



PRESS RELEASE
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Lariats & Lace Gala To Raise a 'Fistful of Dollars' To Support Programs for Blind, Deaf Children

TUCSON, AZ—Arizona Blind & Deaf Children's Foundation will stage its annual Lariats & Lace gala to support programs for blind and deaf children throughout the state.

The seventh annual Lariats & Lace event will pay tribute to the spaghetti western as it raises a "fistful of dollars" for its programs focusing on arts, fitness, literacy and success skills for deaf and blind youth. Slated for Saturday, November 7, at Skyline Country Club, the event will be emceed by KVOA-TV Anchorwoman Kristi Tedesco and will feature dancing to local Tucson band, The Desert Cadillacs.

"We've set out to make this an exceptionally fun evening," said Lariats & Lace Chairwoman Sally Marchalonis Perry. "The event has always had great entertainment, excellent food, and some amazingly touching moments, so I'm looking forward to a great evening."

Additional features of the evening include a large silent auction, Top Teacher awards honoring instructors from Arizona Schools for the Deaf and Blind, and the White Hat Award, which honors one of the Foundation's top supporters.

Special performances by Arizona School for the Blind musicians and Arizona School for the Deaf's new dance program, "Dance Vibe," will round out the evening.

"This is our major fundraiser for the year," notes Foundation Executive Director Rita Weatherholt, "We count on Lariats & Lace for a large portion of our yearly income." The goal this year is to raise \$100,000.

For more information, or to reserve tickets, contact Arizona Blind & Deaf Children's Foundation at 520-577-3700 or log on to www.azblinddeafchildren.org .

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About Arizona Blind & Deaf Children's Foundation

Arizona Blind and Deaf Children's Foundation *invests in the future of Arizona's blind and deaf children.* A statewide organization headquartered in Tucson, the Foundation aims to serve more than 4,000 blind and deaf children throughout the state by making available experiential learning in art, fitness, literacy, and success skills. Within its areas of focus, the Foundation supports and creates programs, and raises and manages funds to enrich the lives of blind, deaf, low-vision, and hard-of-hearing children and youth. For more information about Arizona Blind and Deaf Children's Foundation, log on to www.azblinddeafchildren.org.