



Down Syndrome Awareness Centers

educate. inspire. achieve.

October 2010

# Newsletter

www.gigisplayhouse.org  
info@gigisplayhouse.org

**Hoffman Estates Location**  
1069 W. Golf Rd.  
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169  
847.885.PLAY (7529)

**NEW! Chicago Location**  
3948 N Lincoln Ave  
Chicago, IL 60613  
773.583.PLAY (7529)

**Fox Valley Location**  
4024 Fox Valley Center Dr.  
Aurora, IL 60504  
630.778.PLAY (7529)

**Sioux City Location**  
1551 Indian Hills Drive,  
Suite 7  
Sioux City, Iowa 51104  
712.226.PLAY (7529)

**McHenry Location**  
5404 W. Elm St. Suite A.  
McHenry, IL 60050  
815.385.PLAY (7529)

**Des Moines Location**  
10430 New York Ave  
Suite A  
Urbandale, IA 50322  
515.252.PLAY (7529)

**Rockford Location**  
8801 N 2nd  
Machesney Park, IL 61115

## GiGi's takes Wrigley Field by Storm!

When the Chicago Cubs and the Players Give Back Program asked GiGi's if they would like tickets for the August 19th game, little did they know that GiGi's would fill up almost 650 seats! The Cubs Care Foundation has been a supporter of the Chicago GiGi's Playhouse for the last 2 years. Their generous grants have allowed GiGi's to offer free educational and therapeutic programming including tutoring for hundreds of children and adults with Down syndrome! With 650 people, we had to turn it into awareness event so we ordered blue GiGi's foam fingers for each person to wave! On August 19th, for the first Hope Week Event at Wrigley Field, more than 650 GiGi's families entered Wrigley Field – all holding big blue foam fingers!



GiGi walked onto the field with some of her friends and waved to the crowd as all the Hope Week organizations were announced. Here is a quote from one mom that took 4 kids to the game by herself, "Wow! This was amazing! It gave me the confidence to know that I can do this! I always thought that it would be too hard to bring all my kids out at the same time but this proves that I can! Thank you!" The Cubs may have lost that game but in the words of Harry Carey, Holy Cow, were we able to spread awareness!



## Party at the Playhouse!

When Jade turned 2, her family decided to have her birthday party at the Chicago Playhouse. Mom Kim has been very involved with getting the new Chicago Playhouse up and running and was excited to show it off to her (and Jade's) friends! In lieu of gifts, she asked for donations to the Playhouse. They raised over \$3500! Wow! And best of all, the awareness they spread about Down syndrome just by inviting friends and family to the Playhouse was fantastic!

Kim sent in a picture of Jade with some information about her favorite things and we created a custom-made activity book for her to pass out to all her friends and their parents!

Your Playhouse is always available for these types of parties! To book yours or get an activity book made for your child's party, classroom or other event, call your local Playhouse!



## What a Walk!

The Des Moines and Sioux City Iowa locations each had their Buddy and Awareness walk fundraiser on the same day in August! Talk about awareness! With over 1,500 total walkers and families, the Playhouses were able to raise awareness, raise funds, and have a great time! Both of the Iowa Playhouses are growing in number and spreading awareness in their communities!

## MATH UPDATE!!!

Please join us for parent/tutor training for our upcoming math program. We encourage anyone who is interested, in helping with tutoring or enrolling their child into the program, to attend at least 2 out of the 3 planned training sessions. We have incorporated a few different methods as part of our curriculum and will need your help in making learning math fun and successful for your child!



We have chosen the following Monday evenings for our meetings at the

### Fox Valley location:

October 25 "Real World Math"

November 29 "Applying the Methods"

### Hoffman Estates location:

October 18 "Real World Math"

November 15 "Applying the Methods"



This is an ADULTS ONLY event and will meet from 7-9 pm. Please invite your child's teacher(s), aides, anyone interested in enhancing their child's math skills. Please RSVP to the playhouse where you will be attending: Fox Valley [foxvalley@gigisplayhouse.org](mailto:foxvalley@gigisplayhouse.org), Hoffman Estates [literacyhe@gigisplayhouse.org](mailto:literacyhe@gigisplayhouse.org). Hope to see you there!

## Making a Difference!

When a little boy came up to Marcia and said, "Thank you for helping my brother", she knew her hard work was worth it! Our tutor team is a wonderful, dedicated group of volunteers who make a huge impact in the lives of our kids..and their families! Tutors are still needed! Many kids are still on our waiting list! Literacy sessions last about an hour and are scheduled



every other week, at your convenience. Contact your Playhouse for more information

## UIC Partners with GiGi's!

One of our favorite things to do is talk to students in the medical, therapy and educational fields. We were thrilled to do that at UIC this month! Speaking to a group of future therapists, we were able to share ideas of how to creatively motivate children with Down syndrome and ensure their success in fine and gross motor skill development. The students were inspired by hearing about the amazing potential of all individuals with Down syndrome and their role as therapists in helping them reach that potential!

## Sibling Side!

"Annabelle has rocked our world and we love her. She is just our little sister and we don't care about anything else. We are so happy God sent her to our family. She is the first person we want to see when we get home. She gives our home its smile."



Annabelle's brothers and sisters Matt, Johnny, Abby, and Josie Sheppard

See more inspiring quotes like this in our 2011 Calendar when you order yours today at [www.gigisplayhouse.org](http://www.gigisplayhouse.org)!

# i have a voice

*After an incredible response from the i have a voice Traveling Gallery at the Cherry Vale Mall in Rockford, it is now at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, IL!*

i have a voice Gallery Reception  
Monday September 27, 2010  
5:30-7pm  
Everyone Welcome!

Join us as we unveil the Gallery to the Lutheran General staff, families and the general public!

RSVP to [ihaveavoic@gigisplayhouse.org](mailto:ihaveavoic@gigisplayhouse.org)

## Walk for Down syndrome Awareness was a HUGE success!!

Fun was had on the bounce houses & kid zone; adults & kids playing games and doing crafts, Silent Auction with donated items from across Siouland, and Food donated by great businesses, Volunteers everywhere and Jackie from KPTH FOX



44 **ROCKED** the park!!

THANK YOU Siouland for spreading Down syndrome Awareness! Thank you to all our supporters, volunteers, families and families!! With the funds generated we will be providing services

for FREE to all of our families in Literacy, Phonics, Math, Social Skills through Play and Group Sessions along with support for families. Check out our website for list and more information!



## Dance Camp!

It's not too late to register for the Dakota Valley Dance Camp Fundraiser! Come to Dakota Valley High School (1150 Northshore Drive in McCook Lake, SD) on Sun, Oct 3 from 1-3! Bring your FRIENDS, cost is \$20 and includes a t-shirt, all funds will go to GiGi's Playhouse!

Chili's Fundraiser Sun, Oct 10 ALL DAY in Sioux City! Tell them our Voucher #9999900000132 for GiGi's Playhouse and they will donate a portion of the profit to GiGi's Playhouse-Sioux City!

What could be more fun this fall than a Halloween Party for all? Join us on **Sun, Oct 24 from 2-4pm** for a Halloween Costume Party for the whole family! Prizes will be awarded!



Leaps and Bounds starts on Sat, Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> from 1-1:30 at Contemporary Dance Studio! Register now by emailing [siouxcity@gigisplayhouse.org](mailto:siouxcity@gigisplayhouse.org). Ages 3 and Up!



## 2011 Gala

Mark your calendar's for the 2011 Gala to be held on February 26. This year's Gala will be held across the country! Our first planning meeting will be on **October 6th at 6:00pm** at GiGi's Playhouse Des Moines. If you are interested in helping make this event a huge success, please come!!!

## 2010 Buddy Walk

We had our Buddy Walk on August 28, at the DMACC campus, we had a great time and had beautiful weather. Thank you to all of the volunteers, committee members, everyone that came out and had a great time.

### 2 and Under Playgroup!

Our first 2 and Under playgroup is scheduled for Saturday September 11, from 9am -10:30. This is a great time for the younger kids to play, and support from the families. We will have animal crackers and apple juice!!

## Abby

Abby Gaudian had her birthday party, but instead of getting gifts for herself she asked her friend to give gifts for the GiGi's playhouse. Abby has a cousin Joe that has Down syndrome, when asked why she wanted to donate her birthday gifts to GiGi's she said that she wanted to help her cousin Joe and other children with Down syndrome have some nice things they could use while they were attending GiGi's Playhouse.

Abby's mom Katie said "as a family we felt it was important because we want our children to know more about their cousin Joe. We felt by doing this good deed she would learn the importance of giving and to become more aware Down syndrome."

Abby  
Thank You  
Very Much  
for your  
donation.



## FAMILY FUN NIGHT WITH PIZZA

We are having so much fun at our Family Fun nights every other Tuesday night, from 5:30-7:30pm at GiGi's!! Our kids have a blast dressing up in costumes, dancing in the teen room, playing with musical instruments, and just goofing around! And our parents are enjoying their time together as well!!! Be sure to stop in for some pizza and fun, or check us out during the day at our weekly OPEN PLAY on Fridays from 10-11:30am! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

## FAMILY FUN HALLOWEEN PARTY

Please join us on Friday, Oct. 29th, from 6-9pm, at GiGi's for a Family Halloween party!!! Come in your costume ( or favorite team jersey if you would prefer!!), and be ready to do the "Monster Mash" and play games!!! We will have pizza and treats, so just show up for what is bound to be a "Haunting" good time!!



## EDUCATOR OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, September 22, 7-9pm  
Hoffman Playhouse, hoffmanestates@gigisplayhouse.org or 847-885-7529 to RSVP

## Friday Friends Cheer The Saxons Onto Victory!

We were invited to be guests at the Schaumburg Saxons first varsity football game of the year! The team came to the Playhouse for Karaoke Night a few months ago, so it was our turn to visit them. What a great night, we sat together in the stadium to watch the game and support our friends. Thank you for the invitation, Schaumburg High School Football Team! We love having friends on the team and can't wait for our next activity together!



## Kids Club Down On The Farm!

Our trip to Volkening Farm was great fun – and educational! We met lots of animals up close – including cows, pigs, horses and chickens! We learned a lot about animals and how their food is grown and prepared, and how they provide us with food, like eggs! We saw the vegetables grown on the farm and food cooked in the kitchen. We enjoyed a picnic lunch there and would love to go again next year!



## FRIDAY FRIENDS

We will dance the night away on September 24 – it's Zumba Night! The fun doesn't stop - October 22 is our annual Halloween Party! Pull out your costume and join the fun!

### Friday Family Fun Night

Friday, October 1, 6:30-8:30pm  
RSVP to the Playhouse

## Playhouse Cookbooks

Purchase copies for your child's teachers & therapists, only \$10!

## Calling All Kids, ages 3-8!

HSJ and PP - we meet for some fall fun from 11:30-12:30pm (new time!) on October 9! Invite your friends from school to join us!

## Playhouse Halloween Party

Saturday, October 23, 10-11:30am.  
RSVP to hoffmanestates@gigisplayhouse.org with the number of adults and kids. Wear your costumes!

## Wendy's Nights

What do you need to do? Show up at our Wendy's and eat dinner! No coupons are needed and they send us a donation, so please consider eating at Wendy's on these nights! October 14 & 28, 4-8pm.

## Open Play-New Day!

Starting in October OPEN PLAY will be on Friday mornings from 10:00-12:00. We had such large crowds over the summer months at McHenry we would like to continue this trend. Several days throughout the school year the kids will be off on Fridays, so we would like to be able to offer a place for the kids to come play. We have had so many wonderful High School volunteers come and help out, we are hoping to give them the opportunity to continue that throughout the year, too. Please join the fun, make some new and lasting friendships and of course stay for lunch!



## Phonics practice!

Many times we are surprised by the things our kid are picking up and they tend to surface unexpectedly. One of our kids, Rebecca, age 7, was practicing her pronunciation of the phrase "excuse me" with her mom. Rebecca tends to say "kwooz me." After demonstrating the proper way to say it, Rebecca said, "No mom, it's kwa, kwa, Q says kwa, so it is Kwooz me." Her mom quickly hugged her and echoed her observation. Sometimes the intended lesson has to be abandoned so the child can enjoy her accomplishment.



## SMILE Group (Social Skills Molded into Life & Language)

This is an up and coming group at the McHenry Playhouse. Please join us the 1st Wednesday of every month from 4:14-5:00pm. This awesome group will work on a variety of life and language skills in fun, creative and educational way. This program is open to any high school teen or adult. Please come check it out!

# Chicago

## Tailgate Party!

Wow! The Chicago location has been nothing but BUSY! We moved in, put a beautiful mural up (thanks to Art By Angie!) and started our educational programs! In that mural, we have a picture of Wrigley field so when we had our big Cubs day out, we had a tailgate party at the Chicago Playhouse! Over 70 people were there and were amazed at how incredible the Playhouse looks!



## Open Play Every Wednesday!

Each Wednesday, Open Play hosts families with coffee and pizza. This week, we had 3 moms with their gorgeous daughters sitting on the stage just sharing life together! The bonds that are created at the Playhouse really do stretch beyond the Playhouse walls!



## Literacy!

The literacy program is up and running! We have a packed schedule and are so excited to watch the children learn and grow! For information contact [chicago@gigisplayhouse.org](mailto:chicago@gigisplayhouse.org)

## TOWN HALL meeting

October 12 6-8. Let us know what you are looking for in a Playhouse! This is for adults only but if you do not have a sitter we will have child care available. We will start with pizza and networking at 6:00 then head over to the Brownstone (away from the kids) to do some adult talking! The Chicago Playhouse already has 25 kids being tutored this session in literacy and we are ready to tackle math and raise major awareness in the city! Please join us as we make our plan!!!

## Jade's Bday Rocks!

Jade showed her sisters a good time at the Playhouse! They set up a band on the stage and had a concert! Jade invited her friends and family to the Playhouse to show everyone how much she loves having her very own Playhouse! She can't wait to start the Literacy program too!



# Fox Valley

## Getting the Bug to Volunteer

"Once you get bit by the bug to volunteer with the children and families at GiGi's, you find that it is almost addicting!" Theresa is a college student who was looking for some hours required by one of her classes. After she got involved, she has continued to volunteer long after her class was completed. "The children just cuddled their way into my heart and I feel so great every time I get to help them! Watching the children interact and play lit a spark in me and I knew I had to be a part of this organization. I've never looked back!"

GiGi's Fox Valley Site Coordinator, Annie Sloka, says "From students as young as

12 who are helpers at our various group activities to adults with specialized skills such as speech language pathologists or special education teachers, and everything in-between, there are always opportunities to match our volunteer's interests, skills and schedules."

If you are interested in finding out more about volunteering at GiGi's Fox Valley, contact us at [foxvalley@gigisplayhouse.org](mailto:foxvalley@gigisplayhouse.org) or 630-778-PLAY.



## New Music Program

The new music class starting on October 1st is for kids ages 8-12. Each session will explore a different aspect of music and music appreciation. Activities will include learning about rhythm, exploring how music makes us feel and singing simple songs in new ways – such as using simple sign language or using movement with the beat. We will even learn about notes and their placement on the keyboard. Contact the Fox Valley Playhouse for more information at 630-778-PLAY or [foxvalley@gigisplayhouse.org](mailto:foxvalley@gigisplayhouse.org).

## New Math Program Kicks Off!

Fox Valley's pilot math program began with informational meetings with over 25 parents in attendance and several students as well. Math program developers, Genia Latka and Beth Spenadel presented an overview of the program, demonstrated techniques to implement at home, and shared ways to get involved in the program from volunteering as a tutor, making materials behind the scenes or utilizing the parent training sessions to implement a home-based program.



## Chicago

- 2 Open Play, 11 am to 1 p.m
- 6 Open Play, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 13 Open Play, 11 a.m to 1 p.m.
- 16 2 & Under Playgroup, 10 - 11:30 a.m.
- 20 Open Play, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 21 Open Play/Pizza Party, 5-7 PM
- 24 Nuestros Angeles Hispanic Group, 1-3pm
- 27 Open Play, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Literacy** - scheduled times daily by appointment

**Nov 11** Save the Date! Cupcakes and Cocktails

one night. 5 Cities. your voice.  
Go to [www.gigisplayhouse.org](http://www.gigisplayhouse.org)  
to see the video about next  
years National Gala!



## Programs & Activities

- Open Play** – Promotes networking and socializing for families with children of all ages with Down syndrome
- Crawlers Program** – Helps facilitate and strengthen the skills in children who are at the developmental stage of crawling.
- Walkers Program** – Facilitates and strengthens the skills in children who are beginning to walk.
- 2 & Under Group** – Promotes positive beginnings for families with an infant or toddler with Down syndrome, with a focus on ongoing support and networking for new and current families
- 3-4 Play Group** – Promotes networking and socializing for families with children with Down syndrome ages 3-4

- Hop, Skip and Jumpers** – Promotes friendships, social skills and interactive play through creative and educational activities for pre-school and kindergarten-aged children
- Playhouse Pals** – Promotes friendships, social skills and interactive play through structured and educational activities for children ages 6-8
- Kid's Club** – This face-paced program promotes friendships, social skills and communication through creative and educational activities for children ages 9-12
- Teen-Tastic** – This group promotes friendships, social interaction and communication through a variety of social activities, outings and games for teens aged 13-17
- Friday Night Friends** – This group promotes friendships, social interaction and communication through a variety

- of social activities, outings for adults 18 and over
- Daddy and Me** – Promotes positive interactions and social networking between children with Down syndrome and their male role models
- Family Night** – This program promotes positive beginnings for new families with a focus on positive social interactions among peers and siblings
- Hispanic Group (Nuestros Angeles)** – Provides support, friendship, networking and socializing for Spanish-speaking families
- Polish Group** – Provides support, friendship, networking and socializing for Polish-speaking families
- Literacy Program** – This FREE program teaches and reinforces children and adults with Down syndrome reading, comprehension and phonics skills

## Des Moines

- 1 Friday friends dance, 7-9pm open play, 10am
- 5 Family fun night, 5:30-7:30pm
- 8 Friday Friends bingo, 7-9pm Open play, 10am
- 9 Music around the world with Miss Ann, 11:00am
- 15 Friday friends karaoke, 7- 9pm Open play 10am
- 16 2 and under play, 9-10:30 am Story and Craft, 11Am
- 19 Family fun night, 5:30-7:30pm
- 22 Teen Tastic game, 7-9pm Open play, 10am
- 23 ready, set, action, 11am-12
- 29 open play, 10am Gigi's family fun Halloween party, 7-9pm
- 30 Playhouse pals, 10-11:30am

**Literacy** - daily at assigned times

## Sioux City

- 1 Family Fun Night with Pizza, 6-8pm Literacy Program, 6pm
- 2 Literacy Program, 9:30am-Noon Leaps & Bounds, 1-1:30pm
- 3 Dakota Valley Dance Camp Fundraiser, 1-3pm @ Dakota Valley High School
- 4 Literacy Program, 4:50-5:30
- 6 Literacy Program, 5-6:30pm
- 8 Literacy Program, 6-6:30pm
- 9 Literacy Program, 9:30am-Noon Open Play w/ Lunch, 11:30am-1pm Leaps & Bounds, 1-11:30pm
- 10 Chili's Fundraiser, ALL DAY
- 11 Literacy Program, 4:50-5:30pm 2 & Under, 6-7:30pm Hop, Skip & Jumpers, 6-7:30pm Literacy Program, 4:50-5:30
- 13 Literacy Program, 5-6:30pm
- 15 Open Play, 11:30am-1pm Literacy Program, 6-6:30pm
- 16 Literacy Program, 9:30am-Noon Leaps & Bounds, 1-1:30pm
- 18 Literacy Program, 4:50-5:30 Board Meeting, 6-7:30pm
- 20 Literacy Program, 5-6:30pm
- 22 Literacy Program, 6-6:30pm
- 23 Literacy Program, 9:30am-Noon Open Play w/ Lunch, 11:30am-1pm Leaps & Bounds, 1-1:30pm
- 24 Halloween Costume Party, 2-4pm
- 25 Literacy Program, 4:50-5:30
- 27 Literacy Program, 5-6:30pm
- 29 Literacy Program, 6-6:30pm
- 30 Literacy Program, 9:30am-Noon Leaps & Bounds, 1-1:30pm
- 31 Halloween

## Fox Valley

- 1 Kids Music, 7-745pm, (ages 8-12),  
RSVP 630.778.PLAY
- 2 Literacy, 930am  
Literacy, 10am  
2 & Under, 930-11am  
Yard Sale, 8am-5pm
- 4 Tot Class, 930-11am, RSVP 630.778.  
PLAY
- 6 Literacy, 10am  
Literacy, 1030am  
Literacy, 645pm
- 9 Literacy, 930am  
Literacy, 10am  
Walkers Group, 930-1030am  
Daddy & Me, 3-430pm
- 11 Tot Class, 930-11am, RSVP 630.778.  
PLAY
- 12 Special Olympic Young Athletes, 530pm
- 13 Literacy, 645pm  
Literacy, 930am  
Literacy, 10am
- 14 Wendy's Fundraiser, 5-8pm
- 16 Literacy, 930am  
Literacy, 10am  
Hop, Skip & Jumpers, 1030am-noon,  
RSVP 630.335.4824  
Playhouse Pals, 2-4pm
- 18 Tot Class, 930-11am, RSVP 630.778.  
PLAY
- 20 Literacy, 10am  
Literacy, 1030am  
Literacy, 645pm  
Karate Kickers, Ages 8-12: 5:15pm -  
5:45pm, 13 and up: 6pm - 6:30pm,  
RSVP 815.436.3817
- 23 Literacy, 930am  
Literacy, 10am
- 24 Nuestros Angeles, 11am-1pm
- 25 Tot Class, 930-11am, RSVP 630.778.PLAY  
Real World Math, 7-9pm, RSVP 630.844.1720
- 27 Literacy, 645pm  
Literacy, 930am  
Literacy, 10am
- 29 Family Night, 6-8pm, RSVP 630.844.1720
- 30 Literacy, 930am  
Literacy, 10am

## Hoffman

- Every Thursday: Open Play, 12:30 – 2pm, all  
families invited
  - 1 Friday Family Fun Night, 6:30-8:30pm  
– bring the whole family! RSVP
  - 3 GiGi's Fest, 12-3pm
  - 6 Special Intentions, 7-9pm
  - 9 Crawlers, 9-9:45  
2 & Under, 10-11:30am  
HSJ & PP, 11:30-12:30pm,
  - 10 Nuestros Angeles Hispanic Playgroup,  
11:15am-1pm
  - 14 WENDY'S NIGHT, 4-8pm, corner of Golf  
& Roselle Roads in Hoffman Estates
  - 22 Friday Friends HALLOWEEN PARTY!,  
7-8:30pm, RSVP to hoffmanestates@  
gigisplayhouse.org
  - 23 Playhouse Halloween Party, 10-  
11:30am – RSVP to hoffmanestates@gi-  
gisplayhouse.org with number of adults  
and number of kids, wear your costumes!
  - 24 Polish Group, 11am – 1pm, RSVP to  
Krystyna 847-962-4820
  - 28 WENDY'S NIGHT, 4-8pm, corner of Golf  
& Roselle Roads in Hoffman Estates
- Literacy - daily at assigned times

## McHenry

- 4 New Volunteer Orientation, 7pm
  - 6 SMILE (Social & Life Skills group), 4:15pm
  - 14 10/28 Art Class, 4 pm
  - 6 10/20 – Show Me a Sign, 6pm (basic  
signing class, all ages welcome)
  - 14 Options & Advocacy, 10am
  - 8 Teen Tastics, 7pm games & snacks
  - 9 Crawlers, 10:15am join our Occupa-  
tional Therapist for movement
  - 12 Wendy's Night-McHenry, 5-8pm
  - 13 Evening Open Play, 5-7pm come for fun  
& friendship
  - 15 Kids Club – 6:30pm, bring a friend,  
games, snacks & more!
  - 21 Wendy's Night Crystal Lake, 5-8pm (Rt.  
14 & Main St.)
  - 22 Friday Friends – Outing, Raymond's  
Bowl in Johnsburg 6:45-9:00pm-must  
RSVP (815)385-7529
  - 24 Halloween Party, 1:00-3:00, come show  
off your costume! Please RSVP to the  
playhouse (815) 385-7529  
Daddy & Me, 10-12:00 at the Firehouse  
Gym in Johnsburg
  - 27 Bookmaking, 6:30pm, volunteers please  
come help the Literacy program
  - TBA Daddy & Me (quarterly only) Please  
call the playhouse for details (815)  
385-7529
- EVERY FRIDAY Open Play 10am – noon ~  
come join us for Pizza & Friendship
- Wendy's Night McHenry 10/12
- Wendy's Night Crystal Lake 10/21

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<b>October</b>						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31							

GiGi's Playhouse  
1069 W. Golf Rd.  
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

nonprofit organization

u.s. postage

**paid**

schaumburg, il

permit no. 93



## 2011 Calendar

Come see the 2011  
calendar models walk  
the red carpet at  
GiGiFest.

Go to  
[www.gigisplayhouse.org](http://www.gigisplayhouse.org)  
to order.

**Save The Date** National *i have a voice* Gala • February 26, 2011

### Thanks BMW and Chris Warp!

"I race in BMW Car Club of America Club Racing, and instruct with the local region - Windy City BMW - who is an active supporter of GiGi's! 4 years ago, when asked by Windy City BMW to stop by an event in Hoffman Estates, I showed up not knowing what to expect, and ended up running into a friend who's son was involved with GiGi's. It is just amazing when you start talking about it how many people around us have had such great experiences with GiGi's and what a positive effect GiGi's has had in so many lives! To me, that is something I would like to support." Chris put the name *GiGi's Playhouse* on the side of his car to show his support for Down syndrome as he races!!

Thanks for your support, Chris  
and Windy City BMW!!



### GiGi's Valpo!

After lots of inquiries from the NW Indiana area about opening a GiGi's, we have decided to host an informational session in Valparaiso in October! If interested, email [jenni@gigisplayhouse.org](mailto:jenni@gigisplayhouse.org) for details.

# GiGiFEST!

GiGiFest for Everyone!  
Sunday, October 3, 12-3p, Hoffman Playhouse



## 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Chicagoland Buddy Walk

Oct 10, 2010 • 1-5 PM  
Cantigny • Wheaton, IL  
[www.chicagolandbuddywalk.org](http://www.chicagolandbuddywalk.org)

### Save the Date

#### September 27

i have a voice Gallery Reception  
Monday September 27, 2010 6-8pm  
Everyone Welcome!  
Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, IL  
Go to [www.gigisplayhouse.org](http://www.gigisplayhouse.org) to see the video!

#### October 3

GiGiFest – Hoffman Playhouse

#### October 10

Chicagoland Buddy Walk —  
Cantigny, Weaton, IL

#### October 12

TOWN HALL meeting, Chicago

#### November 7

3rd Annual Fashion Show- Sunday. Call Jean (815)385-7529 at the Playhouse if you are interested in volunteering or having your child participate in the fashion show.

