



Kids Who Care's Deborah Jung Selected as "Woman of Influence"

*Founder and Executive Director of International Musical Theatre Company to be Honored
During Great Women of Texas Event*

FORT WORTH, TX - October 31, 2007 - Deborah Jung, founder and executive director of Kids Who Care, a non-profit international musical theatre company based in Fort Worth, Texas, has been selected as a "Woman of Influence" by the *Fort Worth Business Press*, and will be recognized during the newspaper's Great Women of Texas dinner on November 15, 2007.

The Great Women of Texas event honors women for their significant accomplishments in business, civic and social contributions. Each of the honorees is "a trailblazer in their business interests, but it is their dedication to family and the community that makes them stand out."

"I am incredibly honored to be among the Texas women selected for this award, and the timing couldn't be better with Kids Who Care approaching its 20-year anniversary," said Jung. "I am lifted up each and every day by the incredible children, teens and families I have the privilege to work with, and this honor is as much theirs as it is mine."

The award criteria fits Deborah Jung perfectly. She has touched the lives of countless children and families across Fort Worth, the state of Texas and the world during the past almost 20 years running Kids Who Care Musical Theatre. Prior to that, she worked for 14 years as a Resident Company actress and director at Casa Mañana and founded Casa Kids. Simultaneously, Deborah was the Company Manager for Fort Worth Shakespeare in the Park for 10 years.

Through Kids Who Care and other outreach efforts, Deborah works with the hearing impaired and the mentally and physically challenged. Additionally, Kids Who Care often performs in venues that are making a difference, including: Cook Children's Hospital, the Dallas' Meyerson Symphony Hall for the Make a Wish Foundation Family Concert, at the Texas Capital for Governor of the Day with Mike Moncrief, at the Special Olympics opening ceremonies and at 30,000 feet in the air for Make a Wish participants.

Deborah creates quality, affordable, live family entertainment for the Dallas/Fort Worth community. She also seeks Kids Who Care audiences who do not always have opportunities to attend theatre, including the Fort Worth Butler Housing Community and the Boys and Girls Clubs in Fort Worth and Chicago.

Under Deborah's leadership, over \$800,000 in Hope scholarships have been awarded so that children who cannot afford the tuition can be part of the Kids Who Care experience. And the Kids Who Care youth leadership team, KidPower Board, has raised over \$175,000 for summer jobs for young artists.

About Kids Who Care

Kids Who Care is a non-profit international theatre company based in Fort Worth, Texas that seeks to produce confident, caring and creative kids through leadership training, musical theatre education and performance. The organization began in 1987 under the direction of Deborah Jung, moved to The Scott Theatre in Fort Worth's Cultural District in 1989 and has evolved into the non-profit Kids Who Care corporation it is today. Kids Who Care offers professional musical theatre classes, summer musical theatre camps, international cultural exchanges, a touring Resident Company, public performances and more. The Resident Company has performed Off-Broadway at the Lamb's Theatre, at both Disney's, at The Kennedy Center, at 30,000 feet 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.

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