

Whitchurch-Stouffville dates part of Music Alive 13,000 students make music during festival

You're invited to a massive musical celebration.

The 2007 edition of Music Alive involves more than 13,000 students from public, Catholic and private schools in York Region participating in a non-competitive music festival.

Students, teachers and community musicians will be performing, listening and learning in schools, theatres, churches and community halls across the region from March 21 to May 2.

Several events take place in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Music Alive is a project of Artslink York Region.

More than 500 groups are taking part, "from four-year-olds right up to seniors," said Virginia Hackson, executive director of Artslink York Region.

Bands, choirs, guitar ensembles and orchestras are on the schedule.

All events free and open to the public.

For Jeff Wigglesworth, the event provides a showcase for students to demonstrate their talents and a way to promote music and music education across the region.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for us to gain the experience of performing in dif-

ferent venues," said Mr. Wigglesworth, head of music at Unionville High School.

"It also provides a rare opportunity to hear what other groups in the region have accomplished this year. Combine this with a meaningful adjudication and

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it is a very rewarding experience for our students."

The series opens and closes with evening concerts, sponsored by the North Newmarket Lions Club and held March 21 and May 2 at Newmarket Theatre.

For a complete schedule of events and times, go to artslink.ca

EXCO supports Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation By Catherine Dolan

With close to 400 people employed by Exco Technologies Limited at three plants in the Markham area, President and CEO, Brian Robbins is only too aware of the services that Markham Stouffville Hospital provides. "We support the hospital that supports our employees, because it brings value and meaning to their lives," says Brian.



Brian Robbins adopted the business in 1975 started by his father, Harry Robbins, in the early 50's. Harry was a tool and die maker and by the time Brian took over Extrusion Machine Corporation, the company was distributing product to varied markets around the world. Just over 20 years ago, Brian changed the name to Exco Technologies Limited. Today, Exco employs more than 2000 people at plants throughout Canada, the United States, Mexico, and Morocco.

For more than 50 years, the company has been a significant player as it relates to the development of Markham's economy. And with this growth Brian is cognisant of the extra strains that have been put on the hospital. Since 1999, Exco has been a major contributor to the hospital and to the Foundation, and have increased their support for this year's gala to a Diamond sponsor.

While Brian doesn't live in the town

of Markham, his doctor is based at the Markham Stouffville Hospital. He finds it to be a very service oriented and personal hospital that provides progressive community care. "We look at supporting the gala as supporting the hospital," says Brian. "A hospital serves as a vital resource in the community."

It is important to the principals of Exco that they support charities that enhance the quality of life in the communities in which they are involved. Last year, Bonnie Cartwright, Executive Vice President of Exco, benefited directly from her experience with the hospital as a breast cancer survivor. Bonnie is particularly drawn to the live auction and challenges her colleagues to up the ante at this year's gala - April in Paris.

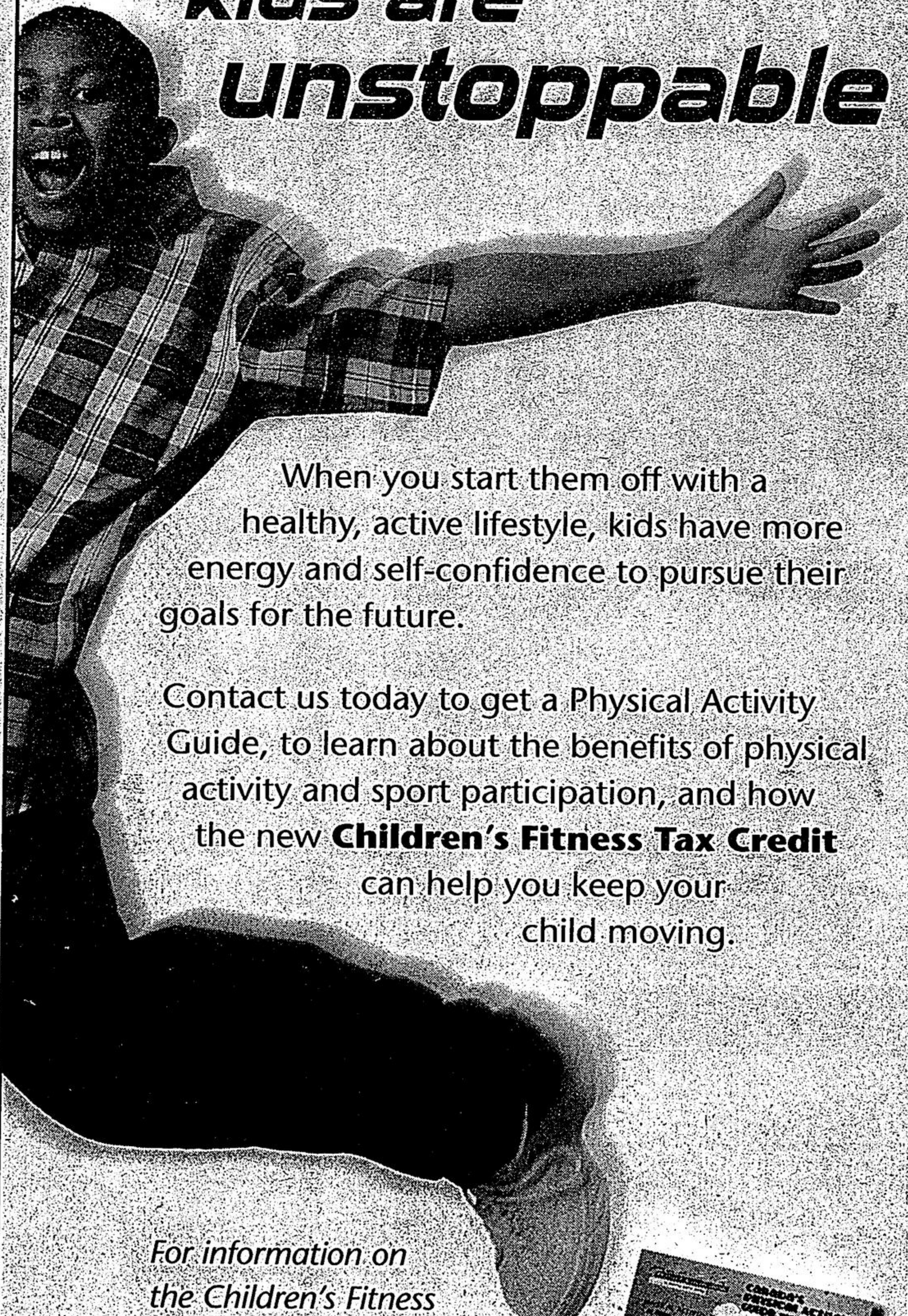


For sponsorship & volunteer opportunities, gift donations or to reserve tickets:

Contact Allan Bell,
Event coordinator

905.472.7395 abell@msh.on.ca

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