and books and been profiled in the *New York Times*, *Scientific American*, *Audubon*, *Outside*, *Jerusalem Report*, and *National Geographic Explorer*, among others. Dr. Rabinowitz is also an advocate for stutterers and a spokesperson for the Stuttering Foundation of America. He has told audiences that he feels lucky to have been given the gift of stuttering and believes that had he not stuttered, he would not be on the path of his passion – saving big cats. Visit www.panthera.org and www.stutteringhelp.org.

Catia Chien was born and raised in Sao Paulo, Brazil surrounded by wild life and tropical fruits. She graduated with honors in 2004 from Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, CA. Today, she is happily

working as an author and illustrator of picture books from her art studio in NY. Her clients include, Penguin Random House, Chronicle, Candlewick, Panda Press and Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. Her picture book titles include, Sydney Taylor gold award book *The Longest Night* and SILA gold medal award book, *The Sea Serpent and Me. A Boy and a Jaguar* written by Dr. Alan Rabinowitz is her most recent picture book. It tells the true story of Alan Rabinowitz as a little boy, about finding his own voice to speak for those who have no voice.

About the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs

The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council develop cultural excellence, diversity and participation throughout Miami-Dade County by strategically creating and promoting opportunities for artists and cultural organizations, and our residents and visitors who are their audiences. The Department directs the Art in Public Places program and serves its board, the Art in Public Places Trust, commissioning, curating, maintaining and promoting the County's art collection. The Department also manages, programs and operates the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, a campus of state-of-the-art cultural facilities in Cutler Bay, as well as Miami-Dade County Auditorium, Joseph Caleb Auditorium and the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, all dedicated to presenting and supporting excellence in the arts for the entire community. Through staff, board and programmatic resources, the Department, the Council and the Trust promote, coordinate and support Miami-Dade County's more than 1,000 not-for-profit cultural organizations as well as thousands of resident artists through grants, technical assistance, public information and interactive community planning. The Department receives funding through the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, The Children's Trust, the National Endowment for the Arts, the State of Florida through the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Other support and services are provided by TicketWeb for the Culture Shock Miami program, the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, the South Florida Cultural Consortium and the Tourist Development Council.