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Proceeds go to a permanent home for School of Imagination (SOI). SOI is a non-profit education center built on the award-winning methodology of the Happy Talkers Program established in 2000 by Speech Pathologist Charlene Sigman.

Today, the school serves the needs of children with developmental disabilities and delays, as well as typically developing children and has improved the lives of more than 2,500 children with autism, speech delays and developmental disabilities.

The School of Imagination's mission is to *bring out the extraordinary in every child.*

To learn more, go to:

[www.schoolofimagination.org/donate](http://www.schoolofimagination.org/donate)



## Parent Newsletter

### *Bright Beginnings on May 16th and 17th*

#### Screening Children | Educating Families | Changing Futures

By Founder, Charlene Sigman, M.S-CCC-SLP

Since my family opened our home to help children in 2000, I have seen far too many miss their critical window of opportunity for early intervention. I meet children can't speak, make eye contact with others or even show simple expressions of love to their parents. Their parents don't know where to turn for help or what to do. I couldn't bear that in each child's life, there were chances that slipped by and we developed the Bright Beginnings Event—the first of its kind autism early detection and workshop program.

Leading pediatricians, therapists and educators are banding together to donate their services to ensure every child gets the help they need, as early as

possible.

The event will feature free screenings for developmental delays and connect parents with the resources they will need for their child. Workshops will run in two tracks. To address the questions and concerns of *all* parents as well as those with special needs children.

When parents and child care providers learn the milestones and the available resources, we can ensure that every child reaches their full potential.

If you are a parent, child care provider/educator, you can't miss the Bright Beginnings Event May 16 and 17 featuring free screenings and workshops. Please join me as together we *bring out the extraordinary in every child.*

**Friday, May 16. 10am-4pm: Screening and Family Services**

**Saturday, May 17. 10am-4pm: Teaching workshops and Guest Lecturers**

*You can find the full Bright Beginnings Event schedule on Page 2.*

### *How Can I Get Involved?*

School of Imagination is currently seeking sponsors, golfers and volunteers for the 2nd Annual Golf Tournament and Bright Beginnings Event, May 15-17. If you or anyone you know would like to assist us in any way, contact us at [golf@schoolofimagination.org](mailto:golf@schoolofimagination.org)

For more information, go to:

[www.schoolofimagination.org/volunteers](http://www.schoolofimagination.org/volunteers)

Then click on:

**"How to Get Involved 2008—A Parent's Guide"**



## *Important Dates for your Calendar*

### **Parent Advisory Council Meeting on Thursday, April 10 at 6:30pm**

7567 Amador Valley Blvd.  
Suite 101 in Dublin.

### **Golf Committee Meeting on Tuesdays, April 8, 15, 22 & 29**

The Golf committee will be meeting every Tuesday until the Golf Tournament on May 15th.

### **Golf Tournament on Thursday, May 15th**

Join us at Castlewood Country Club. Registration at 10:45am; BBQ lunch at 11:30am; Shotgun Start at 12:15pm; Dinner and auctions at 6:00pm.

Castlewood Country Club  
707 Country Club Circle  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
(925) 485-2239  
www.castlewoodcc.org

### **Bright Beginnings Event on Friday and Saturday, May 16th and 17th**

School of Imagination  
6444 Sierra Court  
Dublin, CA 94568

### **Lifetouch Portraits will return on Wednesday and Thursday, May 20th and 21st**

Lifetouch Portraits will be returning to School of Imagination to take school

pictures of your student. School pictures are open to ALL students and graduates who would like pictures with caps & gowns.

*Congratulations  
Jessica Coffin  
You are Employee of  
the Month!*

## *BRIGHT BEGINNINGS EVENT SCHEDULE*

The Bright Beginnings Event—the first of its kind—is an autism early detection and workshop program that will extend its reach to thousands of children and families in the Bay Area.

### **FRIDAY MAY 16, 10:00AM to 4:00PM**

In partnership with leading Bay Area pediatricians; speech-language, behavioral, and occupational therapists; and family advocates. Complimentary childcare and refreshments will be provided.

**10am-4pm** FREE developmental screenings for children

**10am-4pm** FREE Family Support Services

### **SATURDAY MAY 17, 10:00AM to 4:00PM**

FREE seminars for parents, teachers and professionals; and special guest, Mayor of Dublin, Janet Lockhart. Complimentary refreshments will be provided.

**9:30am-10am** Welcome to The Bright Beginnings Event

**10am—10:45am** Child Development Milestones: A Guide for Parents and Providers

**10am—10:45am** Helping Families and School Districts Work Together

**11am—11:45am** Encourage Reading in Your Child

**11am—11:45am** Navigate Resources for Special Needs Children

**1pm—1:45pm** Roadmap to Additional Support and Services

**1pm—1:45pm** What Every Parent Should Know

**2pm—2:45pm** Encouraging Speech and Language Development

**2pm—2:45pm** Dietary and Medical Interventions for Children on the Autism Spectrum

**3pm—4pm** Round Table Discussion with pediatricians, therapists, parents and local family support services.