Dear Friends,

We are writing to request your sponsorship of the **Autism Connection of Pennsylvania’s 2014 Gala at Phipps Botanical Gardens and Conservatory on February 8, 2014**. We will be honoring ***The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust*** for their work this year producing autism-friendly performances of The Lion King and the Nutcracker Ballet for our families and adults. Joining us in this celebration will be **Honorary Chairperson *Frank Coonelly, President of the Pittsburgh Pirates.***

The Annual Gala is the organization’s largest source of revenue.  The event’s purpose is to both raise funds for the organization and to provide a first-class experience to its supporters and guests.  Autism Connection of Pennsylvania is always grateful to its sponsors and provides extensive recognition both prior to and at the event.  With your early sponsorship commitment for the 2014 Gala, your organization will receive the most visibility, including mention on invitations and other promotional materials.\*

**Why help us?** The autism diagnosis rate continues to grow and our children are growing up quickly into a world that is only partially ready for them to be adults.  This is why your support of the Autism Connection of Pennsylvania is needed more than ever.

Autism Connection of Pennsylvania is a Pittsburgh-based organization that is dedicated to helping Pennsylvania individuals, families, professionals, caregivers, and communities meet the challenges of autism head-on.  It connects these stakeholders with each other, with resources, and with information, providing a lifeline of support to all affected by these challenges. Operated by a staff and working board consisting primarily of parents of people with autism or related conditions, it relies heavily on volunteers, keeps costs down, and never uses professional fundraisers.  Professional staff is on hand by phone, e-mail, and in person to provide individual support for any issue that may arise.  Additionally, the organization sponsors conferences and support groups throughout the state, curates a library of autism-related books and videos for free loan, conducts “lunch and learn” sessions at regional businesses, and creates and shares a comprehensive weekly autism newsletter with almost 9,000 e-mail subscribers.

As parents of a teenage son with autism, we have experienced first-hand the challenges it presents. We are passionate in our support for the Autism Connection of Pennsylvania and the vital role it plays in Pittsburgh and surrounding Pennsylvania communities. Please take a moment to review the enclosed sponsorship information for the 2014 Gala. We hope we can count on your support and look forward to sharing this wonderful event with you!

 Sincerely,

 Steve and MJ Crane

 2014 Gala Co-Chairs

\**Select sponsorships confirmed*

*by December 2, 2013 receive extra visibility benefits.*

*See the enclosed for details!*

**14th Annual Gala to Benefit**

**The Autism Connection of PA**

**at Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens**

**February 8, 2014**

Sponsorship Opportunities & Benefits

***Maximize your Sponsorship!***

***Sponsors at the Diamond level and above will receive recognition***

***on Gala invitation if sponsorship is confirmed by December 2, 2013.***

**All sponsors** will receive prominent recognition

of their company name and sponsorship level in the Gala Program Book,

in Autism Connection of PA “Autism Weekly” e-mails, and in newsletters.

Complimentary valet parking at the Gala is also included with sponsorship.

Additional benefits are listed below.

**$20,000 – Presenting Sponsor**

* Two reserved tables for a total of 16 guests (two tables of 8)
* Cover page ad in Program Book
* Public recognition during Gala
* Logo placement on Gala invitation (if sponsorship confirmed by December 2)

**$15,000 – Platinum Sponsor**

* Two reserved tables for a total of 12 guests (two tables of 6)
* Cover page ad in Program Book
* Public recognition during Gala
* Logo placement on Gala invitation (if sponsorship confirmed by December 2)

**$10,000 – Diamond Sponsor**

* One reserved table for 10 guests
* Full-page ad in Program Book
* Public recognition during Gala
* Logo placement on Gala invitation (if sponsorship confirmed by December 2)

**$5,000 – Gold Sponsor**

* One reserved table for 8 guests
* Half-page ad in Program Book

**$3,500 – Silver Sponsor**

* Tickets/Entry for 6 guests
* Half-page ad in Program Book

**$2,500 – Bronze Sponsor**

* Tickets/Entry for 4 guests

**$1,000 – Copper Sponsor**

* Tickets/Entry for 2 guests

**14th Annual Gala to Benefit the Autism Connection of PA**

**at Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens**

**February 8, 2014**

Sponsorship Application

* **$20,000 –** Presenting Sponsor
* **$15,000 –** Platinum Sponsor
* **$10,000 –** Diamond Sponsor
* **$5,000 –** Gold Sponsor
* **$3,500 –** Silver Sponsor
* **$2,500 –** Bronze Sponsor
* **$1,000 –** Copper Sponsor

Name of Company \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* Check enclosed (made payable to Autism Connection of PA)
* Credit card:

[ ] MasterCard [ ] VISA

 Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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 Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 3-Digit Security Code \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Presenting, Platinum and Diamond Sponsors:** If your sponsorship application is confirmed by December 2, 2013, your company logo will be included on the Gala invitation. We will contact you upon receiving sponsorship payment to provide details for providing your logo.

**All sponsors receiving a program ad as part of their sponsorship benefits** will be contacted after sponsorship payment has been received with details about ad format specifications.

*Return this form to:*

 Jennifer Salamon Phone: 412-781-4116

 Autism Connection of PA Fax: 412-781-4122

 35 Wilson Street, Suite 100 E-mail: jsalamon@autismofpa.org

 Pittsburgh, PA 15223

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania certifies that the Advisory Board On Autism and Related Disorders, Autism Connection of PA is registered as a charitable organization with the Department of State's Bureau of Charitable Organizations under the Solicitation of Funds for Charitable Purposes Acts, 10 P.S. Section 161.2 et seq., and is authorized to solicit charitable contributions under the conditions and limitations set forth under the Act. Tax ID number is 25-1760214.