



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Kids Who Care Begins Rehearsals for Premiere of *District XI - Believe in Me!***

*Musical Theatre Company's Original Production Inspired by Popular YouTube Video of Dallas Student's Convocation Speech to Dallas ISD*

FORT WORTH, TX – July 13, 2009 – Kids Who Care, a non-profit international theatre company based in Fort Worth, will go into rehearsals this week for their newest original production, *District XI - Believe in Me!* The show will premiere July 30 through August 2 at the Scott Theatre in Fort Worth.

The new musical was inspired by the popular YouTube video of 10-year-old Dalton Sherman's keynote speech to 20,000+ Dallas ISD teachers and staff last year, imploring them to believe in themselves and their students (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HAMLOnSNwzA>). The video garnered nearly a half a million views and, as a result, Dalton appeared on Oprah and was interviewed by other major media outlets.

"In early January I shared the YouTube video of Dalton Sherman with the kids in our Resident Company. They were blown away," said Deborah Jung, founder and executive director of Kids Who Care. "We have been trying to write a show about school for years. When I listened to Jon Dahlander's words spoken by this amazing kid, I knew the time was now! *District XI - Believe in Me!* is our artistic educational revolution that stops just short of marching in Austin."

*District XI - Believe in Me!* takes place in the hallways of three schools – elementary, middle and high school. It's a collaborative effort of Texas playwrights and songwriters, including six Kids Who Care alumni. The youth actors at Kids Who Care helped steer the show's content, through their own writings and feedback as the script and original songs evolved. The musical's cast will include area youth plus international students who have traveled from around the world for an intensive theatre experience at Kids Who Care.

*District XI - Believe in Me!* will premiere July 30 through August 2 at The Scott Theatre in Fort Worth. Dates and show times are as follows:

- Thursday, July 30 at 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, July 31 at 10:00 a.m. (special group performance)

- Friday, July 31 at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, August 1 at 2:00 p.m.
- Saturday, August 1 at 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, August 2 at 2:00 p.m.

Ticket prices are \$12 to \$18 and \$10 each for groups 10 or more. Friday and Saturday night shows are \$18 for adults and \$15 for youth aged 15 and under. Thursday night, Saturday matinee and Sunday matinee shows are \$16 for adults and \$12 for youth aged 15 and under. Call for special group pricing for the Friday morning performance. For more information, please call Kids Who Care at 817-737-5437 or go online to [www.kidswhocare.org](http://www.kidswhocare.org).

### **About Kids Who Care**

Founded in 1989, Kids Who Care is a non-profit international theatre company based in Fort Worth, Texas that seeks to produce confident and creative kids through leadership, musical theatre education and performance. Kids Who Care offers professional musical theatre classes, leadership training, summer musical theatre camps, international cultural exchanges, a touring Resident Company, public performances and more. The Kids Who Care Resident Company has performed Off-Broadway at the Lamb's Theatre, at both Disney's, at The Kennedy Center, at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, at 30,000 feet aboard an airplane for the Make-A-Wish Foundation and at many other locations across the U.S. and overseas. The core values of the organization include: excellence in artistic development, artistic integrity of kids, leadership roles for kids, financial and cultural diversity and ensemble production. For more information, please visit [www.kidswhocare.org](http://www.kidswhocare.org).

### **Media Contact:**

Kelly Kirkendoll Shafer  
Shafer Communications for Kids Who Care  
817.236.6075  
[kelly@shafercommunications.com](mailto:kelly@shafercommunications.com)