



Media Contact: Sharon Adams
Adams Communications Public Relations
(972) 773-9289 / adamscomm1@aol.com

Rainbow Days Contacts: Kelly Wierzbinski
Director of Family Connection
(214) 850-7927 / kellyw@rainbowdays.org

or **Katy Cornwall**
Communications & Development Specialist
(817) 637-2643 / katyc@rainbowdays.org

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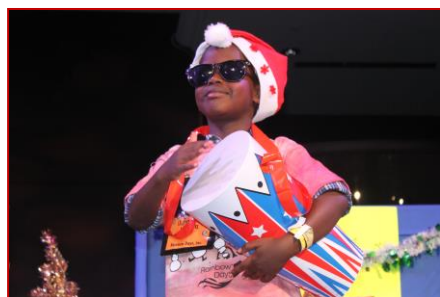
Children from area shelters shine onstage at *Camp Bravo!*

DALLAS – Rainbow Days’ Camp Bravo will welcome nearly 300 children residing in local homeless and domestic violence shelters for two weeks of performing arts camps at **Lovers Lane United Methodist Church**. The first session is **July 10-13**, and the second session will take place **July 24-27** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. *This camp is closed to the public, but reporters and media are welcome to attend.*



Camp Bravo provides homeless children between the ages of 4 and 12 the opportunity to spend time away from the shelter to discover new talents, explore the arts and have the unforgettable experience of performing live onstage. This year’s classes include music, drumming, visual arts, dance, acting, cooking, video production and more.

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 be teaching classes, too. At Camp Bravo, each child will



also participate in Rainbow Days’ award-winning **Curriculum-Based Support Group (CBSG®)** program, which will help them develop important coping, decision-making and life skills, such as how to resist negative peer pressure, make healthy choices and say ‘no’ to drugs.

A highlight of Camp Bravo will be a special performance held on the last day of each session on **Friday, July 13**, and **Friday, July 27**, 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 T-shirts that they create themselves and carry themed props as they dance and sing with energy and enthusiasm to an audience filled with volunteers, donors and fellow campers.

The Camp Bravo 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. For many, performing onstage at Camp Bravo 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 their lives,” shared Rainbow Days **Founder and CEO Cathey Brown**. “It only takes one moment, one mentor or 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. Camp Bravo is supported in part by the **Episcopal Foundation of Dallas** and the **Women of St. Michael and All Saints Episcopal Church**, both of which will be funding food for the children in attendance. Additionally, Rainbow Days is grateful for its partnership with **Lovers Lane United Methodist Church**, which graciously hosts Camp Bravo each year.

ABOUT RAINBOW DAYS: **Camp Bravo** is a program of **Rainbow Days**, a 501(c)(3) Dallas-based nonprofit organization. Founded in **1982**, Rainbow Days has a mission to help children and youth in adversity build coping skills and resilience to create positive futures. Through support groups, camps, mentored events and tangible items, Rainbow Days serves over **11,000 at-risk children and youth in the Dallas area** annually. For more information on Camp Bravo or Rainbow Days, please visit our website at www.rainbowdays.org or call us at (214) 887-0726.

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