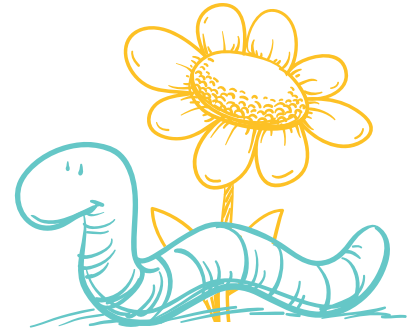




The Nursery Rhyme

MISSION STATEMENT:
to provide affordable
quality child care
for a diverse community



It's Back! Dueling Pianos is a "three-peat" event for the Day Nursery of Abilene.

Because of its past success and fun, the Day Nursery board decided before the end of 2020 that ★ **Dueling Pianos would be a definite for 2021!** ★ This year's event will focus on "celebrating our stars" at the Day Nursery of Abilene. There's still time to secure your seat, table or even a sponsorship if you have interest.

Board members, Melody Roper and Cameron Wiley are co-chairing the event with the help of Bethany Ashlock, Paula Clowdus, Mari Cockerell, Kristina Campos-Davis, and Rolando Rodriguez, who are also on the committee.

The board also determined that because of COVID last year that we would do our best to lower the ticket prices, which we did, cutting them almost in half! This was made doable because of the generosity of sponsors. Their financial investments have helped to underwrite the costs associated with the event. They are star standouts of our organization and we are grateful for each one!

To secure your seat:
Call **325.673.1110** or go online to
★ www.daynurseryabilene.org ★
You don't want to miss it!



*Dueling
Pianos*
**Celebrating
Our Stars**



A Message from Cynthia Pearson

PRESIDENT / CEO

What a year we've left behind and one that's just begun in 2021! Day Nursery is grateful for so much support from our parents, staff and community during the last year as we all learned to work through a global pandemic! We were glad to receive word recently that child care staff made the list in Texas to receive the COVID vaccines and have decided after Governor Abbott lifted the mask requirements for the state that we will no longer require masks in our centers although many will still choose to wear them. After nearly one year of having our faces covered, we are ready for the children in our care to see our smiles and for us to see theirs too!



Day Nursery will maintain all other extra protocols including additional handwashing, sanitizing and encouraging social distancing to the extent possible. Limited access into the centers for the time being also continues as directed by Texas Child Care Regulation which licenses us.

This year we were also faced with new challenges of a severe winter storm! Our centers lost both power and water causing us to close the operation of centers for most of the week (this has not happened in 10 years!).

Day Nursery is also keeping abreast of the current legislative session in Texas and keeping our eye on those items that will impact our industry. We remain grateful for the positive attention focusing on the importance of child care by our city, state and national leaders over the past year and the emphasis to assure adequate resources including efforts to improve the early childhood education professional workforce in Texas.

We wish you well in 2021!

Cynthia Pearson

It's No Debate At All; The Non-Debate Was GREAT!



Ten local celebrities, Travis Ruiz, Katie Alford, Marelyn Shedd, Cathy Ashby, Joey Light, David Young, Alex Russell, Doug Peters, Robert Hanna and Travis Craver gathered together at the Historic Paramount Theater to "debate" child friendly topics such as the importance of making one's bed each day, whether college education is important and if princesses are real, just to name a few. Board member Kristina Campos-Davis organized the debate team. The "Great Non-Debater" champion, Dr. David Young raised the most money with his debating votes and Mr. Robert Hanna was granted the "Cry Baby Award" as the runner up. The event emceed by George Levesque and Cameron Wiley added much needed levity while raising a few bucks for the Day Nursery of Abilene! Day Nursery children who posed the debate questions were Addi Johnson, Roger Burke, Amaya Cox, Chase McClure, Elijah Valdez, Gabby Thompson, Gabriel Skains, Leo Barrios, Maverick Mason, Natalee Nielsen and Neveah Staples. We are grateful for the generosity of our sponsors and for each attendee and donor. This was so fun; we might just repeat it in 2021!

Program Highlights



Spring Break - The Great Outdoors

The theme for this year's spring break was the Great Outdoors focused on everything outdoors, animals, exploration, etc. The elementary age children were able to go on several fun outings to Kirby Lake, Frontier Texas and one of their favorites, the Abilene Zoo!

MAKING A DIFFERENCE... ONE CHILD AT A TIME!

Generosity of our donors, Nov. 2020 - Mar. 2021
(as of print deadline)

- Sherri Abee

Abilene Chamber of Commerce

Stacy and Jason Acevedo

Alan's Upholstery

Suzanne Alexander

Jason and Katie Alford

Kathleen Alvarez

Anonymous (3)

Vicki Arthur

Atmos Energy

Susan and David Bacon

Jill Bailey

The Barber Foundation

Boo Barlow

Sue and Jim Barr

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Battles Home Improvement

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Holly Bearden

John and Carolyn Beckham

Mrs. Gay Beitscher

Staci and RJ Benavides

Brooke Bixby

Witney and Toby Boese

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Bowen

in honor of Bill & Joy Hollowell

Robert and Lou Briley

Candace and Jackie Brown

Lynn and Sandra Brown

in memory of Alisa Mae Davis

Linda and Ed Buckner

Mary and Anthony Burke

Ruth and Lee Caldwell

Jo and Joe Ed Canon

Jay and Nancy Capra

Amy Carnes

Brenda Casselberry

Lisa Chabarria

in honor of DNA Admin Staff

Christian Service Center of Abilene

Circle 66 Outfitters

Bernice Clay

Paula Clowdus

Steve Collins

Glenn and Cindy Cook

Shannon and Becky Cooke

Joe and Jana Crawford

Rob and Cheryl Cunningham

DATROO Technologies, LLC

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Pat and Bobby Drake

Carla Dueser

Will Duncan

David and Sindy Durham

Carolyn Jo Etter
- First Abilene Federal Credit Union

First Financial Bank

Bea Ganson

in memory of Alisa Mae Davis

Libby and Ryan Gibson

Larry and Mary Gill

in honor of DNA Staff

Larry and Mary Gill

Gina dna Mark Lewis

Cathy Goggans

Robert and Janelle Gooch

Gary and Jean Goodnight

Leslie and Jean Gore

Jack and Ann Griggs

Toney and Wanda Gutierrez

Camille Hallum

Lee and Rae Ann Hamilton

Robert Hanna

Joe and Kaye Price- Hawkins

Jachlyn Hayhurst

Vicki and Doug Hayhurst

Hendrick Health System

Jason Hernandez

Jennifer Hinds

Traci and Ryan Holmes

Youlanda and James Hunter

Mary Innes

Josh Ensor Insurance Agency

Kristi Joyner

Traci and Ryan Kana

Tave Kelly

Kay Kendrick

Kristina Campos-Davis

George and Sidney Levesque

Kathy and Jeff Leving

Karen and Joey Light

Long Electric Co.

John and Christy Macon

Martha Magee

Tom and Pamela Mann

Angela Martin

Cleber and Patricia Massey

Tip and Leck Matthews

Sherri and Mike McAuliffe

Michael and Sharon McDonald

Gae Lynn McInroe

Susan and Russell McKeever

in memory of Glen and Charlene Richardson

in memory Martha Foreman

in memory Clark Lawrence

in memory CM Laurence

Dorothy (Dot) McNeil

Aaron and Elizabeth Miller

David and Elaine Miller

Michael and Aimee Montgomery

Jana Moreno

Jennifer Morrison

Mari Kay Morrison

Mallory Moser

Molly Moser

Kenneth Murphy

Lyn Nottingham

Jimmy and Jacki Parker

Ryan and Michelle Parrish
- Party City

Jason and Mindy Patterson

Cynthia Pearson

in honor of Olivia Rivera

in honor of Tammy Stevenson

in honor of DNA Board Officers

in honor of Bea Ganson

in memory of Becky Dixon

Jon Erik Pearson

in memory of Ken King (aka Hacha)

Perry Hunter Hall Insurance, Inc.

Martha Peterman

Elizabeth and James Pierce

in honor of Molly Moser

Kyle and Didi Pierce

D.H. and Caroline Pope

Kerry and Dottie Preston

Mike and Helen Rangel

Ruppert and Kristi Rangel

Billie Proctor Shaw and Glynn Ray

Becky and Jack Rentz

Reynolds Manufacturing Co.

Tom and Sharon Riley

Becky Roberts

Danielle Robertson

Susan Robinson & grandchildren

Melody Roper

Travis Ruiz

Alex and Justin Russell

Nancy Ruzinsky

Donna Sanders

in memory of Bill Rainey

Cheryl and Jason Sawyers

Eva Gail Scruggs

Joe and Karen Sharp

Shelton Family Foundation

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Dr. and Mrs. Stanley Smith

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Kirk and Kristi Thaxton

Victoria Thibault

Jimmy Tittle

Toys for Tots

Truist By Frontstream

Audra Ude

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Susan Wade

Wal-Mart North #536

Donna and Pat Watkins

Bubba Weckwerth

West Texas CPR & Safety Training

Jill and Chip Whitlock

Cameron D. and Megan Wiley

Vicki Wilson

Mr. and Mrs. Bobbie Lee Wolfe

Amanda and David Young

Richard and Carolyn Young

Kam Zinsser

GIFTS FROM FUNDS HELD AT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF ABILENE

Morgan and Jesse Jones Designated Fund
Robert, Elsie & Roberta Watters Endowment Fund
Steve Arthur Family Foundation

The Day Nursery of Abilene is grateful to each and every donor!

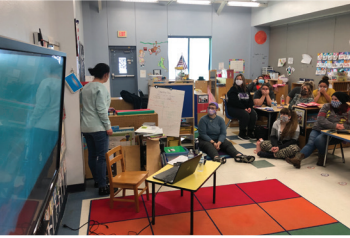
STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Employees of the Year



KRYSTAL GRAHAM
LAUREN DEANDA
DEBRA HOGUE
AMY SALGE

Professional Development Day





2021 NEW BOARD MEMBERS

These new members include Bethany Ashlock, formerly with the United Way of Abilene and a current community volunteer and mom; Holly Cox, with Hendrick Home for Children; Dee Dolton, with Senior Living Properties; Mari Cockerell, rejoining the board and is the Communications & Media Relations director for the City of Abilene; and Rolando Rodriguez, Used Car Manager for Arrow Ford.

Board leadership for 2021 includes Molly Moser, Chair; Vicki Hayhurst, Immediate Past Chair; Paula Clowdus, Vice Chair; Chery Cunningham, Secretary; Garrett Smith, Treasurer; and members-at-large: Tave Kelly, Tip Matthews and Grant Seabourne. Other returning members include Staci Benavides, Kristina Campos-Davis, Will Duncan, Jason Hernandez, Jonathan Moore, Melody Roper, Cameron Wiley and Kam Zinsser.

To kick off the year, the full board met together for an interactive, engaging board retreat. It was held in the warehouse space at the Community Foundation of Abilene, was facilitated by Coleman Patterson and included a dinner at The Mill.



"SAVE THE DATE"

ABILENE GIVES 2021



2021 Abilene Gives, "4 the Community" kicks off at midnight on Tuesday, May 4th; Day Nursery of Abilene is honored to participate again this year. The annual community-wide, 24-hour giving day is a great way to support us. Again this year, Day Nursery asks donors to consider funding a day of child care, a \$30 donation, or funding a full week for \$150.

Those donors who prefer to give by check may do so. Just mail your check to our office (702 Cedar, 79601) using the envelope provided inside this newsletter before April 29th. Make checks payable to "Abilene Gives" and note Day Nursery's name in the memo. We will deliver these contributions on the giving day to the Community Foundation of Abilene. Your online gifts given on May 4th for the 2021 Abilene Gives campaign will benefit Day Nursery. www.abilenegives.org

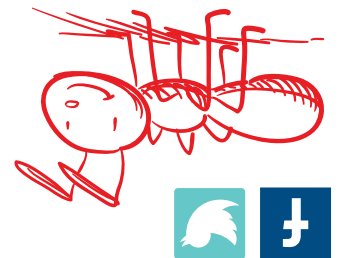
THANK YOU for making a difference...
one child at a time and 4 the Community!
"MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU!"



LEAVE 5 INITIATIVE

The Day Nursery of Abilene has joined the Leave 5 initiative of the Community Foundation of Abilene which provides planned giving options for people to leave at least 5% of their estate to local charitable causes. As a supporter of the Day Nursery, we invite you to consider legacy giving to further our mission for all children and to "Leave 5".

For more details visit LEAVE5.ORG



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Help DNA save money on
printing and postage!
If you prefer to get an email version
of the Nursery Rhyme, please email
daynursery@daynurseryabilene.org.

daynurseryabilene.org

OUR CHILD CARE CENTERS:

Administration Office
702 Cedar Street
Abilene, TX 79601
(325) 673-1110
(325) 673-1110

Cedar Street Center
650 Cedar Street
Abilene, TX 79601
(325) 670-0002

Sherry Lane Center
3434 Sherry Lane
Abilene, TX 79601
(325) 673-1781

Orange Street Center
1450 N. 17th
Abilene, TX 79601
(325) 232-7387

Vine Street Center
1442 Vine Street
Abilene, TX 79601
(325) 672-7351

Non-Profit Org.
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Community Foundation
of Abilene



Administration Office
702 Cedar Street
Abilene, TX 79601
(325) 673-1110 phone
(325) 677-0235 fax