



Autism is a complex biological condition that affects a person's ability to communicate and develop social relationships, and is often accompanied by behavioral challenges. A 2009 report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) stated that autism spectrum disorders are diagnosed in **one in 110 or 1% of all children** in the United States, affecting four times as many boys as girls. It is estimated that 1.5 million Americans have an autism spectrum disorder. The CDC has called autism a national public health crisis for which we still need effective treatments and whose causes need to be better understood. (Autism Speaks, December 18, 2009)

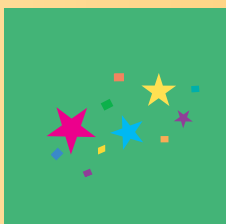
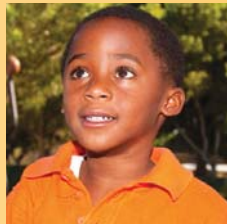
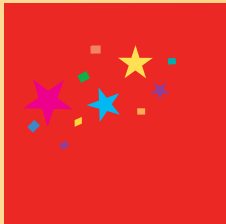
The Carrie Brazer Center for Autism specializes in the care and treatment of children on the autism spectrum. Our instruction program is a highly structured, consistent, and behavior-based. We are committed to long term growth for our students and we focus on new skills and behaviors that include community based outings. Programs at the center are available year-round, Monday through Saturday, after school, teacher work days and holidays and during winter, spring and summer breaks.

For the past 10 years we are honored to have helped change the lives of over 250 children. Our new early childhood center and elementary school, located in the Kendall area, behind Baptist Hospital, provides care for children starting at age 18 months. We have also recently instituted a "Vocational Skills" program for adults ages 18 and over.

Our incredible staff works collaboratively to develop individualized programs for each child. However, not all families of children with disabilities are able to afford the special care and therapies needed. Our annual fundraiser, **COMEDY FOR THE KIDS**, provides scholarships so that no child is turned away from the Carrie Brazer Center for Autism school or denied needed speech, occupational, cognitive, behavioral and physical therapies.

**YOU CAN HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

Donate to the Carrie Brazer Center for Autism today!



**MEET SOME OF OUR SPECIAL KIDS**

*Children's photographs by Ada Stevens, SnapHappy Photos*



the  
Carrie  
Brazer  
Center for Autism &  
Alternative Approaches, Inc.



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**COMEDY FOR  
THE KIDS**



*Love Gardener  
by Ed King*

**FEBRUARY 27, 2010**

## About the Event:

Join the Carrie Brazer Center for Autism **COMEDY FOR THE KIDJ**. Enjoy a spectacular evening of comedic entertainment, Silent Auction, dining, music and dancing at the fabulous Eden Roc Renaissance Resort in Miami Beach. Don't miss out on this exciting, fun-filled event and an incredible silent auction inclusive of dynamite vacations and get-aways, airline tickets, signed sports & comedy memorabilia! Your contribution can make a difference!

## Our Talented Comedians:



**Anna Collins**, emcee. Anna is a humorist, former radio copywriter, standup comedian, and author. She was featured on television in VH-1 "Standup Spotlight" and Lifetime "Girl's Night Out." She has appeared at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas, the Improv in California and Miami and other comedy venues around the country. Anna lives in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.



**Keith Alberstadt** takes pride in laughing at himself and his "inner dork," which he attempts to prove is something in all of us. Keith shares his witty insight on everything, all the while doing it with a mischievous smile that quickly becomes infectious. Keith has entertained our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan and has appeared in comedy clubs around the country. In addition, he has been featured on "The Late Show with David Letterman," and is a contributing writer on "Saturday Night Live Weekend Update," and "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon."



**Kyle Grooms** gives an intimate look into his life experiences growing up in the American Melting Pot. His exploration of the human experience crosses many ethnic and social boundaries. Kyle was the featured performer in a Stand up Special on "Comedy Central Presents." He has appeared on HBO's "Def Comedy Jam," "Comic View" "Chappelle's Show," was the "Information Guy" on "Straight Plan for the Gay Man" and appeared in Super Bowl XLI Career Builder commercials.



**Dennis Regan** had a variety of jobs and owned a business before becoming a comedian in 1987. He started out in small local clubs and soon moved to New York, where he worked his way through the Manhattan comedy scene. Audiences all over the country have experienced his comedy, from nightclubs and cruise ships to colleges and corporations. Dennis has appeared on "The Late Show with David Letterman," "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno," and was a writer for the TV sitcom, "The King of Queens," starring Kevin James.

# COMEDY FOR THE KIDJ

Join us for an evening of laughter and music with our country's brightest and rising Stars.

Featuring the comedy of  
**ANNA COLLINS, KEITH ALBERSTADT,  
KYLE GROOMS AND DENNIS REGAN**



The Eden Roc  
Renaissance Hotel  
4525 Collins Avenue  
Miami Beach, Florida

Saturday Evening  
February 27, 2010  
8:00 pm

\$125 per person  
Friends & Family table of ten \$1250

\$200 VIP admission\*  
Friends & Family VIP table of ten \$2,000

\*VIP Admission includes special seating and "Meet the Stars" champagne reception at 7pm

Dress: Semi-Formal

## Honorees:

We are pleased to honor three incredible individuals who have been instrumental in supporting the children in the Miami community and at our center:



**David Lawrence, Jr.** retired as publisher of the Miami Herald in 1999 to work in the area of early childhood development and readiness. He is the founding board chair of the Children's Trust and the president of the Early Childhood Initiative Foundation. In 2004, the University of Florida established the "David Lawrence, Jr. Chair in Early Childhood Studies" in his honor.



**Dr. Michael Alessandri** has worked with individuals with autism and their families for over 25 years. He is currently the Executive Director of UM-NSU CARD (Center for Autism and Related Disabilities) and Clinical Professor at the University of Miami. He serves on the board of several community and professional organizations that support individuals with autism and other disabilities.



**Teresa Becerra** is President of the Autism Society of Miami Dade and is a member of the Constituency Board of UM NSU CARD. Teresa is the founder of I Know Someone With Autism-Now You Do Too, a Dade County School program and she co-wrote with her husband, Robert, Chapters 8 & 9 of *Embracing Autism* by Robert Parish and Friends.

## Our Featured Artist



**Ed King** is a neo-pop artist based in Miami, Florida, who inspires the hearts and minds of people every where. Through his use of bright colors and creative characters, King creates an allegorical landscape that is beautifully shaped by how he sees the world around him. Ed created a signature piece, *Love Gardener*, for our Silent Auction. He also painted 4 additional pieces with the children at the Carrie Brazer Center for Autism for our fundraiser.