

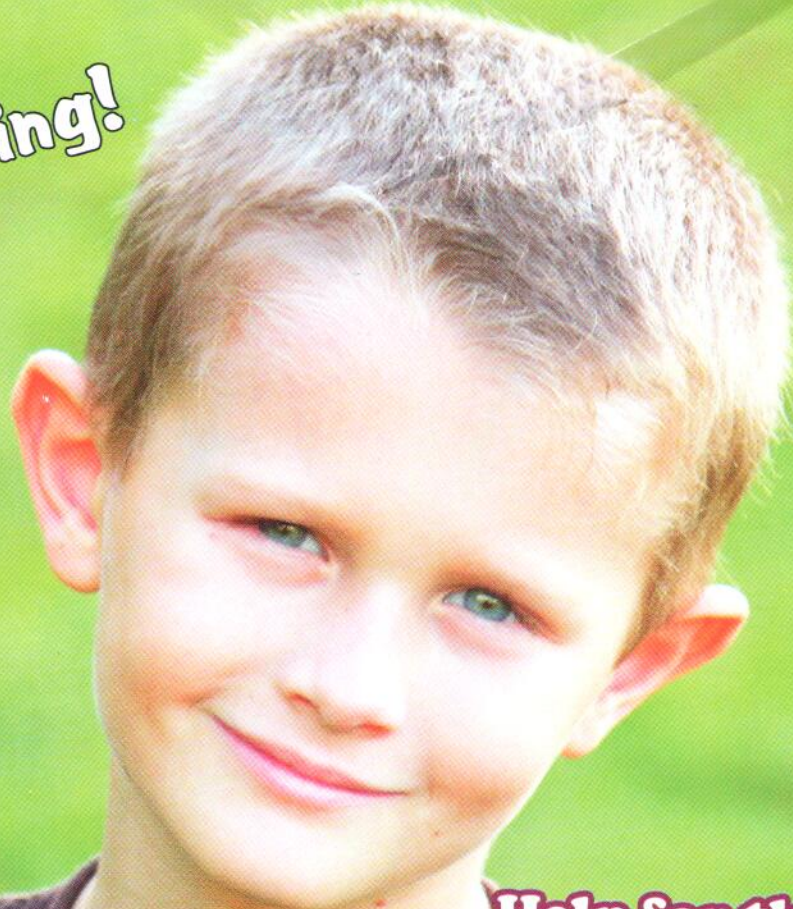
FREE

TREASURE COAST

November 2013

Parenting

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**SPECIAL FEATURE
Finding Forever Parents**

A Look Inside The Florida Foster Care Adoption Program

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Dance for Food

4 Great Performances for the Entire Family and for a Great Cause

Every day thousands of families struggle to determine where their next meal will come from. Resources at local food banks and food pantries are stretched thin. In this sustained economic recession, people who used to be contributors to these organizations find themselves on the receiving end of assistance. **Artists for a Cause (A4AC)** hopes to ease this suffering through its Dance for Food event. This unique family-fun performance event is not a fundraiser but rather a "food raiser," using art to assist struggling families throughout the Treasure Coast and the Palm Beaches.

The annual Dance for Food, presented by A4AC and sponsored by Schmitt, Cambron & Reynolds, PL, brings together many of



Photograph by Bob Dobbins.

South Florida's finest contemporary dancers and dance students to showcase their talents in front of an audience whose only admission fee is a bag of unexpired, nonperishable goods.

A4AC is a Stuart-based, national nonprofit organization that uses

art to help charities raise funds and create awareness. In addition, efforts include therapeutic art programs, scholarships and school programs. The goal is to significantly affect change by bringing together art, community and support.

There are four shows scheduled throughout the month of November and all are welcome to attend. While there is no monetary admission fee for the events, attendees are instead asked to donate a bag of nonperishable foods.



Photograph by Bob Dobbins.

All food collected at the performances will be distributed to local nonprofit organizations that focus on hunger relief, the Treasure Coast Food Bank, the Farmworker Coordinating Council of Palm Beach County and WPTV NewsChannel 5 Bill Brooks' Food For Families program.

"Our Dance for Food event is a perfect example of the arts as a catalyst to address a critical community need. The program produces significantly greater results than



Photo by Dana Roxanne Photography.

could be obtained through a more traditional fundraising event," explained A4AC founder Terry Barber. "Here we are supporting the arts and dance culture with professional and educational opportunities while also raising more food than our program budget would purchase." Georgen Charnes, A4AC's recently named Director of Operations, remarked, "This event increases the community's awareness of art while allowing artists the opportunities to use their talents to create a better world in a new way."



Photograph by Bob Dobbins.

The four Dance for Food events will take place on:

- Sunday, November 3, 3pm at the Lyric Theatre (59 SW Flagler Avenue, Stuart);
- Sunday, November 17, 5pm at the Fort Pierce Magnet School of the Arts (1200 Delaware Ave. Fort Pierce);

- Friday, November 22, 7pm at South Fork High School (10205 SW Pratt Whitney Road, Stuart)
- Sunday, November 24, 3pm at the Eissey Campus Theatre (11051 Campus Drive, Palm Beach Gardens)

To learn more about Artists for a Cause, the Dance for Food performances or how artists or charities can register, please visit www.a4ac.org. Those who are unable to attend the events can donate nonperishable goods and drop them off at any of these locations: Artists for a Cause (2688 Willoughby Boulevard in Stuart), the dance studios and schools participating in the event, and BB&T branches in Fort Pierce and Stuart.