

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chicagoland Charity to Host Golf Outing | GiGi's Playhouse Down Syndrome Awareness Centers

HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL - July 1, 2014 – Avid golf enthusiasts and individuals who care deeply about GiGi's Playhouse programs and mission will tee up for charity on **Wednesday, August 13th**. The **GiGi's Playhouse National Achievement Center 1st Annual Golf Outing** will take place at **The Bridges of Poplar Creek Country Club** in Hoffman Estates.

The event will be a scramble format and kicks off with a shotgun start at 10:00 am. Participants will be able to enter various competitions held in conjunction with the tournament for prizes; including contests for longest drive, closest to the pin, and a hole-in-one contest with the chance to win a car from Biggers Auto Group. Top sponsors will benefit from personal caddy service from GiGi's own **GiGi University** graduates. Immediately following the tournament, there will be awards, silent auction items, raffles and dinner.

"Biggers Auto Group and the Leichter family have supported GiGi's Playhouse for many years," says Biggers president Jim Leichter. "It has been unbelievable seeing Nancy's passion to grow this fantastic organization to the level that it has. The real winners are the kids and their families that now have GiGi's in their community to improve their lives."

GiGi's Playhouse celebrates the many achievements of individuals and their families, develops new programs to benefit our participants, and works tirelessly to change society's outdated perceptions about the amazing potential of individuals with Down syndrome.

"We are grateful for the support of our sponsors, volunteers, players, and spectators who help make this event a success, and to the GiGi's team to create a fun and meaningful experience for the golfers." says Paul Gianni, Chairman of GiGi's Playhouse Inc. "Proceeds from this event will provide important funding for GiGi's Playhouse."

For additional information about the **GiGi's Playhouse National Achievement Center 1st Annual Golf Outing** please see gigisplayhouse.org. Contact Jayne Drew at jdrew@gigisplayhouse.org for sponsorship packages.

About GiGi's Playhouse: *GiGi's Playhouse is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization founded in 2003. GiGi's Playhouse is a series of unique Achievement Centers serving children and adults with Down syndrome. Each Playhouse makes a lifetime commitment to participants and their families, and each location provides unique educational and therapeutic programs in a format that individuals with Down syndrome learn best. All programs aim to maximize acceptance and self-confidence, and intend to empower children and adults to achieve their greatest potential. All educational, therapeutic and career training programs are offered to families at no charge. GiGi's Playhouse currently has 16 Playhouses in the US and Mexico. Plans are in place to bring the total number of Playhouses to 30 by the end of 2015. Last year, over 16,000 participants benefited from Playhouse programs. GiGi's Playhouse has been featured on **NBC Nightly News** with Kate Snow and Tom Brokaw's "An American Story" Radio Show. Currently there are more than 100 inquiries for new Playhouses worldwide.*

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