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ACT TODAY!, COX AND INCLUSION FILMS TEAM UP TO OFFER A SUMMER FILM PROGRAM TO LOCAL MILITARY CHILDREN WITH AUTISM

The Autism Film Program for Military Children will be held from June 17-28, 2013 at the Cox call center in San Diego.

San Diego, CA – June 17, 2013 – ACT Today! (Autism Care and Treatment Today!), Cox Communications and Inclusion Films team up to bring the 2nd Annual Autism Film Program for Military Children to local San Diego military children with autism and their siblings. The free, two-week program will be held at Cox Communications’ main campus and call center in San Diego from June 17-28th.

The Autism Film Program for Military Children will teach individuals ages 9-21 about the production process of filmmaking, including writing scripts, building sets, operating a camera, and editing film. The film students will then make a short film that will premiere at the San Diego Film Festival on Oct. 4th.

“These young people who go through the film program will gain self-esteem, have the chance to exercise their creativity, and meet other youth who are dealing with the same types of developmental disabilities as they are,” says ACT Today!’s Executive Director Nancy Alspaugh-Jackson. “Joey and his team are passionate about helping them build skills for the future. ACT Today! is so happy to partner with Cox Communications and Inclusion Films once again to bring such an important program to military families in San Diego.”

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.

“Our Inclusion Films summer program teaches kids skills that go beyond the technical aspects of filmmaking,” says Inclusion Films creator, Joey Travolta, a former special education teacher. “They learn about collaboration, which enhances their social skills and will serve them in life. By partnering with Cox and ACT Today!, we’re able to reach even more children with developmental disabilities and their families.”

“When it comes to community giving, Cox Communications is particularly focused on programs that support children, education and the military,” says Cami Mattson, Director of Community Relations for Cox Communications. “This film camp is such a unique and life-changing experience for youth with autism and their families that we didn’t want to pass up the opportunity to bring it to San Diego for a second year. And, we’re thrilled that other corporate community leaders such as SDG&E, Fox5, UT San Diego, and Carlton Oaks Golf Resort are sponsors this year. We’re also excited to have behavioral support provided by Xcite Steps.”

For more information about the ACT Today!’s Autism Film Program for Military Children program presented by Cox Communications, visit 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 Cox Communications:
Cox Communications is a broadband communications and entertainment company, providing advanced digital video, Internet, telephone and home security services over its own nationwide IP network. The third-largest U.S. cable TV company, Cox serves approximately 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.

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.

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