



ISSUE No. 6: SPRING/SUMMER 2010

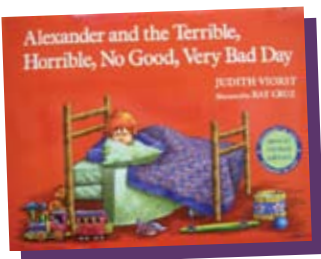
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The Lucy Daniels Center for Early Childhood

Leadership Raleigh Makes Its Mark PAGE 5 | Meet Our New Staff Members PAGES 6 & 7



Lucy's Book Club™
presents
bookmarked!
May 22 – June 6, 2010



Max wearing his wolf suit and threatening, "I'll eat you up!"

Harold using his purple crayon to draw himself out of trouble...

Frog and Toad searching for a lost button...

The Runaway Bunny deciding to stay with his mother, after all...

Alexander having a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day...

What's your favorite storybook moment?

Bookmarked!

by Karen Taylor

Bookmarked! celebrates reading with children, May 22–June 6

The Lucy Daniels Center for Early Childhood has celebrated the magic of children's books in our signature community outreach program, Lucy's Book Club, since May 2009. The program, currently reaching 30,000 Wake County families, encourages parents to read to their children and helps them guide their social-emotional growth by recommending books built around themes such as "Learning to Like Myself" and "Becoming a New Brother/Sister."

Jennifer Reid, a teacher in the Center's Early Intervention Program, serves as chair of the Lucy's Book Club panel. "Reading books to and with young children is an excellent way of broaching topics that are difficult to talk about directly," she explains. "As an early childhood teacher, I have found that some of our most significant discussions come up when we are reading books. The stories provide children with a safe, distanced way to think and talk about everyday life issues."

We're marking the book club's successful first year with **Bookmarked! A Celebration of Reading with Children**, a two-week festival

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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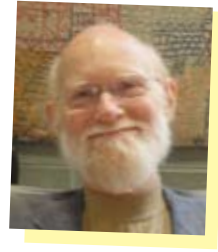
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MISSION STATEMENT:

The Lucy Daniels Center for Early Childhood provides and promotes a model of service which exemplifies optimal emotional, social, and cognitive support for young children, parents, and child development professionals.

Dear Friends of the Lucy Daniels Center:



As the largest nonprofit agency provider of mental health services to children in the Triangle, we are acutely aware of our responsibility to be responsive to the constantly changing mental health landscape as our local population grows and services in the public sector diminish. Careful planning, organizational discipline, and community support will be the keys to enable the Center to increase its capacity to serve more children and families.

The Center, with grant support from the John Rex Endowment, has just completed a rigorous organizational assessment led by the Executive Service Corps (ESC). This non-profit group made up of retired business and non-profit executive volunteers, has helped identify the Center's many strengths as well as areas where we need to improve or develop. We are grateful to these outstanding community partners for helping us be the best organization we can and further our mission to help children live emotionally healthy lives.

Sincerely,

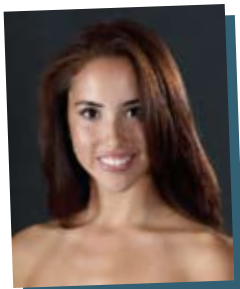
Donald L. Rosenblitt, M.D., Executive and Clinical Director

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Bookmarked!

CONTINUED FROM COVER



Jan Burkhard
Carolina Ballet



Gerald Owens
WRAL Anchor



Ethan Brinn
Police Officer



Judith Viorst

featuring free celebrity-hero readings, a book fair at Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh, and a special fundraising event, “An Evening with Judith Viorst.”

The celebration begins May 22, when community role models—including police officers, television personalities, a ballerina and Lucy Daniels herself—will read to children ages six and under across Wake County. Public venues include county libraries, the Green at North Hills, and Quail Ridge Books. Additional educational activities are planned at some locations.

The festival culminates with the June 5 arrival of Judith Viorst, best known for her children’s book *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*, a realistically drawn tale that chronicles a day of mishaps for a boy who just happens to share the name of the author’s youngest son. The sensitivity with which the story addresses Alexander’s growing frustration has made it a favorite with children, their parents, and other adults who value healthy emotional growth in children.

In addition to writing books for children and adults—her first novel, *Murdering Mr. Monti*, was published in 1994—and serving as a columnist for *Redbook*, Ms. Viorst spent six years studying at the Washington Psychoanalytic Institute. Her interest in the workings of the psyche is reflected in the humor and compassion of her writing, making her an ideal ambassador for **Bookmarked!**

“Judith Viorst simply understands what makes children tick,” says Donald Rosenblitt, M.D., the Center’s executive and clinical director. “Using her skills as a master children’s writer and psychoanalyst, she has crafted some of the finest literary gifts to children and their parents.”

Ms. Viorst will give a free reading for children at Quail Ridge Books at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 5. She is also the featured speaker at an adults-only fundraising event at 7 p.m. on Sunday, June 6. Drawing on the insights that inspired her non-fiction works for adults, Ms. Viorst will talk about “Loves, Losses, and Wicked Thoughts” in Peace College’s intimate Kenan Recital Hall. The lecture will be followed by an elegant reception in Main Hall’s parlor and adjacent courtyard.

A limited number of tickets to this event are available for \$50, which includes a \$30 tax-deductible donation in support of Lucy’s Book Club and the Center’s Family Support Fund. Sponsorship opportunities are also available.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Bookmarked!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

“Lucy’s Book Club is the Center’s gift to parents and children in our community,” says Joyce Watkins King, the Center’s director of development. “By supporting the Judith Viorst fundraiser, corporations and individuals in our community have an opportunity to help us expand Lucy’s Book Club to 50,000 families in 2010–11 and to provide support for children whose families cannot afford the full cost of their care at the Center. Our goal is to raise at least \$50,000, and we are so pleased that Cargill Corporation has agreed to be our Presenting Sponsor.”

Don Camden, Southeast Region Commercial Manager for Cargill, notes that the Center’s reputation for providing quality mental health services for children made the decision to sponsor **Bookmarked!** an easy one. “We have an amazing amount of respect for the work that Lucy Daniels Center is doing in our community,” he notes. “Giving the money is the easy part; all of the hard work that goes into making this community stronger is where the real effort comes in.”

Throughout the festival, Quail Ridge Books will host a Lucy’s Book Club Book Fair, featuring titles from our 2009–10 lists (many of which are also available in Spanish) and select works by Ms. Viorst. Books may be purchased in the store or online, with proceeds supporting our fundraising goal. Ms. Viorst will personalize copies of her books following her June 5 appearance; attendees of the fundraiser who would like to have their books personalized are encouraged to pre-order them through Quail Ridge and then pick them up at the June 6 event.

Visit our website, lucysbookclub.org, for the most up-to-date details on all **Bookmarked!** events and to learn more about sponsorship opportunities.

Thank You to Our Bookmarked Sponsors as of May 5, 2010

Presenting Sponsors

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Leadership Raleigh team makes its mark on Bookmarked!

By Karen Taylor

Busy committee members working to make **Bookmarked!** a success in its inaugural year got a big boost in productivity thanks to the involvement of a team from Leadership Raleigh, a leadership development program sponsored by the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce.

The purpose of the nine-month program is to help future leaders get a bird's-eye view of community issues, develop skills needed to assume leadership roles, and learn more about opportunities for community involvement. Through regular meetings and work on a project, team members learn how to work within a group while making a lasting change in the community. This year, one team—Erin Conigliaro, Tim Otto, Erica Meyers, Chip Kitchings, Ed Alexander, and Sabrina Rockoff—chose Lucy's Book Club as their project.

"It was interesting to find out that many members of our team had small children, had a passion for children, and for the most part were in the same stage in life," explains Otto, a financial advisor with Morgan Stanley Smith Barney. "So when it came to choosing a project which involved raising awareness of mental health concerns for small children, we were immediately attracted to [it]."

Originally tasked with recruiting more community partners for Lucy's Book Club—currently serving 30,000 Wake County children, with plans to reach 50,000 in 2010–11—the team expanded their role to take responsibility for planning two weeks of celebrity-hero book readings, a key part of **Bookmarked!**

"Having worked with several Leadership Raleigh groups in the past, I can attest to the positive impact they have on non-profits in our community," says Joyce Watkins King, the Center's director of development. "Members of this team have worked beautifully, both as a group and individually, by helping with graphic design, securing event locations, and helping us connect with potential sponsors, in addition to recruiting celebrities."

Their hard work has paid off, with local luminaries—including North Carolina's First Family, Carolina Ballet's Jan Burkhard, and Raleigh Police Chief Harry Dolan—and additional neighborhood heroes including mail carriers and children's librarians signed on to participate in both public and private readings all over Wake County. The readings and related events promise to be a big hit with families and a great way to spread the word about Lucy's Book Club.

In addition, the leadership team's participation has helped members realize their own potential.

"I have always considered myself a leader but have not had the opportunity to work in a group setting with other professional leaders until now. It's been a great team to work with," says member Erin Conigliaro, owner of design firm E Design. "I think when we look back at the first year of **Bookmarked!** we will all be proud of the work that we did."



Members of the Leadership Raleigh team include, (l to r) Chip Kitchings, Sabrina Rockoff, Erica Meyers, Tim Otto, and Erin Conigliaro. Not pictured, Ed Alexander.

Meet Our New Staff Members



Adam Berkowitz, L.C.S.W.
Mental Health Clinician

Adam joined the staff of the Family Guidance Service in January 2010. He earned his master of social work degree from Fordham University and has post-graduate training in psychoanalysis from the Institute for Psychoanalytic Training and Research (IPTAR). Mr. Berkowitz has worked with children, adolescents, adults and families in foster care, family court, school and community mental health settings, as well as in private practice.



Anna Quarles, L.C.S.W., M.P.H.
Mental Health Clinician

Anna joined the staff of the Family Guidance Services in March 2010. A graduate of Bucknell University with a double major in psychology and Spanish, she later earned dual masters degrees in social work and public health from the University of Pittsburgh. For the past two years she worked with adolescents and their families at Central Regional Hospital's inpatient Child and Adolescent Unit. Mrs. Quarles has also worked with adults on an inpatient psychiatric unit, and she is currently completing coursework through the Psychoanalytic Education Center of the Carolinas.



Alison Silver, L.C.S.W.
Mental Health Clinician

Alison joined the SecurePath staff in November 2009 as a therapist. She is a graduate of the University of Georgia. She received a master's degree in clinical social work from UNC-Chapel Hill and completed a clinical fellowship at the Yale Child Study Center. Her previous experience includes working with children and families in schools, outpatient clinics and in a residential program.

"The Lucy Daniels Center is dedicated to doing our part to fill the growing gap in our area in affordable mental health services for children," says Don Rosenblitt, executive and clinical director at the Center. "We have noticed a decisive increase in the number of children referred to us for evaluations and treatment from all sources, and particularly parents calling us directly for help. We attribute this in part to a decline in funding and capacity for public mental health programs for children at a time when an increasing number of families are seeking assistance. This means more families are competing for fewer services that are critical to a child's healthy development."

The Center has been able to add these new positions largely for three reasons:

1) support from Band Together, a 501 (c) 3 that annually supports a different Triangle area charity through a music-based fundraising event; **2)** support from the John Rex Endowment's capacity building program; and **3)** increased support from individual donors and foundations who understand the importance of helping children at the earliest possible age.

Deborah Mugno, Ed.D.

Director of Education

Debbie has more than 22 years experience in the fields of early childhood and early intervention. She holds a B.S. in special education from the University of Maryland, and both an M.S. in education/reading and an Ed.D. in special education/leadership from Johns Hopkins University. She spent many years as an early intervention specialist and administrator in Maryland, has taught early childhood classes at several community colleges in North Carolina as well as at Meredith College, has an extensive background in early intervention research, and speaks frequently at both state and national early childhood conferences. Debbie rejoined the Center staff in March 2010; she was the former Director of Education at the Lucy Daniels Center from 1996 through 2003.



Letter From the Director of Education:



As we approach the end of another school year we begin to help children think about transitions. Whether a child is leaving the Lucy Daniels Center or moving from one classroom to another within the school, the anticipation of change can be unsettling. Providing children with a safe emotional environment is at the very core of our curriculum – an environment where children feel comfortable expressing feelings and where those feelings are accepted and validated. A safe emotional environment is also one that is predictable and familiar. There will be a lot of “big feelings” that surface as children prepare to take their next steps into different classrooms. Acknowledging the importance of mastering these transitions, teachers will wrap their curricular activities around the theme of endings and beginnings – all kinds of good-byes, meeting and making new friends, learning school skills (i.e. navigating the school lunch line,) and even knowing how to ask “new” grown-ups for help. Parents are an integral part of this process, supporting and advocating for their children and they may experience some of their own uncertainties as well. Thoughtful preparation is the key to a smooth, successful transition for everyone involved.

Deborah Mugno

Deborah Mugno, Ed.D., Director of Education

P.S. We are still accepting applications for three, four, and five year-olds in our Child Enrichment Preschool Program for the 2010–2011 year. Please call 919.677.1400 for more information or to schedule a visit.

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Highlights



Members of the Lucy Daniels Center's staff, Lucy Daniels, and GSK officials at the GlaxoSmithKline IMPACT Awards, December 2009.



Target volunteers lend a hand with Lucy's Book Club. Target Foundation is a Lucy's Book Club sponsor.



Lucy Daniels pictured reading to children in the Blue Room on Lucy's (Founders) Day, April 16, 2010.

Visit www.lucydanielscenter.org for the latest Center news.

Visit www.lucysbookclub for the latest Book Club and Bookmarked! news.

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