

# Generation G

**Gigi's**  
PLAYHOUSE™

Down Syndrome Achievement Centers  
educate. inspire. believe.

## GOLDEN TICKET

DATE

**OCT. 13**

TIME

**6 P.M.  
SHARP**

PLACE

**MADISON  
MARRIOTT WEST**

# *Gala*

## 2023



# From our Board President

Thank you so much for attending the Generation G Golden Ticket Gala! This is a wonderful opportunity to unite and show support for the Down syndrome community and GiGi's Playhouse Madison!

GiGi's Playhouse Madison has been a fixture of the local Down syndrome community for the past seven years. We started with 25 families and have expanded to more than 380 families in our Playhouse community. We are so fortunate to have GiGi's Playhouse in the Madison area, where local individuals and families have access to life-changing programs for their loved ones with Down syndrome. We see amazing accomplishments happen every day in the Playhouse and it's inspiring to witness the positivity and joy that emanates from the Playhouse.

GiGi's Playhouse Madison continues to make incredible gains every year and we couldn't do that without community support, as well as the support of our volunteers, staff, and board of directors. Just in the past year, we hired our third staff member, won seven awards for excellence at the GiGi's Playhouse National Leadership Conference, expanded our fitness and nutrition classes to most age groups, started foundational learning groups for all ages, continued literacy and math tutoring and speech therapy, and expanded our programming to six days a week.

All the educational and therapeutic programming provided at GiGi's is completely free to families, but it is not free to provide. Thank you for believing in our mission and for celebrating with us tonight. We appreciate your generous support of our organization!

With gratitude,

*Kim Arndt*

Kimberly Arndt  
Board President



LOVE, ♥ *Tito's*®

# TURNING SPIRITS INTO LOVE AND GOODNESS



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**“Spread Some Joy.  
Spread Some Love.”**

*-Tito*

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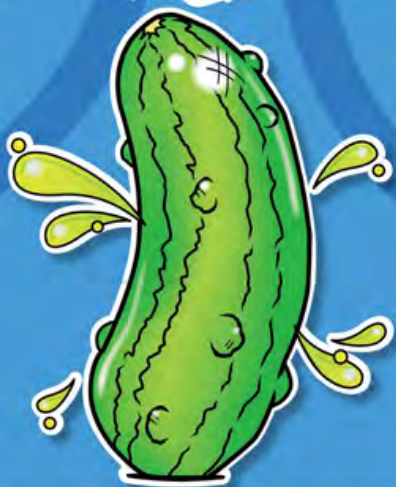
Tito's Handmade Vodka  
teams up with  
thousands of nonprofits  
each year and we are  
proud to support  
**GiGi's Playhouse Madison**

# Gala Schedule

- 6 :00 pm**      Registration | Cocktail Hour  
                    Silent Auction | Wine and Liquor Pull
- 7:00 pm**      Heads and Tails Game | Golden Ticket Reveal
- 7:15 pm**      Welcome, Mackenzie Davis, emcee
- 7:25 pm**      Dinner
- 8:15 pm**      Kelly Antonson, Site Director  
                    Courtney Gamer, Program/Volunteer Manager
- 8:20 pm**      Kimberly Arndt. Board President
- 8:25 pm**      Maya Greengus, Self Advocate
- 8:30 pm**      Fund A Need
- 9:15pm**      Silent Auction Closes | DJ and Dancing







**VAN HOLTEN'S**

**PROUD SUPPORTER OF**

**Gigi's**  
Playhouse™



# *Thank You to our Gala Committee*

This dedicated group of individuals has been working diligently for the past five months to make this evening a success!

**Kelly Antonson**

**Sarah Berndt**

**Courtney Gamer**

**Jayme Galanos**

**Kimberly Arndt**

**Vonda Elmer**

**Camilla McKay**

**Anita McKinley**

Special thanks to Eric Salzwedel and Trenna Boyd from Intentional Purpose Consulting, for their leadership and passion in helping our vision come to life!





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## *What does Generation G mean?*

Generation G is a global movement for acceptance  
- it is the conscious decision to be better every day.  
Join us in making the world a kinder, better place  
for all.

**Be Accepting**  
**Be Generous**  
**Be Kind**



Take the pledge at:  
[iacceptyou.org](http://iacceptyou.org)



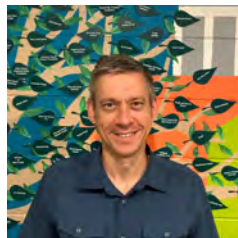
# Board of Directors



Kimberly Arndt  
President



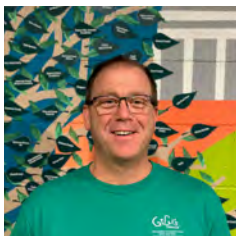
Camilla McKay  
Vice-President



Brett Bauch  
Treasurer



Chris England  
Secretary



Brian Haroldson



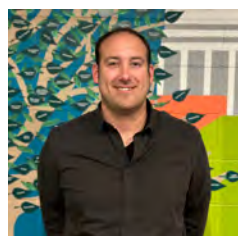
Fred Swanson



Tim McDonald



Sarah Berndt



Keith Ritsche



Amy Ulrich  
Grant Writer



Willy Wonka  
Gala Chair

## Staff



Kelly Antonson  
Site Director



Courtney Gamer  
Program & Volunteer  
Manager



Anne Ernst  
Operations &  
One-to-One Program  
Coordinator

## Recognition of Major Grants & Gifts



# IT'S ALL FOR THE **LOVE** OF OUR COMMUNITY

We didn't get into this business because we love banking.  
We do it for the love of helping the people and businesses in  
our community prosper. **Together, we get to NEXT.**



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LEARN MORE



**PARK BANK**

LET'S GET TO NEXT





## WHY GIGI'S?

"Our favorite GiGi's program is GiGi's Kitchen. Alexa loves to help with cooking and baking. At GiGi's, she learns about kitchen safety, healthy eating and sometimes tries new foods."

-Kim Arndt  
Playhouse Parent



**EGGERS**  
**IMPRINTS**

CUSTOM SCREEN PRINTING & EMBROIDERY  
BROWN DEER | COLUMBUS



**NORTH STAR**  
Resource Group

## OUR COMMUNITY



More participants are  
accessing free, purposeful  
programs than ever -  
46% more than in 2022,  
to be exact



Volunteer numbers are  
also up by 16%

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Playhouse™

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Madison, WI





# We Need You

## Demystifying Becoming a Math or Literacy Tutor

The need for volunteers continues to be great as we expand our program offerings and hours. This year alone, we are at 4,552 program hours and 5,952 volunteer hours, year to date (through September) – this is an increase of 45% program hours and 31% volunteer hours, over last year! While we feel fortunate to draw so many volunteers from local universities and colleges, and in partnership with local businesses/sponsors, we still need you! For the fall session of both math and literacy tutoring, we had to waitlist several families. GiGi's runs one, 8-10 week session of math and literacy tutoring each season (winter, spring, summer and fall). Tutors and participants meet the same day and time each week, either at the Playhouse or virtually.

We know what you're thinking... "there's no way I can be a tutor:"

- It would never fit in my schedule.
- I've never done it before / I don't know how to teach math or literacy.
- I don't know anything about people with Down syndrome.
- I'm sure someone else will do it.





Here's why you can!



Myth: It would never fit in my schedule.

Fact: When you apply to tutor, you share the days and times that work for you! Then, we match you with a student who has the same availability. Of course, we understand if you have a planned vacation, illness hits or a work trip pops up; we are flexible! The goal is to meet 8-12 times per session. You can your student will meet the same day and time each week. It's easier to plan, with consistency!

Myth: I've never done it before. / I don't know how to teach math or literacy.

Fact: Almost 95% of our tutors have NEVER tutored before. They just had a desire to help their community! We welcome tutors ages 18+ and have had high school seniors, college students, working professionals, stay at home parents and retirees who have ALL had incredible tutoring experiences. GiGi's provides training and the curriculum, so you don't need to be a teacher to tutor!

Myth: I don't know anything about Down syndrome.

Fact: People with Down syndrome are just people. They may learn a little differently or need a little extra help, but you will likely have things in-common and some shared interests, too.

Here's a summary of what to expect as you train to become a tutor:

- **TRAINING** You will receive eight hours of training, prior to starting your tutoring session. All training can be done virtually and half can be done at your own pace.
- **ON BOARDING** You will receive digital volunteer onboarding forms to fill out, as well as consent to run a background check.
- **CURRICULUM** Our programs are built based on the ways people with Down syndrome learn best. We combine multiple approaches that utilize multi-sensory teaching to meet participants where they're at. Graduated levels of purposeful progressions lead to an increase in skills and confidence!
- **TECHNOLOGY** We utilize Microsoft Teams to collaborate and share resources with tutors. Progress trackers in Excel are used to help tutors plan their sessions and track progressions. You do not have to have experience with either of these programs – we will train you!

Myth: I'm sure someone else will do it.

Fact: We need YOU! We are 99% volunteer run and depend on our incredible and dedicated volunteers to continue to offer our free and purposeful programs.

Thank you for considering this opportunity and for being here to support GiGi's tonight!

scan here to  
learn more  
& apply →





Proud supporters of  
**GiGi's Playhouse Madison**

and it's ongoing commitment to provide free therapeutic and educational programming to Addison and other individuals of all ages with Down syndrome, their families and our local community!



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## WHY GIGI'S?

"GiGi's Playhouse has been instrumental in Addi learning how to communicate. When Addi started speech at GiGi's, she knew a handful of signs. Today, she knows almost 100 signs and even says a few words!"

-Sarah Berndt,  
Playhouse Parent



**SECURITIES**  
COACH

## OUR COMMUNITY



Programs are 99% volunteer-run; our trained volunteers give over 500 hours per month



Participants check in 3,000+ times and spend over 3,500 hours at the Playhouse, annually



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Madison, WI



Be Accepting.  
Be Generous.  
Be Kind.



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# Join Our Board

We have big plans! Can you help?

GiGi's Playhouse Madison is managed by a board of directors, with direction from the national organization (Inc.). Over the past seven years, we have grown from a start-up, run by volunteers; to a respected local non-profit. GiGi's is a community resource for local healthcare providers and therapists. We are a sponsor of the Waisman Center's Down Syndrome Day with the Experts and a pillar in the disability community. In 2023, we have three staff, over 100 active volunteers per session and are bursting at the seams, in our Monona space.

We have come so far and still have so much to offer! To continue to serve and grow our local Down syndrome community, big change is on the horizon. We are actively seeking engaged individuals with experience in the below, to help us reach new heights.

♥ Events

♥ Facilities/IT

♥ Fundraising

♥ Outreach

♥ Programs

Interested? Reach out to Kim Arndt, Board President at: [karndt@gigisplayhouse.org](mailto:karndt@gigisplayhouse.org) to learn more.



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## WHY GIGI'S?

"GiGi's is a place that our son loves to go for programs and educational activities, that he thinks are play. We love GiGi's Playhouse!"

-Chris England  
Playhouse Parent



## OUR COMMUNITY



Fall 2023 we were able to offer a record number 18 different programs



Number of participants we were able to offer 1:1 services (math and literacy tutoring, speech therapy) to increased by 15% over 2022



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Madison, WI





# PROUD TO SPONSOR GIGI'S PLAYHOUSE

**Michael Kittoe, Agent**  
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mkittoe@amfam.com  
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Madison, WI

# Friends of GiGi's Playhouse Madison

Partner | Invest | Achieve

Friends of GiGi's is our annual sponsorship program. Sponsors are typically businesses with a presence in Southern Wisconsin who value DEI and are looking for a way to become involved in the community. Friends of GiGi's sponsors are recognized throughout the year and at each of our major fundraising events (2024 dates coming soon!)

## Major Fundraisers



Generation G  
*Gala*  
2023



We are currently seeking partners for 2024 - if you think this may be a fit for your business, reach out! We'd love to talk about how we can work together to make our community a more accepting place.

Finally, we would like to thank our current Friend's of GiGi's sponsors, some of which have sponsored year after year. A special shoutout to Tito's Vodka/Love Tito's, who increased their commitment to give at the Investor level. Your support has helped us keep our doors open; expand our reach, our programs; and celebrate all of those Down syndrome.

Friends of GiGi's 2023 Partners



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learn more





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DeVereChemical.com

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Funeral and Cremation Care  
LIFE CELEBRATION CENTERS



Greater Insurance Service Corp.

Johnson & Ulrich Family  
Torgrude Family Fund

**UWHealth**





## Thank you for your generosity

GiGi's Playhouse Madison's programs will always be free to participants and their families. However, they are not free for us to deliver. Your support means children, teens and adults will continue to have access to life-changing therapy, classes and social opportunities.

Maggy & Ethan Adams  
 Amy Beth Design Studio  
 Aneu Med Spa  
 Anita McKinley  
 Kelly Antonson  
 Jerry & Marilyn Arndt  
 Kim Arndt  
 Ash + Arrow  
 Aveda Experience Center  
 Bango  
 Bear and Bottle  
 Benvenuto's Fitchburg

Bev+Bart Designs  
 Billy's Footwear  
 Blain's Farm & Fleet  
 Blue Devil Bowl  
 Braun Painting  
 Bruce Company  
 Kim Caul  
 Steve Chard  
 Chip-Fil-A (West)  
 CK 4 Nails  
 Comedy on State  
 Crimson Studios



## Thank you for your generosity

Dan's Jenko Door Service

Delectable

Teresa & Steven Datta

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Diny's Jewelers

Do Good Wisconsin

Mike & Celine Dotta

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Dune Gift + Home

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Ethical Trade Co

Family Foodology

Festival Foods

Float

Food Fight Restaurant Group

Forward Madison

Free House Pub

Fury Athletics of Madison

Judy Johnson

Glass Nickel Pizza Co (West)

Great Lakes Management Group

Green Bay Packers

Gymfinity

Happy Badger Headbands

Tanya Haase

The Haroldsons

Highest Potential Pathways

Hilton Madison Monona Terrace

Jalisco

Janel Kalish

Jennifer Strauss



## Thank you for your generosity

John's Crazy Socks

Kara Hoerr Nutrition

Kendra Scott

Kindventures

Love for Littles

Louis Kegel

Madison Angling Guide Service

Madison Capitols

Madison Mallards

Melting Pot

Metcalfe's Market

Midwest Family Marketing

Mister Car Wash

Molly VanDamme Photography

Susan Moore

New Glarus Brewing Co.

Nothing Bundt Cakes

Michelle Odland

Old Sugar Distillery

The Pankows

Potty Made Possible

Rejuvenation Spa

River Bend Gallery

Sands CPA

Sorge CPA

Schwoegler's Entertainment Center

Seahorse Healing

Skipper Buds

Richard & Ruth Stampfl

Stoughton Health

The Diamond Center

The Melting Pot



## Thank you for your generosity

The Night Owl Sports Pub & Eatery Vom Cass

The Skin & Company

Wesley & Joel Thompson

Trader Joes

Tradition Market

Vitense Golfland

Wal-Mart (Monona, Stoughton)

Working Draft

Wine Styles Tasting Station

Wonder Studio



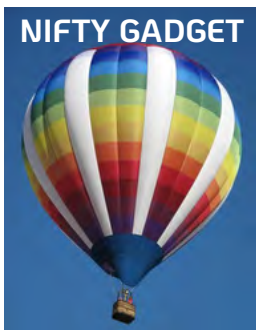
**dj blackstreet boy**







*Thank you for your generosity*







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Madison, WI