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Dear Supporter,

The Arc is proud to announce that we are presenting the Second Annual Sprout Film Festival at the Egyptian Theatre on November 3rd, 2012.

Sprout is a unique opportunity to experience film and video related to the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities. Sprout features films about and starring people with disabilities. People with intellectual and developmental disabilities as subjects and performers remain marginalized in the media. The Sprout Film Festival aims to raise their profile by showcasing works of all genres featuring this population.

The Arc strives to raise awareness about people with disabilities. By presenting films of artistry and intellect, the festival hopes to reinforce accurate portrayals of people with developmental disabilities and expose the general public to important issues facing this population. The goal is an enjoyable and enlightening experience that will help breakdown stereotypes, promoting a greater acceptance of differences and awareness of similarities.

New to the festival this year will be a special screening at a middle school on Nov. 2nd. The screening will include a few short films followed by a discussion about people with disabilities. This special screening is designed to facilitate a conversation with young people that raises awareness and sensitivity. We also hope it will assist students in understanding that we are all much more alike than different. A brief sampling of some of the amazing films included in this year's festival are listed below.

***The Magic of J-Mac***

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4QohvLQqtvG>

The story of a high school basketball team manager who has Autism, Jason McElwain, and gets a chance to play in a regular season game and shoots the lights out. His story inspires two other high school basketball team managers, one with Autism and one with Down Syndrome to follow in J-Mac's footsteps.

***Determined to Dance***

<http://gosprout.org/newfilm/content/determined-dance>

A portrait of young dancers with Down syndrome and their families. The video also includes rehearsal footage and actual performances.

***Laser Beak Man***

<http://bit.ly/NlpNOX>

A child who was never expected to walk or speak overcomes incredible odds to become an accomplished visual artist with his animation series screening around the world.

***Beautiful***

<http://www.sproutflix.org/content/beautiful>

Two people with disabilities navigate through the challenges they face when their relationship is displayed in public.

We are writing to ask if you would consider some level of support for this event. We hope to raise at least \$10,000.00 total from our sponsors. If this can be achieved it will allow us to offer an event that will inform and inspire at an affordable cost. We hope to reach over 1,000 attendees at this year's festival. Last year Sprout was very well received and it is our intent to make this year an even bigger success. Attached is a list of possible sponsorship opportunities.

Your support assists in raising awareness about people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It means a great deal and is appreciated. Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Nicole Lang  
Director of Programs  
422-1759

"The Arc, Inc. is committed to securing for all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, in partnership with their families, the opportunity to choose and realize their goals of where and how they learn, live, work, and play."