



JEWEL Headlines PACER's 22nd Annual Benefit

JEWEL, headline performer for PACER's 22nd Annual Benefit, is a multi-faceted gem. At 29 she is an accomplished performer, songwriter, poet, actress and philanthropist.



JEWEL will be performing acoustically at the PACER Benefit on Saturday, May 1, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Tickets are on sale now!

The Times of London hailed JEWEL as "the most sparkling female singer-songwriter since Joni Mitchell." Since recording her first album several years ago, JEWEL has continued to explore fresh avenues, branching out from her folk roots to incorporate rock, pop, country, blues, jazz, and classical influences into her work. She released her fifth album, entitled *0304*, last summer. Her previous four albums have sold 25 million copies worldwide and brought three Grammy nominations. In addition, JEWEL has received an American Music Award and an MTV Video Music Award. In addition to her artistic endeavors, JEWEL founded The Higher Ground for Humanity Foundation, whose ClearWater Project provides safe drinking water in third world countries.

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PACER's 25th Anniversary Celebration

Bringing PACER friends, families, and supporters together to celebrate 25 years of making the lives of children with disabilities better. Details on page 4.



Benefit Information

**Saturday
May 1, 2004**

**Minneapolis
Convention Center**

Benefit Events

Silent Auction

6:15 PM

Live Auction/Raffle

8:00 PM

Performance

Featuring JEWEL

8:00 PM

Patron Party*

Following Performance

Ticket Prices

\$50 • \$75 • \$135*
\$185* • \$260* • \$525*

*Includes Patron Party

Ticket Reservations

Call PACER at
(952) 838-9000
or on-line at
www.pacer.org

2004 BENEFIT COMMITTEE

Benefit Co-Chairs:

Mary Frey, Judy Jaffee, and Colleen McGough Wood

Silent Auction Co-Chairs:

Trish Lies, Danna Mirviss, and Melissa Sigel

Corporate Sponsor Committee

Co-Chairs: Don Davidson and John Lavander

Patron Party Co-Chairs:

Alex Jacobs, Irwin Jacobs, Allen Lenzmeier, Kathy Lenzmeier, Julie Nelson, Dwight Opperman, Kari Hubbard Rominski, and Dan Rominski

Benefit Committee Members:

Ed Agranoff, Patrice Alkire, Kathy Amlaw, Melanie Barry, Carla Bender, Suzanne Bennett, Judy Berkowitz, Dan Dimarco, Sabine Dudda, Judy Elias, Laurie Eschmitz, Rosemary Fish, Doreen Frankel, Sally Friedell, Keri Fuqua, Becky Geyer, Kathy Graves, Susan Gray, Charlotte Green, Ava Hamilton, Michele Heimes, Beth Jasco, Sylvia Kanegson, Karen Koeppe, Kathryn Koessel, Nancy Lehrman, Ruth Levine, Amy Lucas, Jan Lynn, Marcia Masee, Mary Mersky, Louise Moss, Mary Neer, Judy Norback, Theresa O'Brien, Michelle O'Leary, Molly Ringham, Donna Roback, Liz Robinson, Marie Shaw Wolpert, Don Schwartz, Nan Shimota, CeCelia Smith, Jennifer Stoltenberg, Jill Sweiven, Joan Valente, Lynn Von Eschen, Tony Whelihan, Nancy Whitney, Alaine Wilensky, Marcia Wilkinson, and Sue Ziegler

Corporate Sponsor Committee

Members: Chuck Barry, Frank Bennett, Rick Cathcart, Jeanne Crain, Matt Engstrum, Sima Griffith, Lindy Hensley, Elliot Jaffee, Peter Martin, Donald McNeil, Jim Oricchio, Richard W. Perkins, Tom Plumb, Roger Scharon, Chuck Selcer, Linda Singh, Sharon Tapper, and Colleen McGough Wood

cont. from page 1...Benefit

PACER's Benefit audience can expect a sparkling performance from this charismatic artist. In addition to performing for sellout crowds on her own tours, JEWEL has performed at the Nobel Peace Prize ceremonies, Super Bowl XXXII, for Pope John Paul II, and for President Bill and Mrs. Clinton.

The Benefit begins at 6:15 p.m. at the Minneapolis Convention Center with a spectacular Silent Auction that features getaways, elegant dinners in private homes, electronics, artwork, jewelry, and other unique items, such as lunch with local celebrities. A popular pre-concert gourmet dinner is available for up to 250 people in the Seasons Rotunda at 5:00 p.m. Tickets for the dinner are \$75 per person and are sold separately.

Other attractions before the performance include a Raffle and Live Auction. Raffle rovers will be selling \$20 raffle tickets for two pieces of elegant jewelry donated by Wixon Jewelers. First prize is an exotic strand of Tahitian black pearls valued at \$9,000; second prize is a 9.22 carat Rubellite Tourmaline, a loose gemstone valued at \$4,000. The Live Auction, conducted by KARE 11 news anchor Frank Vascellaro and auctioneer Karen Sorbo, offers unique items. They include a 2-year lease on a 2004 BMW Z4 2.5i Roadster, donated by Sears Imported Autos; a Minnesota Twins Fantasy Camp for two in Florida, donated by the Minnesota Twins; and a newly-released snowmobile, the upscale "800 Revolt," by Redline Performance Products.

Ticket prices range from \$50 to \$525. Guests who purchase patron level tickets (\$135 and above) are invited to a champagne and dessert Patron Party following the performance.



(Above) 2004 Benefit Co-Chairs (L to R): Colleen McGough Wood, Mary Frey, and Judy Jaffee.



(Right) 2004 Silent Auction Co-Chairs (L to R): Melissa Sigel, Danna Mirviss, and Trish Lies.



"May 1 will be a fun-filled evening, highlighted by an acoustic performance by JEWEL that you won't want to miss," said Paula Goldberg, PACER executive director.

(Left) 2004 Corporate Sponsor Co-Chairs (L to R): Don Davidson and John Lavander.

Passion, Dedication, and Hope are the Core of PACER Volunteers



Sam (front) was at the Marshall Field's event this year with his friend Peter Froelich (back).

Kathy Graves feels indebted to PACER for the help she received for her son Sam, especially the wide variety of software that she and Sam checked out of the Simon Technology Center's lending library.

PACER, however, has mutual appreciation for Kathy. PACER staff and leaders couldn't be more grateful for Kathy's commitment to PACER to continue its work with families of children with disabilities.

When Sam was 2 years old, Kathy contacted PACER about assistive technology. Sam, who was fascinated by the computer and has cerebral palsy, tried a tracking ball and several software programs. On the way out the door, Executive Director Paula Goldberg invited Kathy to participate in PACER's Benefit meetings. Without even having attended a PACER Benefit, Kathy jumped right in and landed in charge of the silent auction committee.

Now Sam is almost 11 years old, Kathy has been to eight PACER

benefits and two national conferences, chaired the PACER Board and the Benefit committees, and she runs on the same vigorous passion she did nine years ago.

"I am always astonished at the level of energy and amount of commitment that comes out of PACER meetings because people are willing to do anything," she said. "I've never seen PACER say 'No' to anything. PACER has so many projects going on—that's what makes it such a great organization."

She commends PACER for looking at the whole child for his or her whole life, partly because Sam benefited from that mentality.

"We could have *not* taken advantage of Sam's mind just because he is in a wheelchair," Kathy said. "But Sam is at the top of his class. He is a very bright kid."

He's also just another pre-teenager.

"Sam is just a typical kid in so many ways," Kathy said. "He bugs his brother Nick, he loves sports, he loves Lemony Snicket and Harry Potter books, and he hates veggies."

"He even got in trouble for 'running' in the hallway at school in his wheelchair," Kathy said, laughing.

Sam's experience has been far different than Kathy's cousin, who was born with spina bifida long before the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) passed and PACER was established. The cousin was never allowed to attend school, but she was very intelligent.

"She is who I think about—what a waste of her mind," Kathy said. "We cannot go back to putting people in institutions. That's why it is so important for PACER to continue its work."

*"Sam is just a typical kid
in so many ways,
he bugs his brother Nick,
he loves sports,
he loves Lemony Snicket
and Harry Potter books,
and he hates veggies."*



The Graves family is fully committed to supporting PACER and its programs. (L to R) Hazen, Nick, Sam, and Kathy.

Chocolate and Children: A Winning Ticket!



Kelly Nitschke and her husband Dale were hosts for the evening's event. Kelly is a member of the event committee. Dale, president of target.direct, is a PACER Advisory Board member.

Friends and families served by PACER again previewed Marshall Field's popular animated holiday display in early November while contributing to PACER Center programs for children with disabilities.

For the fifth year, the department store selected PACER as a charity partner for its Annual Holiday Auditorium Show. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* was the theme for the 2003 display. Proceeds from the event benefit PACER programs such as the Simon Technology Center and the COUNT ME IN puppet program.

"We, at PACER, so much appreciate Marshall Field's generosity and the



The Simon family has made this event a family tradition. (L to R) Evie Simon, Ryan Simon and their daughter M.G.



Andy Lilienthal, Friends of PACER Advisory Board co-chair, enjoyed the magical evening with wife Laura Blaisdell and their son Levi.



Kelly Jasper, event co-chair, enjoyed the fun-filled evening with her family.

fantastic efforts of store employees to make this a special experience for families," said Paula F. Goldberg, PACER executive director. "I know that the event has become a wonderful family tradition for many parents and children."

Marshall Fields Event Co-chairs:

Sima Griffith, Cynthia Holtz, Kelly Jasper, and Karen Sanger.

Marshall Fields Event Committee

Members: Kate Helms, Sheila Jones, Amy Lucas, Kelly Nitschke, Kelly Perry, and Nancy Warner.

PACER's 25th Anniversary Celebration

PACER's 25th Anniversary Celebration PACER Night at the Twins!

Minnesota Twins
vs.
Tampa Bay Devil Rays
July 21, 2004
at the Metrodome

Game Time: 7:10 PM

Family events planned prior to game time.

PACER supporters, families of children served by PACER, and PACER staff and volunteers (past and present) will celebrate PACER's 25th Anniversary with an extraordinary family event and help from the Minnesota Twins and Panera Bread. Children with disabilities will have an opportunity to share their experiences with one another, other families, and PACER staff.

A July 21 Minnesota Twins game at the Metrodome will be PACER Night

at the Twins, an event with a family focus. The event will highlight the collaboration of PACER, the Minnesota Twins, and Panera Bread.

Game time is 7:10 p.m. The Minnesota Twins play the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. Celebration event details are being finalized.

People interested in receiving more information about the anniversary celebration may e-mail their request to pacer@pacer.org or call PACER at (952) 838-9000.

PACER HOT Party Heats Up the Night

More than 400 party-goers danced to local band *Boogie Wonderland*, sampled an array of Rudolphs Bar-B-Que hors d'oeuvres, and celebrated an evening of fun to benefit PACER programs.

The first annual PACER "HOT Party, Cool Cause" was on the 6th floor loft space above the Mill City Museum Saturday, February 7.

"The evening was a great a success for PACER," said Paula F. Goldberg, PACER executive director. "People said they had a fantastic time and can't wait for next year's HOT event."



The event began with a martini hour complete with a local jazz combo with Chris Armacost on saxophone, Steve Katz on bass, and jazz guitarist Clay Moore.



Co-chair Evie Simon and committee member Michele Heimes enjoy PACER's HOT new event!



2004 HOT Party Co-chairs (L to R): Cynthia Armacost, Amy Lucas, and Evie Simon.

The Friends of PACER Advisory Board developed the "HOT Party, Cool Cause" event. Event sponsors included Brighton Development, The Minnesota Twins, Tom Nelson and Martha Dayton, and Rudolphs Bar-B-Que.

Additional event supporters were Avalon Security, b-swing, Blu Dot, De La Salle High School, Finnegan's, Kinnucan Anderson Architects, Kuether Distributing, Moore Wallace Metro, Pepsi Bottling Group, Phillips Distilling, Quality Wines & Spirits Company, Scott Card with Edina Realty, Simon Ventures, Spectra Images, Summit Brewing Company, and TUBS, Inc.

HOT Party Co-chairs:

Cynthia Armacost, Amy Lucas, and Evie Simon.

HOT Party Committee: Becky Geyer, Ava Hamilton, Michele Heimes, Sarah Johnson, Laura Keller, Amy Kern, Kathy Longo, Amy Rindahl, Molly Ringham, and Toni Zilka.



Above: Tom Nelson, sponsor for the HOT Party and Friends Advisory Board co-founder, welcomes guests to the event.



Right: Peter Martin, Minnesota Twins Community Relations and Friends Advisory Board member, auctions off chairs to raise money for PACER programs.



Above: Special event guests Leslie Fish and Brent Nelson enjoyed the evening with family and friends. (L to R) Tom Rocco, Debbie Carlson, Leslie Fish, Brent Nelson, Renelle Nelson, and Doug Nelson.

Below: Rudolphs Bar-B-Que was a major sponsor for the HOT Party. (L to R) Chef Kevin; Ava Hamilton, event committee member; and Chef Woody.



How can I make my tax-deductible planned gift to PACER Center?

Through a bequest as part of a will, specifying a dollar amount, a percent of the estate, or a residual of your estate

By creating a revocable or an irrevocable trust

Through a gift of life insurance by naming PACER Center as a beneficiary of an existing policy

By purchasing a new insurance policy naming PACER Center as the owner

By giving a retirement account or an IRA, designating PACER as the final beneficiary of any unused funds

By making a gift of appreciated stock or assets

If you would like to make a tax-deductible planned gift, please contact Mary Schrock, development director, at (952) 838-9000.

Investing in PACER's Future

By Beth Casper

When Rosemary Fish learned about making a planned gift to PACER Center, she didn't hesitate. Bestowing a part of their estate to PACER was the perfect way for Rosemary and her husband, Marvin, to show their appreciation to and support of this national center that helps children with disabilities.

A planned gift is any charitable gift given:

- for any amount or purpose,
- for either current or deferred use, and
- that requires thoughtful consideration with respect to a donor's overall estate and financial plans.

The most widely known planned gift is a bequest that is part of a will.

"I've been around PACER for a long time so I really have had a chance to see up close what PACER does, and equally as important, how well they do it," Rosemary said. "I also have a child with special needs, and she has certainly benefited from PACER."

Leslie Fish was born with cognitive disabilities. Rosemary and Marvin found PACER when Leslie was 4 years old, and Rosemary immediately became involved in PACER's work.

When Leslie was 10 years old, a social worker placed her on a waiting list for participation in a local non-profit organization. After that, Rosemary received a letter from the organization stating that it was removing Leslie from the waiting list because the volunteers did not want to work with children with disabilities.

"I remember showing that letter to PACER and asking what could be done," Rosemary said. "PACER really stepped up to the plate, further underscoring their commitment to kids. After I am gone, I want PACER to continue to be there for kids."

PACER plans to establish an endowment fund to ensure that PACER's services will be available for families of children with disabilities in the future. An endowment is a fund established to provide financial stability for an organization. Gifts made to an endowment are held in



Marvin and Rosemary Fish are major supporters of PACER. They are both active members of PACER's Advisory Board.

perpetuity. Only income generated by the endowment may be withdrawn for program support; the principal of the fund is held in perpetuity and may not be used.

"We like the fact that it is an ongoing gift," Rosemary said. "And I really entrust PACER to take this in and do some good. There are so many youngsters with special needs who have no one to go to bat for them. Certainly for many families, they are facing some of the worst dilemmas of their lives. PACER is there for them."

Partner Up With PACER!



Join PACER in helping families. You can help serve the community and make a difference in the lives of children with disabilities by participating in PACER's various projects.

Volunteer Opportunities

PACER's Annual Benefit

Help with PACER's Annual Benefit on Saturday, May 1, 2004:

- Donate Silent Auction items
- Contact friends and businesses for an auction donation, advertising and corporate sponsorship opportunities
- Volunteer the day of the event. There are so many ways to help that day.

PACER Phonathon

Help with the PACER Phonathon, an enjoyable event conducted in the fall of each year

Run For Team PACER

Participate or sponsor a runner in the Twin Cities Marathon or TC 10 Mile run on October 3, 2004

Kids and Puppets

Become a puppeteer for the PACER COUNT ME IN program and work with area school children

Call Rianne Leaf at PACER Center, (952) 838-9000, for more information on these volunteer opportunities.

Destination Fun! PACER's Creation Station— A Place for Arts and Crafts

There's no limit to the imaginative projects that can be made at the Creation Station, according to the children and parents and grandparents who visit the project.

Creation Station is a place at PACER Center where children with or without disabilities can come with their family and friends and have fun creating an art or craft project to take home.

Creation Station projects include:

- creating greeting cards,

- making polar fleece scarves,
- sculpy clay for beads or small sculptures,
- beads for jewelry,
- leather designs for key chains and other items,
- and puppets and stuffed animals from felt.

PACER's Creation Station is a wonderful opportunity for family fun. Call PACER at (952) 838-9000 for more information or to reserve a spot today!

United Way Donor Choice Program

The United Way accommodates employees who want to support PACER Center through their workplace campaigns.

PACER benefits from the donor choice programs of the Greater Twin Cities United Way, Tri-State United Way and others.

Please consider writing in "PACER Center" under "Other" when a United Way campaign pledge card is presented for your selections.

Thank you for helping us serve families of children with all disabilities.

PACER's Creation Station

Open Saturdays from

10:00AM — 2:00PM

on the **first and third** Saturdays of each month through May.

Staff and volunteers are present to assist, but an adult must accompany children.

Call (952) 838-9000 to reserve a spot today!



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SPRING 2004

PACER's 22nd Annual Benefit featuring JEWEL will be held on Saturday, May 1, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Tickets are on sale now! Interested in volunteering for the Benefit? Please call Jan Flora or Nancy Kleve at PACER at (952) 838-9000.



SUMMER 2004

PACER Center's 25th Anniversary Celebration. Plans are under way for a fun family night on July 21 with the Minnesota Twins and PACER families to celebrate 25 years of PACER. People interested in receiving more information for this special event may e-mail their request to pacer@pacer.org or call PACER Center at (952) 838-9000.



FALL 2004

Running the Twin Cities Marathon or TC 10 Mile Run this October? Join "Team PACER" and raise money for PACER programs. Pledge information and forms are available for registered runners. Please call PACER's development office at (952) 838-9000 for information.



KEEPING IN TOUCH

In an effort to streamline PACER communications and send time-sensitive updates, PACER is requesting e-mail addresses from supporters. Please send your e-mail address to pacer@pacer.org.



Mary Schrock, PACER Development Director