



Contact: Meryl Hellring Communications Director meryl@ticketsforkids.org (412) 745-5510

For Immediate Release

Tickets for Kids[®] Charities celebrates 20 years with unorthodox Un-Gala

Pittsburgh — (October 22, 2014) Tickets for Kids[®] Charities (TFK) will celebrate 20 years of distributing donated tickets to disadvantaged children with *OPEN THE DOOR TO IMAGINE NATION* ~ *AN INTERACTIVE UN-GALA* on Saturday, December 6 from 6 to 10 p.m. at Inventionland in O'Hara Township.

"Because our mission involves providing fun and fantastic opportunities to in-need kids, we thought our anniversary fundraiser should be fun and fantastic, as well," said TFK Executive Director Rosemary Mendel. "Inventionland is the perfect venue for this event."

Inventionland is a 60,000-square-foot invention incubator and factory where product ideas are developed from concept to completion. Office exteriors have been fashioned into 16 fanciful structures that include a castle, a giant shoe and a cave.

"We know that very few organizations have been given permission to use Inventionland to host an event," Mendel continued, "so we're very excited to share it with all of our supporters. We plan on putting this unique venue to good use with several 'Imagination Stations,' where guests can participate in activities ranging from karaoke to race car simulation. Not every fundraiser features a motor speedway as part of the décor, after all."

Tickets for Kids was conceived in Pittsburgh in 1994 as an idea for filling empty seats at local shows, games and events with in-need and at-risk children and families. TFK acquires tickets from individual and institutional donors and partners with nearly 3,000 social service agencies nationwide that use the tickets for children enrolled in their programs.

"Over the course of 20 years, Tickets for Kids has distributed more than 1.7 million tickets – 120,000 in 2014 alone," said Mendel. "We're very proud of the fact that this Pittsburgh-born-andbred organization has had impact not just in southwestern Pennsylvania, but all across the country. And the fact that we've been at it for 20 years is a real reason to celebrate.

"We invite everyone to go to <u>www.ticketsforkids.org</u> learn about our sponsorship opportunities and to purchase tickets and join us on Dec. 6th. This will be a fundraiser to remember!"

About Tickets for Kids® Charities



Founded in 1994, Tickets for Kids[®] Charities (TFK) is a Pittsburgh-based nonprofit organization committed to enriching the lives of in-need and at-risk children and their

families by providing no-cost tickets to a variety of events and activities. Tickets are acquired through donors and distributed to children served by thousands of nonprofit social service agencies and community groups across the U.S. Since its inception, TFK has distributed more than 1.7 million tickets valued at over \$40 million. For more information, call 412-781-KIDS (5437) or visit <u>www.ticketsforkids.org</u>.

About Inventionland

Inventionland, the design facility of Davison, Inc., is America's largest invention factory, where corporations, retailers and inventors come to innovate new products. Built by founder George Davison in 2006, this fantastical design facility was created to get the designers out of cubicles and into a stimulating, inspirational environment. Occupying more than 60,000 square



feet, Inventionland is unlike any other workspace. New products come to life in 16 themed sets - toy designers' ideas set sail on the deck of the pirate ship Discovery, electronics designers build electric gadgetry inside a giant robot and automotive-product designers let their minds race in the Motor Speedway. Take a virtual tour at <u>www.Inventionland.com</u>!

Davison has allowed very few organizations access to this magical facility, so this opportunity is truly unique. Don't miss this chance to spend an enchanted night in Inventionland and help us provide magical experiences to in-need kids all year long!

About the Event

Saturday, December 6, 2014 6-10 p.m. Inventionland, 585 Alpha Drive RIDC Park, O'Hara Township Dress: colorful, creative, comfortable Sponsors: UPMC, Lamar Advertising, Pitt Ohio Express