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MEDIA ADVISORY
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Children from area shelters shine onstage at *Camp Bravo!*

DALLAS – Rainbow Days' Camp Bravo! will welcome nearly 300 children, ages 4-12, residing in local homeless and domestic violence shelters for two weeks of performing arts camps at **Lovers Lane United Methodist Church** in North Dallas. The first session is **July 11-14, 2017** and the second session will take place **July 25-28, 2017** from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm each day. The camp is closed to the public, but photographers and media are welcome to attend.

Rainbow Days' **Camp Bravo! Performing Arts Camp** provides children living in homeless and domestic violence shelters the opportunity to spend time away from the shelter to discover new talents, explore the arts, learn songs and dance choreography and have the experience of performing live onstage! This year's classes include music, drumming, art, dance, acting, cooking, video production and many others.

Cultural artists for Camp Bravo! are sponsored by the **Community Artists Program (CAP)**, a program of the City of Dallas, Office of Cultural Affairs. Additionally, professional artists and culinary specialists from **The Artist Outreach** will also be teaching classes at Camp Bravo!. Each child will also participate in a Rainbow Days' award-winning **Curriculum-Based Support Group (CBSG®)** program each day where they will learn important coping, decision making and life skills such as how to resist negative peer pressure, make healthy choices and say 'no' to drugs.



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A highlight of Camp Bravo! will be a special performance held on the last day of each session on **Friday, July 14**, and on **Friday, July 28**, at **1:30 p.m.** in **Asbury Hall** at **Lovers Lane United Methodist Church**. Children will have the chance to shine onstage during a **live performance** alongside children's performing artist **Eddie Coker**. The children will proudly wear colorful shirts that they create themselves, themed hats and specially designed props as they dance and sing with energy and enthusiasm to an audience filled with parents, volunteers, donors and members of Lovers Lane United Methodist Church.



The camp experience is transformative for many homeless children who rarely have an opportunity to be a “star” of a production, and Rainbow Days provides the red carpet treatment! The children receive “Oscar” awards and sign autographs at the end of the show. Parents come to watch their children in what may be their very first performance in front of a live audience.

“Exposing children to the arts and giving them a week filled with creative learning opportunities with caring adults and instructors from our community makes a significant positive impact in children’s lives,” shared **Cathey Brown, Founder and CEO** of Rainbow Days. “It only takes one moment, one mentor, one memorable experience to expand a child’s world and introduce them to new possibilities.”

Rainbow Days is grateful for the generous donors and volunteers who make this camp possible. Special thanks to the following donors, sponsors, presenters and volunteer groups: **Lovers Lane United Methodist Church, Graham and Carolyn Holloway Family Foundation, Joy and Roger Beless and Friends, City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs, Eddie Coker, Joseph Vincelli with The Artist Outreach** compliments of **Patrick and Beatrice Haggerty Foundation, Kristen Larkin, Intrinsic Foundation, Phyllis Horan, Heart of Texas Therapy Dogs, Cranium Kids** and **Lynn Moon**.

Camp Bravo! is a program of **Rainbow Days**. Since **1982**, Rainbow Days, a 501(c)(3) Dallas-based nonprofit organization, has inspired and prepared children to live a life filled with hope and promise. To date, Rainbow Days has served more than **200,000 children in the Dallas area** and trained over 42,000 professionals across the U.S. For more information about **Camp Bravo!** or **Rainbow Days**, please visit our website at www.rainbowdays.org or contact us at: 214-887-0726.