



JEWELERS FOR CHILDREN
A GIFT OF LOVE FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

For Immediate Release

JEWELERS FOR CHILDREN HOSTS *GREAT ESCAPES* FOR STARLIGHT STARBRIGHT CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION'S SERIOUSLY ILL CHILDREN IN 11 COMMUNITIES

*Yesterday Hundreds of Starlight Families Enjoyed 'Sparkling Sundae' Events
Featuring Jewelry-making, Decadent Ice Cream Sundae Buffets and Celebrity Guests*

LOS ANGELES, CA (March 10, 2008) – When a child has a serious illness, the day to day joys of childhood take a back seat to the rigors of treatment and hospitalization. Jewelers for Children and Starlight Starbright Children's Foundation understand the struggles these families face and hosted *Great Escapes* family events around the country on Sunday, March 9, 2008 to bring joy to ill children, their parents and siblings and take them away from the routine of doctors and medical treatments.

At various locations, celebrity guests participated in the festivities including: Field Cate, Anne Craig, Tyler Foden, Sammi Hanratty, Zane Huett, Dominic Scott Kay, Jennette McCurdy, Kay Panabaker, Spencer and Peyton List, Milly and Becky Rosso, Alyson Stoner, Mena Suvari, Aria Wallace and Devon Werkheiser. See <http://www.wireimage.com/SearchResults.aspx?igi=307978&s=Starlight&sfld=C&vwmd=e> for images.

"In the last year, Jewelers for Children set an unparalleled standard for these magnificent 'Sparkling Sundae' events," said Paula Van Ness, CEO of Starlight. "They quickly became one of our most popular and well-attended *Great Escapes*. The families are treated like royalty, enabling them to forget about their struggles for the time-being."

Great Escapes (www.starlight.org/greatescapes), a Starlight program, are group outings that provide families with a chance to bond and recharge outside the hospital environment, while at the same time connecting them with other families facing similar challenges to build a network of support. Jewelers for Children's signature 'Sparkling Sundae' *Great Escapes* are centered around jewelry-making and decadent ice cream sundae buffets. Following are the cities where the events took place on March 9: Atlanta; Austin; Denver; Somerville, MA; Los Angeles; Lynwood, WA; Minneapolis; New York; Orlando; Phoenix; and San Francisco.

In total, Jewelers for Children has contributed \$250,000 to support programs benefiting Starlight children and families at the time they need it most. To date, its generosity made possible 19 'Sparkling Sundaes', the placement of eight *PC Pal* laptop computers (www.starlight.org/pcpals) and two *Fun Center* mobile entertainment units in hospitals (www.starlight.org/funcenter).

About Jewelers for Children

Jewelers for Children was founded in 1999 by the U. S. jewelry industry with the mission of helping children in need. Since its inception, JFC has donated nearly \$28 million to programs benefiting children whose lives have been affected by illness, abuse, or neglect. This nationwide success is due to the continuing generosity of jewelry trade organizations, jewelry and watch manufacturing companies, jewelry retail stores, individual jewelry professionals, and jewelry consumers. For more information, visit www.jewelersforchildren.org.

About Starlight Starbright Children's Foundation

When a child or teenager has a serious medical condition, everyone in the family is affected. For nearly 25 years, Starlight Starbright Children's Foundation™ has dedicated itself to helping seriously ill children and their families cope with their pain, fear and isolation through entertainment, education and family activities. Starlight's programs have been proven to distract children from their pain, help them better understand and manage their illnesses, and connect families facing similar challenges so that no one feels alone. Through a network of offices, Starlight provides ongoing support to children, parents and siblings in all U.S. states and Canadian provinces with an array of outpatient, hospital-based and Web offerings. Programs are also delivered internationally through affiliates in Australia, Japan and the United Kingdom. To learn more visit www.starlight.org.

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