



NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 4, 2009

CONTACTS:
Prime Time Palm Beach County
Kimberly Hale
561-732-8066

Kravis Center for the Performing Arts
Loretta Grantham
561-651-4257

New Afterschool Initiative Uses Art to Empower Glades Youth

Participants to showcase their artistic efforts on stage

Boynton Beach, Fla. – An intensive afterschool initiative focused on providing at-risk youth the opportunity to work with professional teaching artists and learn new skills in the areas of stage production and urban art forms is now underway in the Glades community.

Designed to promote cultural and social integration as well as self-discipline, self-confidence and respect, the *Kravis Afterschool Residency at Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center* has been working with 45 children and youth in grades 4-8 from five Glades-area afterschool sites since the initiative's launch on October 26, 2009. Participants in the two-week intensive residency initiative engage in dance, percussion, theater and visual art activities to create a team production cultivated by their own ideas and reflective of their own unique talents of self-expression. The performance demonstration, *An Evening with Tomorrow*, will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, November 6, 2009 at the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center at Palm Beach Community College/Glades Campus. Attendance is free of charge, courtesy of the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center.

Directed by the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, the *Kravis Afterschool Residency at Dolly Hand* is made possible through the support of the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County in partnership with Prime Time Palm Beach County. Since the Residency initiative at the Kravis Center began in 2006, over 100 youth participants have studied such disciplines as: acrobatics, West African dance, beatbox, break dance, DJ techniques/scratching, marketing/production, martial arts, roller skating, spoken word and street dance. This is the first time since the initiative's inception that the Residency experience has been offered beyond the immediate areas surrounding the Kravis Center.

-more-

“We are delighted to extend the reach of the Kravis Residency experience to children and youth attending afterschool programs in the Glades community,” said Prime Time Executive Director Suzette Harvey. “This is a unique opportunity for them to develop their creativity and artistic skills as well as their interest and participation in the arts through active involvement in learning new art forms.”

Youth from the following Glades-area afterschool sites will be participating in the performance demonstration: New Hope Charities, Pahokee Beacon Center, Street Beat, Boys and Girls Clubs of the Glades and Pioneer Park Beacon Center. Teaching artists leading the youth are Trish Halverson, Jashua Sa-Ra and Shanique Scott.

For more information on the Residency initiative at the Kravis Center, please contact Ali Rehm at 561-651-4376 or rehm@kravis.org.

About Prime Time Palm Beach County

Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc. is a non-profit, intermediary organization dedicated to quality school-age afterschool programs. Prime Time offers networking opportunities, training, technical assistance and professional development for the afterschool professional. It also provides a broad and diverse range of program enhancements, a set of quality standards and a system for reaching quality standards through assessment, program improvement plans and resource allocation for youth providers in Palm Beach County.

Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc. is funded by the Children’s Services Council of Palm Beach County, The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida, the Quantum Foundation and the Sun-Sentinel Children’s Fund.

About The Kravis Center for the Performing Arts

The Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts is a not-for-profit performing arts center whose mission is to enhance the quality of life in Palm Beach County by presenting a diverse schedule of National and International Artists and companies of the highest quality; by offering comprehensive Arts Education programs; by providing a Palm Beach County home in which local and regional arts organizations can showcase their work; and by providing an economic catalyst and Community Leadership in the revitalization of West Palm Beach, supporting efforts to increase travel and tourism in Palm Beach County.

###