



for Children  
in Hospital

# LOLLIPALOOZA

A newsletter about volunteers, sponsors and friends to promote Radio Lollipop in the community • 2011 - 2012



## 6th Annual 'A Night at the Improv' Raises More than \$31,000

**L**ike a fine wine, the annual Radio Lollipop comedy show gets better with age. In its sixth year, "A Night at the Improv" generated more than \$31,000 for Radio Lollipop and also firmly entrenched itself as the largest current fundraising event for the program. The 2011 sold-out comedy show, hosted by **DJ Laz of Power 96**, featured performances from **John Wynn** and **Nathaniel**

**Stroud** and was headlined by the national touring duo, **A Pair of Nuts**, comprised of **Yamil Piedra** and **Johnny Trabanco**.

In addition, attendees and non-attendees had the opportunity to enter the ever-popular Radio Lollipop sweepstakes for a chance to win one of nearly 40 prizes, which included a four-day cruise to the Bahamas for two on **Norwegian Cruise Lines**, an



continued on pg. 2...

### Who, What, When, Where is Radio Lollipop?

Radio Lollipop is an international non-profit organization dedicated to providing care, comfort, play and entertainment to children in hospitals. This volunteer driven organization uses music and up beat interactive play to gain the children's attention. This mission allows hospitalized children and their families temporary escape from the serious nature of their hospital stay. Simply put, Radio Lollipop provides the best medicine of all... fun and laughter. Founded in 1979 in the United Kingdom, Radio Lollipop currently operates studios in the United States, Australia, United Kingdom and New Zealand.



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RADIO LOLLIPOP

...continued from pg. 1

all-inclusive stay at the **Veranda Resort** in the Turks and Caicos, round-trip airfare for two on **American Airlines**, and three day/ two night stays at the **Mandarin Oriental**, **Four Seasons**, and **Gansevoort Miami Beach**. The show was once again a total team effort, from the solicitation of sweepstakes prizes to the miles and miles of travel needed to sell event and sweepstakes tickets to family and friends.

“The preparation and execution of this event has lifted my spirit to a new level, and I know I’m not the only one who’s experienced it,” said **David Berry**, a volunteer who has coordinated the event for the past three years. “Radio Lollipop is more than crayons, music and activities. Our volunteers worked their tails off because they understand that the ‘healing power of play’ isn’t just something



we talk about; it’s what we do. Radio Lollipop volunteers play a huge role in the healing process for the kids at Miami Children’s Hospital, and that’s why we do this.”



In the lead-up to the event, Radio Lollipop was featured on WPOW Power 96 with DJ Laz and on **South Florida Today on NBC6**. In addition, the event had its first-ever official after party, which was held

at El Sitio in Coconut Grove. In total, the comedy show raised a total of \$63,000 for Radio Lollipop in the past three years.

Radio Lollipop at Miami Children’s Hospital is grateful for and thanks all of our supporters who either donated money during “A Night at the Improv” and/or goods for the sweepstakes:

- 24 Hour Fitness
- Actor’s Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre
- Adrienne Arsh Center
- Bad Water
- Be You Images
- Best Buy West Kendall
- Bongos
- Clear Channel Radio
- Core Fitness
- Develop Fitness
- Downtown Athletic Club
- Element Salon Studio
- Evolution MMA
- Fishing Headquarters
- Four Seasons Miami
- Gray’s Travel
- Grunberg’s Deli
- “Healis, Books & Books”
- Helio Castroneves
- Hotel Mela
- Jaguar Restaurant
- JP Morgan
- Julian Hair Salon
- Lost and Found Saloon
- Lupita’s closet
- Mandarin Oriental
- Miami Ballet
- Miami Dolphins
- Miami Metro Zoo
- Ned and Rhoni Tannebaum
- Norwegian Cruise Lines
- Seasons 52
- South Beach Food and Wine
- Taurus
- Techno Marine
- The Veranda Resort and Residences
- Torano Cigars
- Total Health Care of Florida
- University of Miami
- Vizcaya
- Xbox game packs

## Juwan Howard Brings the Heat to Miami Children’s Hospital

On June 23rd, **Miami Heat’s very own Juwan Howard** visited the children of Miami Children’s Hospital. Juwan stopped by most of the hospital’s inpatient units and spent time with patients and their families. His visit was very well received by the Heat



fans at Miami Children’s Hospital! Juwan also visited the Radio Lollipop studio, where he practiced his radio skills on the microphone and gave a shout out to all the patients listening to Radio Lollipop’s airwaves. The eastern conference champ said

he cannot wait to bring some of his Heat teammates to visit the

patients and families at Miami Children’s Hospital and get back on the Radio Lollipop mic!





## Team Building Semi-Annual Too Much Fun to Spare



On Saturday, November 19th, Radio Lollipop volunteers from all three nights gathered at Splitsville in Sunset Place to participate in a variety of team building activities. Volunteers had the opportunity to learn something about each other, and also worked on a whiteboard activity to discuss aspects of the program that they would want to keep and identify areas in need of improvement. After the learning was over, volunteers gathered to have lunch and bowl two rounds with their respective Terrific Tuesday, Wacky Wednesday and Thrilling Thursday teams. It was an inspiring and wonderful way to



get to know volunteers from other nights and work together to keep this program thriving.



Interested in  
Volunteering  
for Radio  
Lollipop?



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Get an application at

[www.mch.com/  
RadioLollipop](http://www.mch.com/RadioLollipop)

Visit our  
international site at  
[www.RadioLollipop.com](http://www.RadioLollipop.com)

or give us a call at  
786-624-4431

Join us!



## Volunteer Stories...



### Cub Scouts Earn Media Badges at Radio Lollipop

On Wednesday, March 2nd, members of **Cub Scout Pack 7** visited Radio Lollipop to earn their media badges. The troop chose Radio Lollipop to learn about broadcasting and radio. During their visit, the scouts learned how to run the board, cue the songs they wanted to play and put the music live on-air. The cub scouts held a question and answer session with Radio Lollipop volunteers to learn more about the program. The scouts ended their evening with an 'on-air' special shout out to the hospital on behalf of the entire pack. Radio Lollipop hopes to host more packs in 2012.

### Volunteers Spread Radio Lollipop Pride at the Children's Trust Expo

On Saturday, May 14th, Radio Lollipop enthusiastically educated patrons and South Florida families about the organization during the 2011 Children's Trust Family Expo. More than 200 exhibitors packed the Miami-Dade County Fair and Expo Center, showcasing everything from speech therapy, summer camps, parenting classes, face painters, magic shows, and live dance performances. Patrons who attended the free expo were greeted by Radio Lollipop volunteers with stickers and walked through the fun bubble popping tunnel where they were encouraged to participate in the array of fun activities available at the booth. Radio Lollipop volunteers spoke to over 1,000 families about the organization, what the radio show is about and how we help bring smiles to many Miami Children's Hospital patients every week.



## South Florida VW/Audi Get-Together Raises Money for Radio Lollipop

On Saturday, January 29th, volunteers from Miami Children's Hospital's Radio Lollipop hosted a car "show-n-shine" along with the organizers of the **South Florida Volkswagen/Audi Get-Together (SFL GTG)**. This was the SFL GTG's 17th show-n-shine gathering, with the sole purpose of raising funds for a local charity at each annual event. The SFL GTG organizers chose Radio Lollipop as this year's charity because of the amazing work the volunteers do for their patients. The South Florida Get-Together gathered nearly 330 VWs and Audis at J.C. Bermudez Park in Doral, FL, where Radio Lollipop volunteers kindly greeted over 400 attendees. As supporters eagerly filled the decorative radio box with their contribution, the SFL GTG generated \$1,211 in donations for Radio Lollipop.

SFL GTG and Radio Lollipop extend a special thank you to the four event sponsors: Dub Cartel, UROtuning, JustStance.com, and WeakStyles LLC; and to all of the spectators who made monetary contributions.

## The Rockin' Volunteers Team Awarded Top Fundraising Team for MCH 5K

On Saturday, September 24th, Miami Children's Hospital held its inaugural 5K race in beautiful Coral Gables. More than 75 volunteers from the hospital registered with the Rockin' Volunteers team and raised \$5,800 for Miami Children's Hospital Foundation! The Rockin' Volunteers team raised more funds than any of the other participating teams and is looking forward to surpassing this year's total in 2012.



# Volunteer Spotlight



## Alex Sanchez Terrific Tuesday

Radio Lollipop prides itself in assisting patients and families when they need it most. Ironically enough, this program came into my life when I needed it most. I decided to join Radio Lollipop nearly four years ago without the slightest idea of what I was about to get myself into. My life was surrounded by negativity and I knew it was time for a change; I needed to live my life with a purpose and Radio Lollipop allowed that to happen.

As I began volunteering I learned about Radio Lollipop's mission statement: "Volunteers provide care, comfort, play and entertainment to sick children in hospital." Within a very short period of time, I realized that not only are the volunteers willing to help the patients and their families, but they are also willing to help each other. The teamwork and camaraderie that each team exudes allows the experiences out in the rooms to be that much more meaningful to the patients that we visit.

This program has allowed me to see the world through an entirely different perspective. Helping patients invigorate their strength and enthusiasm for life is one of the most rewarding feelings I have ever felt in my life. It warms my heart to hear stories from families who say that the work that Radio Lollipop does every week allows their child to experience a joy that they have not experienced in quite some time.

I am forever thankful that I chose to become a part of this program because it has taught me so much not only about myself, but also of what a group of people can accomplish when they devote their time and effort to a worthy cause. I sincerely recommend becoming a volunteer at Radio Lollipop because the life lessons that are learned will bring forth an indescribable amount of joy for both you and the patients and families whom this program assists in their greatest time of need.



## Cristina Mas Wacky Wednesday

My name is Cristina Mas and I have been with Radio Lollipop for almost a year and it has been the best year of my life thus far. I never thought that spending a few hours a week at a hospital would change me - but it really has. The first time I volunteered with Radio Lollipop, I went to the Neurology Unit and a lot of the patients had just had surgery and were not very enthusiastic about the activity. I remember going into one specific room with a child, who I could tell was in a lot of pain, and his mother did his activity for him. We made him a winner that night and when we came in with the prize he had the biggest smile on his face. I remember that smile every night I volunteer. What Radio Lollipop does for the patients is so important and it has become something that is vital in my life because we really make a difference.



## Stephanie Sydnor Thrilling Thursday

My name is Stephanie Sydnor (better known as Sunshine Steph) and I have been with Radio Lollipop since 2009. For as long as I can remember, I have always been passionate about giving back to the community and making those around me smile. I would have never thought that volunteering with Radio Lollipop would have changed my life for the better. It only takes volunteering three hours a week to change the way you view life. The experiences you acquire and the people you meet along the way just make it that much more meaningful. One moment I will never forget is when one of the patients made me a Hello Kitty prop headband because she saw all of the Hello Kitty things I was wearing and realized how much I liked the character. She has been one of the many patients who have captured my heart. Radio Lollipop not only brings care, comfort, play, entertainment, and serious fun for the children and their families but for the volunteers as well. I can truly say that I am blessed to be a part of such a wonderful organization.



## Party on the Plaza Frames Itself for Success in its First Year

The Young Associates, a group of young professionals supporting the Coral Gables Museum, raised nearly \$25,000 at its first fundraiser on Friday, December 2nd. Guests at the inaugural "Party on the Plaza" viewed a collection of works by local artists, including Alex Yanes, Natasha Otrakji, Roberto Chamorro, Alexander Mijares, Javier Mora and Raul Boesel, as well as a live exhibition by Joseph Ferlito. Among the 450 guests at the art-themed soiree were Congresswoman **Ileana Ros-Lehtinen**, Miami City Commissioner Francis Suarez, former Coral Gables **Mayor Don Slesnick** and journalist **Maria Elena Salinas**.



celebration continued into the night, with an after-party hosted by CEBU Lounge in Coral Gables.

"The Young Associates' Party on the Plaza showcased our local arts scene while raising funds for the Coral Gables Museum, the city's newest cultural hub," said George Kakouris, chair of the Coral Gables Museum board of directors. "We are proud of Cristina Mas and her fellow committee members for hosting such a successful event."

Cristina Mas is an active volunteer with Radio Lollipop.

**The Young Associates donated \$1,000 to Radio Lollipop** at Miami Children's Hospital and plans are underway for the second annual Party on the Plaza for November 2012.



Cocktails and light fare were served courtesy of Botran Rum, Wodka Vodka, Emporium Nostrum,

1500° at the Eden Roc, The Local and Pollo Campero, with live entertainment provided by DJ Tom LaRoc. The



## Public Relations Society of America's Miami Chapter Hosts Toy Drive

On Wednesday, December 14th, members from the Public Relations Society of America Miami Chapter attended an annual holiday party and Radio Lollipop Toy Drive. Members who brought a toy were given free admission to the party. The society

gathered more than 60 gifts for patients at Miami Children's Hospital and Radio Lollipop!





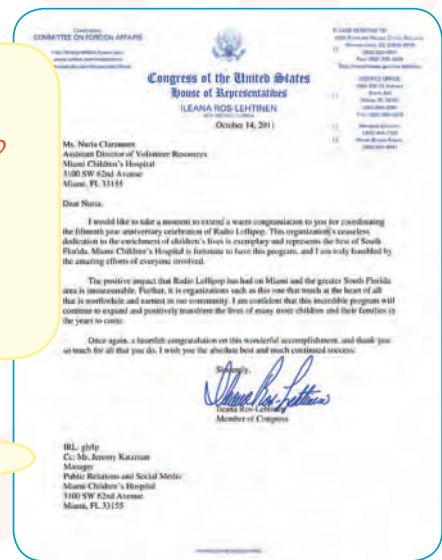
## Radio Lollipop Turns 15!

Radio Lollipop celebrated its 15th birthday in style by hosting a festive jungle-themed party for all of the children to enjoy. Patients were invited to visit the playroom and participate in the themed activity stations, which included animal inspired face-painting, flower-pot painting, build-a-bear and create-a-giraffe centers and table games. Radio Lollipop also hosted several live performances to keep patients entertained. Among the performances were **Zoo Miami's** live animal show, the **Perfect Balance** dance squad's "Lion Dance," **Elijah King** singing his popular MTV hits, and **American Idol** contestant

**Brett Loewenstern** singing his most inspiring songs. Patients who were unable to visit the playroom were visited by **Elmo, Cookie Monster** and actress **Genesis Rodriguez**

who is starring in *Man on a Ledge* in Spring 2012. Radio Lollipop would like to thank everyone who made an effort and took the time to make this event a success. Many thanks to the sponsors who donated food, beverages and/or services: **Coca Cola, Zico, Power Parties, Fuddruckers, Shake Shack, and Misha's Cupcakes.** Patients and their families had a wonderful time and were wild about Radio Lollipop's birthday!

*"The positive impact that Radio Lollipop has had on Miami and the greater South Florida area is immeasurable."*







## Like a Good Neighbor State Farm is There

On Thursday, December 8th, State Farm agent Carlos Martinez and his staff sponsored the night's activity and brought smiles to the patients and volunteers with their generous \$2,000 donation!

This was State Farm's second visit to Radio Lollipop. Earlier this year, the State Farm team donated a heaping mountain of colorful toys that were utilized as prizes for the patients. On both occasions, the visitors jumped right into action and participated with Radio Lollipop volunteers in bringing joy and entertainment to many hospitalized children and their families! Radio Lollipop thanks State Farm for their donations and hope that they visit us again in 2012!



### Radio Lollipop Appreciates Our Corporate Sponsors & Donors

Radio Lollipop extends a heartfelt thank you to all of the corporations that participated in spreading the healing power of play at Miami Children's Hospital through their visits and monetary donations in 2011.

Burger King  
Caps for Kids with the Navy  
Hip Hop Kidz  
Mandarin Oriental  
MasterCard  
Merrill Lynch  
Metro Life Church  
New York Life

Ronald McDonald Visit  
Shake Shack  
State Farm  
U.S. Homeland Security  
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden  
University of Miami Athletes  
Wells Fargo Foundation



## Radio Lollipop Treats are too Sweet to Resist

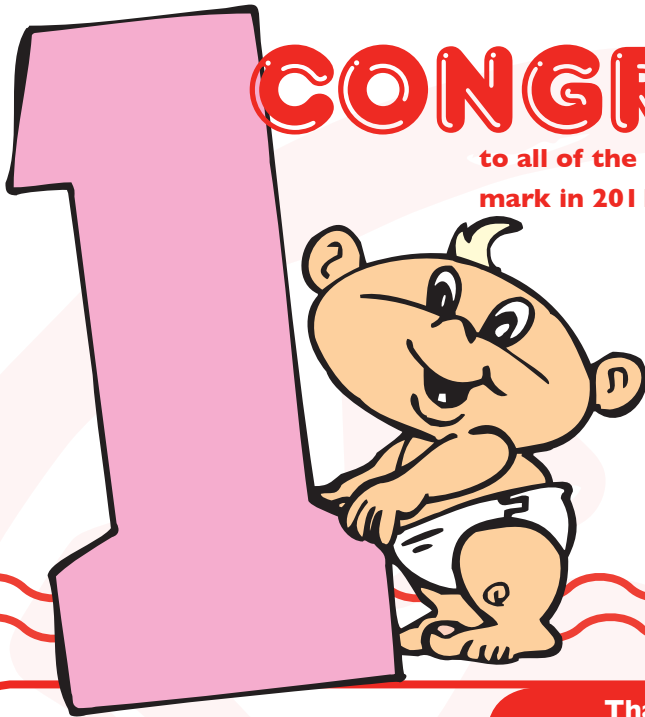
Radio Lollipop volunteers came together four times in 2011 to sell home baked goods at Miami Children's Hospital. The four bake sales, hosted on Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Halloween, and during the Christmas holiday were very successful. The colorful tables and sweets were inviting and everyone who purchased the treats enjoyed them thoroughly. The four bake sales generated more than \$2,000 for the organization, and the volunteers look forward to hosting more bake sales in 2012.





# CONGRATULATIONS

to all of the Radio Lollipop Volunteers who reached their one-year mark in 2011!



- |                   |                    |                      |
|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Albert Menacho    | Florencia Goluboff | Nancy Campos         |
| Alexander Ravelo  | Giannina Meyer     | Nathalie Santa Maria |
| Ashley Salvatore  | Jader Gutierrez    | Stephanie Sydnor     |
| Catalina Orozco   | Jessica Santana    | William Rodriguez    |
| Christina Demetre | Katrina Sanchez    |                      |
| Claudia Sandino   | Kiara Nydam        |                      |
| Dalina Padron     | Mejdi Najjar       |                      |
| Esmeralda Torres  | Meliza Gurian      |                      |



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## Management Team

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 Secretary..... Kathy Napuri  
 Treasurer..... Lynn Heyman  
 Program Coordinator.. Meagan Wentworth  
 Marketing Chair .....Nathalie Santa Maria  
 Fundraising Chair ..... Juan Oves  
 Play Coordinator..... Natalie Equizabal  
 Education Chair ..... Jessica Santana  
 Volunteer Coordinator...Patricia Tepedino  
 Director of the Board,  
 Radio Lollipop USA..... Donna Huck

Thank you to our dedicated and committed volunteers, who provide care, comfort, play and entertainment to hospitalized children, and continue to drive the Radio Lollipop program to its success.

- |                       |                     |                      |                       |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Alvarez, Melissa      | Espinosa, Krystinne | Medina, Karina       | Sanchez, Alex         |
| Barriere, Nora C.     | Espinosa, Laura     | Menacho, Albert      | Sanchez, Katrina      |
| Berry, David          | Estamponi, Adrian   | Meyer, Giannina      | Sandino, Claudia      |
| Bohorquez, Manuel     | Faber, Linda Z.     | Meyrick, Dani        | Santa Maria, Nathalie |
| Bolivar, Danny        | Farinas, Javier     | Moretz, Arlene       | Santana, Jessica      |
| Cabrera, Ashley       | Fernandez, Ismary   | Napuri, Katherine    | Santiago, Jessa       |
| Cabrera, Heather      | Garcia, Miguel      | Nydam, Kiara         | Schneegans, Lucia     |
| Cabrera, Priscilla    | Goluboff, Florencia | Nydam, Veronique     | Suarez, Talisa        |
| Campos, Nancy         | Gonzalez, Lisandra  | Oliva, Jacquelline   | Sydnor, Stephanie     |
| Campos, Virginia      | Granado, Caroline   | Orozco, Catalina     | Tamayo, Evelyn        |
| Cepeda, Catherine     | Gurian, Meliza      | Oves Jr., Juan       | Tannebaum, Rhoni      |
| Cheleotis, Alyssa     | Gutierrez, Jader    | Padron, Dalina       | Terrero, Christina    |
| Cicero, Iris          | Hernandez, Denise   | Padron, Vanessa      | Torres, Esmeralda     |
| Cortes, Sebastian     | Hernandez, Yasiel   | Paredes, Edgard      | Vergara, Lissvett     |
| Covoletski, Christina | Hernandez, Yvette   | Pena, Stephanie      | Warfel, Valerie       |
| Crawford, Mallory     | Huck, Donna         | Perez, Patricia      | Wentworth, Meagan     |
| Cruz, Suzanne         | Koper, Randolph     | Ramos, Jorge         | Wilder, Kenneth       |
| Cummings, Colleen     | Kuperman, Marc      | Ravelo, Alexander    | Yanes, Marien         |
| Cunningham, Ann       | Llorca, Kristen     | Rhodes, Kayla        | Yanes, Marnie         |
| Davis, Brad           | Lopez, Alicia       | Rodezno, Dayana      |                       |
| Del Busto, Leslie M   | Lopez, Gabriela     | Rodriguez, William   |                       |
| Delgado, Michael      | Lopez-Trigo, Alexa  | Roque, Roxana        |                       |
| Demetre, Christina    | Marcos, Jackelyn    | Rosello-Arana, Maria |                       |
| Drolet, Renee         | Mas, Cristina       | Ruiz, Melissa        |                       |
| Eguizabal, Natalie    | Medina, Betsabe     | Salvatore, Ashley    |                       |

Radio Lollipop's mission is to provide care, comfort, play and entertainment to children in hospital.



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