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## CHILDSPLAY PRESS RELEASE

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### **Childsplay Celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with “The Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Gala”**

Tempe, AZ- Honorary chairs actress Sharon Lawrence (“NYPD Blue” and “Desperate Housewives”) and Basketball Hall of Famer Nancy Lieberman, along with Gala chair Brooke Corley and the Childsplay Committee, announce *Childsplay Celebrates 2008*. The theme of the annual spring event is “The Terrible Horrible No Good Very Bad Gala”, in conjunction with Childsplay’s production of *Alexander and The Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*, a musical based on the well-known Judith Viorst children’s book of the same name. Emceed by Channel 3’s Brad Perry, the event will take place on **Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm** at the new **Tempe Center for the Arts**, and will include cocktails, dinner, silent auction, entertainment, dancing, and several surprises designed to be a cure for a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day. All proceeds will support Childsplay’s award-winning arts in education programs.

The silent auction will feature travel packages and dozens of unique works of art by local and national artists, as well as exclusive items such as a behind-the-scenes tour and taping with sports legend Nancy Lieberman at ESPN studios in Bristol, CT and a visit to Washington, D.C. with the ultimate tour guide, Arizona Congressman Harry Mitchell.

Childsplay will honor arts philanthropist and activist Carol DuVal Whitman (National Governors Association Award, 2007) with the 2008 Pied Piper Award. This award is presented annually to an individual who has made a significant contribution to preserving imagination and wonder in the lives of our community’s young people by supporting and advocating for quality arts and education programs. Past recipients include J. Robert Wills, former dean of the Herberger

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Childsplay Celebrates 2008

College of the Arts, arts advocate Shelley M. Cohn, former Tempe Mayor Neil Giuliano and Congressman Harry E. Mitchell.

Individual tickets for the Gala are \$200 and corporate sponsorships range from \$3,000 to \$25,000. To **purchase tickets and/or sponsorships**, please visit [www.childsplaycelebrates.org](http://www.childsplaycelebrates.org). For additional information regarding the Gala or Childsplay, please contact Michelle Hargreaves at 480.858.2292 or email at [mhargreaves@childsplayaz.org](mailto:mhargreaves@childsplayaz.org).

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Childsplay, Inc. is a nonprofit theatre company of professional, adult artists who perform for and teach young audiences and their families. The mission of Childsplay is “to create theatre so strikingly original in form, content or both, that it instills in young people an enduring awe, love and respect for the medium, thus preserving imagination and wonder, the hallmarks of childhood which are keys to the future.” For information on Childsplay performances, classes or educational presentations please call 480-350-8101 or visit [www.childsplayaz.org](http://www.childsplayaz.org).

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