



Society for Imagination and Wonder “Members Only” Event Brilliant Success

Creativity is at the heart of scientific exploration, according to an increasingly well-known young scientist who presented his work to a group of Childsplay’s most generous supporters.

On January 15, 2014, nearly 100 members of the Society for Imagination and Wonder gathered at the home of Ardie and Steve Evans for a “Members Only” event to hear, first hand, why their support of Childsplay is so appreciated and increasingly important. Without exception, guests were awed and inspired by a dynamic presentation from 17-year-old inventor, scientist and cancer researcher Jack Andraka.



Jack accepted Childsplay’s invitation to speak at this reception because he says creativity rather than brains played a bigger role in his discovery. He loves the intersection between arts and learning to such an extent that he agreed to meet later in the year with Childsplay’s creative team to discuss a play about his exploits as a young scientist.

Childsplay’s programs on stages and in classrooms are designed to foster creative thinking and problem solving skills that help young people such as Jack become the inventive future leaders of our community and world. His exuberant presentation to members of the Society of Imagination and Wonder inspired excitement and animated conversation among guests who found Jack to be interesting and charismatic beyond his years. When asked about his travel schedule, Jack told guests he had come to Arizona after meeting with Steve Wozniak and was headed home to Maryland to take his final exams.

And while Jack’s accomplishments are extraordinary, it was clear to all audiences that he is still very much a 17-year old, albeit a remarkably intelligent and well-spoken one. Joking about accidental kitchen explosions and other misadventures that have occurred in his family basement, it is clear that Andraka maintains an ongoing spirit of imagination and wonder in his scientific discoveries.

Jack Andraka is where he is because he has been given the opportunity to explore creativity and imagination in all aspects of his life. With every gift to Childsplay, donors are giving this same chance to thousands of Arizona children.



Recently profiled on *60 Minutes* in a segment entitled *Boy Wonder*, Andraka is a Maryland high school student who at age 15 invented an inexpensive and sensitive dipstick-like sensor for the rapid and early detection of pancreatic, ovarian and lung cancers. The diagnostic method he developed is more than

90 percent accurate in detecting the presence of pancreatic cancer’s biomarker protein called mesothelin. His discovery earned him the grand prize \$75,000 Gordon E. Moore Award – named for Intel’s co-founder – after competing with 1,500 other young scientists from 70 countries.

Jack said the idea for his pancreatic cancer test came to him while he was in biology class, after which he followed up with more research using Google search and free online scientific journals. He then contacted 200 researchers, hoping to receive laboratory help. He received 199 rejections before he finally got a positive reply from a professor at Johns Hopkins University. His TED Talk has generated more than one million views and he makes personal appearances throughout the world presenting his research.



TOP: Jack Andraka, answering questions moderated by host Steve Evans. MIDDLE: Carol Schilling, Carol Whiteman, Jack Andraka and Joanie Flatt. BOTTOM: Ardie and Steve Evans; Sally and Rich Lehmann; Susan, Jerry and Nancy Wissink; Richard and Susan Goldsmith.

Never Stop Wondering: Childsplay Joins Forces With Arizona Science Center

Childsplay performances aren't the only way imagination and wonder is sparked for young people across the state of Arizona. Children attend classes at Childsplay's campus, learning about acting, singing, communication, discipline and how to work as a team. They participate in programs at their schools where theatre is integrated to strengthen literacy learning and improve test scores. And recently, Childsplay has provided teachers, librarians and professionals from other cultural organizations with an opportunity to benefit from drama education with professional development programs.

This year, Childsplay has joined forces with the Arizona Science Center to introduce drama and storytelling into their galleries and exhibits through a program called *Never Stop Wondering*. Nearly 50 Science Center staff members who work with children and families are teaming up with Childsplay's teaching artists to learn how drama can make the experience of scientific learning interactive and fun. Often a staff member will only have a minute or two to engage young visitors in the content presented by a specific exhibit before children lose interest and move on to a new activity. It has become increasingly important to provide staff with tools that generate excitement in a fast and dynamic way.

There is a moment – the instance when a child becomes fascinated with a scientific concept or a family wants to learn more about a particular exhibit – known as “the wonder moment.” Effective communication with young people at this time can build lifelong enthusiasm for learning

about science, math or technology. It can even direct young people toward a career in one of the STEM fields.

Drama has proven to be a particularly effective tool for capturing this moment. According to Childsplay's Education Outreach Specialist Korbi Adams, “Childsplay

has a tremendous amount of value to offer when we partner with organizations such as the Arizona Science Center. So much of the work we do in drama is about translation and messaging. That's exactly what the Science Center is trying to do – to decode huge, dense, scientific concepts for a public audience. Childsplay, can provide tools and engagement techniques, through drama and storytelling, that help science experts effectively communicate their message.”

Programs such as *Never Stop Wondering* are changing the way children perceive science, as well as other academic subjects. And these programs, conducted by Childsplay in partnership with the Desert Botanical Garden and other Valley organizations, schools and libraries, have expanded dramatically in the past five years. When donors contribute to Childsplay, they are, indeed supporting the entire community.



Lifetime membership in the Society is extended to individuals, foundations and companies who have made gifts of \$20,000 or more cumulatively over any time period.

• LIFETIME MEMBERS •

Visionary \$2,000,000 +

Sybil B. Harrington Trust

Transformer \$1,000,000 - \$1,999,999

City of Tempe*
Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust*

Innovator \$500,000 - \$999,999

Arizona Commission on the Arts*
The Kemper & Ethel Marley Foundation*

Energizer \$250,000 - \$499,999

APS*
Helios Education Foundation*
National Endowment for the Arts*
Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust
The Shubert Foundation*
Target Foundation*
US Airways*
Carol DuVal Whiteman*

Originator \$100,000 - \$249,999

American Express
Arizona Community Foundation
Season for Sharing, The Arizona Republic / 12 News*
Doris Duke Charitable Foundation
Joanie Flatt Family Foundation*
J.W. Kieckhefer Foundation*
Margaret T. Morris Foundation*
City of Phoenix
Salt River Project*
The Steele Foundation, Inc.*
Theatre Communications Group
Thunderbirds Charities*
Wells Fargo Bank*
Whiteman Foundation

Pioneer \$50,000 - \$99,999

Alliance Bank of Arizona*
Roxie and Dean Bacon
Banner Health, Cardon Children's Medical Center
BHHS Legacy Foundation
BlueCross/BlueShield of Arizona
Carol Critchfield Foundation*
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Shelley Cohn and Mollie C. Trivers*
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Medtronic Foundation
National Bank of Arizona
Scottsdale Insurance / Nationwide Foundation*
Phoenix Suns Charities*
Marianne and Nelson Ross*
Scottsdale League for the Arts
Snell & Wilmer*
Stocker Foundation
Elden Strahm
Nancy Swortzell
Tucson-Pima Arts Council
Jennifer and Mike Van Kirk
Keith and Debra Wells
WESTAF
Rick and Vicki Williams*
Drs. Jeanne Hokin Wills and J. Robert Wills*

*Represents contributions of \$1,000 or more from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

A Lifelong Love Affair With the Arts

For an arts organization in Phoenix, it's hard to imagine a better champion than Carol DuVal Whiteman. An avid supporter of the performing arts throughout Arizona, Carol's contributions to Childsplay over many years have entitled her to Lifetime Membership in the Society for Imagination and Wonder; an honor extended to those who have contributed \$20,000 - \$2 million and above over any time period.

Upon seeing her name on the commemorative display at the Tempe Center for the Arts at the Energizer level - reserved for those who have gifted between \$250,000 and \$500,000 - Carol was surprised and thought it must have been an error. "No mistake," managing director Steve Martin told her with a big smile and an enormous sense of gratitude, "you are one of our dearest friends and supporters." Martin feels that along with being a board member and a significant donor, Carol is a valued confidant and advisor.

Perhaps even more significant than her financial contributions is Carol's lifelong commitment to promoting Arizona's arts and culture community. More than four decades ago she was one of four individuals to found Arizona Theatre Company, where she served as their first managing director. Actively involved in the Arizona Commission on the Arts and a longtime member of Childsplay's Board of Directors, Carol is also an accomplished playwright and poet in her own right.

Carol's efforts have also helped establish Childsplay as a national leader in the development of new plays for young audiences. She believes so strongly in the value of creative new work that in 2000 she generously donated funds to establish the Whiteman New Play Program. Encouraging and supporting the development of plays that inspire the imagination of our young people will guarantee that

relevant original works will continue well into the future.

Carol's devotion to Childsplay has been extraordinary. Growing up with a love of reading, she has always been passionate about productions that challenge young minds to expand beyond their personal horizons. "Attending the theatre is such a wonderful thing for young people to do," she explains. "The exposure to the words and rhythms and stories - it's a great educational vehicle. I always brought my children and not only did they love it, they benefitted from it in more ways than I can say."

Bringing performances directly into schools is integral to Childsplay's mission. In the organization's earliest days, Carol was instrumental in keeping them going. In one of her phone conversations with founder and artistic director David Saar, he mentioned that the previous day, Childsplay's touring van had died on the side of the road. Without the van, Childsplay wasn't sure how they would be able to continue what was then a small school touring program. Hearing this, Whiteman spoke with her husband, Jack, who arranged for a car dealer friend to send a van over.

"It was such fun to be able to call David only a half an hour later and say, 'well, we have a brand new van waiting for you.'" Whiteman recalled with a familiar twinkle in her eye. "He thought I was teasing."

Now, Carol knows, the needs are greater than ever for arts organizations. True to her love of Childsplay and that of other Valley arts organizations, she continues to find great joy in continuing her long tradition of giving.



Annual membership in the Society is extended to individuals, foundations and companies who contribute \$1,000 or more annually. The following gifts were made from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

• ANNUAL MEMBERS •

Adventurer \$5,000 - \$9,999

Rebecca and Bill Akins
Anonymous (2)
Michael Flatt
Debra and James Larson
Phoenix Coyotes Charities

Explorer \$2,500 - \$4,999

Bank of Arizona
Jacqueline Daspit
Betty Drake
Christine Ewing
First Western Financial
Erika and Gaylord Gagnon
Donna Gerometta
Glendale Arts Commission
Lisa Coulter Hyland and
Timothy Hyland
Netherland-America Foundation
Rosenlund Family Foundation
Adrienne and Charles Schiffner

Storyteller \$1,000 - \$2,499

AtLee Family Foundation
Kelly and Steve Balthazor
Judy and Bob Bennke
Sam Campana
Jane and Bill Canby
Martha Carlson
Alison and John Carter
Charlotte Zwick Cruise
Molly and Nick DeFilippis
Traci Estenson
Gail Fisher and Mel Kessler
Glendale Arts Council
Susan and Rich Goldsmith

Julia and George Hostal
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Isabelle and David Jazo
Curt Johnson
Teri and Brian Killgore
Lynne Lagarde
Sally Lehmann
Meridian Bank
Mary Ann Miller
Myra Millinger
Janice E. Myers
Palo Verde Pediatrics
Resolution Copper Mining
Royal Netherlands Embassy
Pam and Norman Saba
Jennifer and Charles Sands
Jacqueline Schenkein and
Michael Schwimmer
Dorothy Lincoln Smith
Nancy and Michael Stone
TNT Family Farm
United Phoenix Firefighters Association
Margaret and Graham Whitehead
Robert Parker Wills

Your participation in the Society for Imagination and Wonder is especially important to Arizona's young people. We encourage you to select the category of giving best suited for you.

• ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP •

Gifts contributed during one fiscal year
(July 1 to June 30)

Trail Blazer	\$10,000
Adventurer	\$5,000
Explorer	\$2,500
Storyteller	\$1,000

All outright gifts received during a fiscal year (including pledge payments) determine a donor's membership category for the following year.

• LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP •

Gifts contributed cumulatively over any time period

Visionary	\$2,000,000
Transformer	\$1,000,000
Innovator	\$500,000
Energizer	\$250,000
Originator	\$100,000
Pioneer	\$50,000
Developer	\$35,000
Promoter	\$20,000

All gifts, including those made to special events, in honor of loved ones and to any other fundraising programs of Childsplay are included in a donor's cumulative giving total. Irrevocable planned gifts will also be included based on their face value.