



1612 Otte Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45223

Maximizing developmental potential through performing arts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Alex Carabin
Resident Home Corporation
(513) 619-2960 (Direct)
(513) 504-8618 (Cell)
Email: acarabin@rhcorp.org

INTRODUCING DRAMAKINETICS

A FANTASTIC NEW PROGRAM GIVING CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ALONG SIDE CHILDREN WITH TYPICAL ABILITIES IN PERFORMING ARTS CLASSES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH TYPICAL AND SPECIAL NEEDS

CINCINNATI, Jan. 10 — Dramakinetics of Cincinnati, a new non-profit organization made possible with support from the Resident Home Corporation (RHC), has added three additional performing arts classes to its 2008 Winter/Spring schedule. Dramakinetics classes include music, movement, and drama as the means to teach individuals with typical and special needs.

Because of parent input, a new class for individuals over the age of 14 has been added on Mondays at 6:00 PM at the Resident Home Corporation, located at 3030 West Fork Road in Monfort Heights. An additional class for children ages 3 to 6 years old has been added on Fridays at 5:00 PM at the Kids First Sports Center, located at 7900 East Kemper Road, in Mason. Also, a free 5-week program for babies 9 months to 3 years old will take place on Monday mornings in March from 9:00 – 10:00 AM, also at the Kids First Sports Center.

In order for parents and children to see what Dramakinetics is about, Dramakinetics of Cincinnati is hosting an open house this Sunday, January 13th from 1:00 – 3:00 PM at the Madisonville Arts Center at 5021 Whetsel Avenue, and next Saturday, January 19th from 3:00 – 4:30 PM at the Resident Home Corporation. Parents and children can participate in free mini-classes and light refreshments will be served. If parents are unable to make it to an open house, they can view two on-line video clips, which can be found by typing “Dramakinetics” into the “Search” field on YouTube.com.

In addition, two of the previously scheduled classes are now free as part of the University of Cincinnati’s College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) College Preparatory Special Learners Program. Other than a one-time \$20 registration fee, there are no class fees for these two classes, which are for children ages 3 to 7 years old. One is held on Wednesdays at 5:00 PM at the Resident Home Corporation; the other is held on Saturdays at 1:00 PM on the UC campus in the Patricia Corbett Center for the Performing Arts.

The nine other Dramakinetics classes are for children ages 3 to 14 years, broken into three age brackets: 3 to 6 years old, 6 to 10 years old, and 10 to 14 years old. These classes are held at the Resident Home Corporation, Kids First Sports Center, and the Madisonville Arts Center. Fees for these non-CCM classes are \$18 per class, but scholarships are available on a first-come/first-served basis.

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The 2008 Winter/Spring semester runs for 15 weeks and starts on January 18th. The hour-long classes use performing arts to provide opportunities for socialization, motor and language development, and to create an environment where all individuals are respected and valued, regardless of their abilities. Instructors with backgrounds in performing arts and education lead the classes, while assistants help the individuals with special needs to participate as fully as possible.

Executive Director Pam Shooner is also available to provide classes to individuals of all ages and abilities at schools, libraries, assisted living facilities and other settings.

Registration forms for the Dramakinetics of Cincinnati classes can be found on their website at www.dramakinetics.org. If you would like a registration or scholarship form sent to you, or more information on community workshops or becoming a classroom assistant, please contact the Associate Director, Colleen McSwiggin, by phone at 513-484-0112 or by email at dramakinetics@fuse.net.

To register for a CCM class, please contact the CCM Preparatory Program directly at 513-556-2595, or visit their website at www.ccm.uc.edu/prep to download a registration form.

Dramakinetics of Cincinnati is proud to be a sponsored organization of the Resident Home Corporation (RHC).

About RHC:

RHC (The Resident Home Corporation) is a non-profit corporation that has provided residential, educational, family support and related services to children and adults with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities since 1963. RHC prides itself on the continuum of community-based, residential and school-based services it provides to individuals with disabilities and their families and the critical role that the organization serves to empower, and advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities in communities. For information on the network of programs offered by RHC, please visit www.rhcorp.org.

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Note to Media:

Current Dramakinetics classes are available to photograph or film:

- **Saturday classes, Jan. 12, 19:** College Conservatory of Music College Preparatory Department on the University of Cincinnati campus, Corbett Center for the Arts, Room 4735, 1 p.m.
- **Wednesday classes, Jan. 9, 16, 23:** Resident Home Corporation, 3030 West Fork Road, Building 6, Multi-purpose room, 5 p.m.

Please contact **Alex Carabin at 513-619-2960 or 513-504-8618** if you would like to photograph or film part of a class, or to discuss the organization further.

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