

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Young Musicians Take the Stage for 1-26 Musical Benefit Addam C. Medina Foundation Focuses on Youth Substance Abuse Prevention

DES MOINES, IA — Musicians in elementary school, junior high, and high school will play for nearly 200 guests expected at the third annual Addam C. Medina Foundation benefit at 6 p.m. on Saturday, January 26 at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center in Des Moines.

In addition to supporting and creating programs that help prevent youth substance abuse, the Foundation strives to provide young musicians and artists with a safe, nurturing venue for showcasing their talent.

Sam Hall, a 15-year-old from Baxter, Iowa, kicks off the event with an Irish and bluegrass fiddle set. The musical lineup also includes the Astronaut Monkeys, featuring fifth-grade drummer Rocco Carson, sixth-grade guitarist Nathan Sears, seventh-grade vocalist Chris Funaro, eighth-grade guitarist Max Carson, eighth-grader Dylan Medina on bass, and high school freshman Nick Hunter on keyboards.

Richie Lee, a talented 17-year-old senior at North High School who plays professionally throughout Iowa, turns back the clock with a 30-minute set of classic 50s music.

Other musical guests include John Hanna, director of Youth Ministry at St. Mary of Nazareth Parish, and Pocket Full of Nickels.

The charitable benefits originated following Addam Medina's death in a 2005 car accident. To date the foundation has awarded more than \$15,000 in gifts to the Central Iowa community, including a \$10,000 gift to the House of Mercy.

Beginning in 2008, the Foundation will award an annual gift of \$1,000 to help guests at the Iowa St. Jude Thaddeus Retreat House afford their stay.

This year's invitation-only event runs from 6 to 11 p.m. in the Tapestry Lounge (second floor) of the Scottish Rite Masonic Center at 519 Park Street in downtown Des Moines.

For additional information or to donate, please contact Cathy Medina at 515-244-4779 or visit ACMFoundationIA.org for details.

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