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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ACT Today! and Cox Communications Team Up to Offer
an Autism Film Program for Military Children in San Diego**

ACT Today! (Autism Care and Treatment Today!) and Cox Communications launch a two-week Autism Film Program for Military Children in San Diego, California; program runs from June 18-29, 2012 for individuals 9 to 21 years of age.

SAN DIEGO, CA May 1, 2012 ACT Today! (Autism Care and Treatment Today!), a national non-profit organization whose mission is to provide access to care and treatment to children with autism, is joining forces with Cox Communications to present the Autism Film Program for Military Children. The two-week program, taught by Inclusion Films, will run from June 18-29, 2012 at the Cox Communications main campus in San Diego.



The program is free for military children with autism and their siblings between 9-21 years of age. Military families can be active, retired; Guards or Reserves, and can apply for the program online at <http://www.acttodayformilitaryfamilies.org/CoxFilmProgram.aspx>.

“We are so happy to be able to offer this program to the San Diego community,” says ACT Today!’s Executive Director Nancy Alspaugh-Jackson. “We believe the Autism Film Program for Military Children will give children a unique opportunity to work with a professional team of film makers, and also the chance to exercise creativity, build self-esteem and meet new friends. We hope this program will be the spring board for other such programs across the country in the coming years.”

“The skills kids learn in our Inclusion Films summer programs go beyond the technical aspects of film making,” says Inclusion Films creator, Joey Travolta. “The core of the process is collaboration, which in turn enhances social skills. These skills will serve the participants in life as well as with any future aspirations they have to become part of the entertainment industry. We are proud to partner with ACT Today! and Cox Communications to give even more access to children with developmental disabilities and their families.”

Inclusion Films educates individuals with developmental disabilities such as autism, Down syndrome and cerebral palsy by taking them through the process of making a short film, from pre- to post-production. During the two-week workshop students will work with professional production crews; writing scripts, and using film and editing equipment, with the goal of showcasing their film at the San Diego Film Festival on September 29th.

“Children, education and the military are areas that Cox Communications focuses on when we’re looking at ways to support our community,” says Cami Mattson, Director of Community Relations for Cox Communications. “By partnering with ACT Today! and Inclusion Films, we’re able to make an impact in all of those areas by helping young people with developmental disabilities discover their talents and strengthen their skills for the future.”

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 1 in every 88 children in America is diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD), making ASD more prevalent than juvenile diabetes, childhood cancer and pediatric AIDS combined. These disorders are characterized, in varying degrees, by difficulties in social interaction, verbal/nonverbal communication and repetitive behaviors. They include Autistic disorder, Rett syndrome, Childhood disintegrative disorder (CDD), Pervasive developmental disorder-not otherwise specified (PDD-NOS) and Asperger’s syndrome.

For more information and to register for the Autism Film Program for Military Children, visit <http://www.acttodayformilitaryfamilies.org/CoxFilmProgram.aspx>.

About ACT Today!:

ACT Today! (Autism Care and Treatment Today!) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness and providing treatment services and support to families of children with autism who cannot afford or access the necessary tools their children need to reach their full potential. For more information about ACT Today!, visit: www.act-today.org.

About ACT Today! for Military Families:

ACT Today! for Military Families (ATMF), is a national program of ACT Today!. It was launched in July 2010. ATMF works to improve awareness and delivery of effective autism services, and provides financial assistance to military families to help defray out-of-pocket costs associated with autism treatments, services, and other quality of life programs. For more information about ACT Today! for Military Families, visit: www.acttodayformilitaryfamilies.org.

About Inclusion Films:

Inclusion Films was established in 2006. The film school trains adults with special needs such as autism, Down syndrome and cerebral palsy. It is a vocational program for basic film production skills. Students attend the film school Monday through Friday and are involved in all facets and specialties. Headquartered in Burbank, California Inclusion Films hosts a second location in Bakersfield, California and summer programs throughout the country. For more information, visit www.inclusionfilms.com.

About Cox Communications:

Cox Communications is a broadband communications and entertainment company, providing advanced digital video, Internet, telephone and wireless services over its own nationwide IP network. The third-largest U.S. cable TV company, Cox serves nearly than 6 million residences and businesses. Cox Business is a facilities-based provider of voice, video and data solutions for commercial customers, and Cox Media is a full-service provider of national and local cable spot and new media advertising. For more information about Cox Communications, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cox Enterprises, visit www.Cox.com and www.Coxmedia.com.

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