

Inclusion Conference brings the Power of Play to Downtown Raleigh

RALEIGH, N.C., March 11, 2015 (SEND2PRESS NEWSWIRE) – Over 175 recreational professionals, educators and child specialists from across the U.S. will gather at the National Inclusion Project's Power of Play Inclusion Conference at Marbles Kids Museum in Downtown Raleigh on March 30-31, 2015. This inspiring event is for all people who desire to ensure no child sits on the sidelines.

For 5 years, the Power of Play Inclusion Conference has drawn participants from around the country to gain knowledge and resources about the latest practices on including children with and without disabilities together in ALL activities. Conference Sessions will include training on serving families effectively, building lifelong friendships for children, achieving positive behaviors, preventing and handling bullying, and creating accessible activities.

"The Power of Play Inclusion Conference brings together an amazing group of individuals and organizations that believe ALL children can participate, ALL children can make friends and ALL children can succeed," says Jerry Aiken, National Inclusion Project Executive Director.

Opening the Conference will be Jay Ruderman, President of the Ruderman Family Foundation – an organization focused on the inclusion of people with disabilities in the Jewish Community. In addition to his role with the Foundation, Mr. Ruderman serves on the Board of Directors of the Jewish Funders Network and is a member of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee Executive Committee.

In addition to the sessions listed above, participants will have the chance to take part in interactive play sessions to learn more about group management skills as well as game-based teaching methods. Leading these play sessions will be Playworks which offers an essential opportunity for children to explore their imaginations, to connect with other kids and to stretch and grow physically, emotionally and socially; and the Institute of Play which creates learning experiences rooted in the principles of game design – experiences that simulate real world problems, and require dynamic, well-rounded solutions.

At the close of the Conference will be Dr. Rick Rader, Director of the Morton J. Kent Habilitation Center at the Orange Grove Center in Chattanooga, Tenn. Dr. Rader is responsible for the implementation and evaluation of innovative programs addressing the future medical problems of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities as they age. He also serves as the Editor in chief of Exceptional Parent Magazine and has published over 300 articles on developmental disabilities.

The Power of Play Conference will be held at Marbles Kids Museum at 201 E

Hargett St. in Raleigh, NC on March 30-31, 2015. The registration fee is \$250, with a special rate of \$75 for students.

For the complete speaker line-up and registration information visit:
<http://www.inclusionproject.org/powerofplay>.

About the National Inclusion Project:

The National Inclusion Project is a 501(c)3 co-founded in 2003 by entertainer Clay Aiken and serves to bridge the gap that exists between young people with disabilities and the world around them. By driving the movement for social inclusion in after school programs, summer camps, and community based activities, children of all abilities learn, play and laugh together. Over the last twelve years, the Project has provided training, curriculum, and support to YMCAs, JCCs, Boys & Girls Clubs, 4H, CampFire USA, Kids Museums, Zoos and other community organizations looking to become inclusive or enhance their inclusive programs.

For more information on the National Inclusion Project, visit their website at <http://www.inclusionproject.org/>.

Twitter: @includingkids

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