

OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS

18 AMA Members Participate at the 4th of July Charity Event at CBS Studio Center

The 4th of July, 2012 charity event held at CBS Studio Center was a huge success with involvement from over 18 members of the AMA. The strolling magician performers spread themselves out at various locations around the CBS Studio lot and did a phenomenal job performing their magic for the crowds. They also stayed extra busy keeping the huge crowds entertained as people waited in line to get in to see the magic show set on Stage 15 (the same stage *3rd Rock from the Sun* and a myriad of other shows were filmed on).

The charities helped by the AMA Outreach Volunteers this year are The Childrens Tumor Foundation and ARC:

- The Childrens Tumor Foundation is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of individuals and families affected by Neurofibromatosis, a disease which causes tumors to grow on nerves throughout the body and affects one in 3,000 children. This disease is more prevalent than Cystic Fibrosis, Huntington's Disease and Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy combined.

- The ARC Charity promotes the welfare, protection, and advancement of individuals with developmental disabilities. ARC began in 1969 with two parents meeting in Studio City park. Since then ARC has provided help to individuals with developmental disabilities, serving over 100 individuals and their families in the LA Area.

Jeannie Smith helped get the crowds seated and our very own Scotto, of strolling magic fame, helped control the line of people at the door entering the stage acting as an impromptu bouncer. I'm sure Scotto has a new appreciation for the door bouncer job Jean Boyle normally took on for herself at the past 4th of July charity events. Tim Holly worked behind the scenes to get the stage dressed, lighting and sound crews and equipment set, and then acted as an impromptu stage manager. Peter Deyell from The Magic Castle's Media Committee and Harry Evry from The Magic Castle's Innovation Committee were able to help photograph and document the various shows and some of the street performers.

For the main stage show, Bruce Gold worked miracles as the Master of Ceremonies bringing out Ariann Black (who was assisted by Z'Dra Jay) and Brandon Scott, who were headlining the main show, on stage. Brandon and Ariann both gave wonderful performances leaving the crowds absolutely amazed.

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But wait - there's more... Aye Jay was able to go through the VIP Room and did a bit of his uniquely popular style of strolling magic, then he came back to Stage 15 to ensure there were no overzealous spectators so they couldn't disrupt the main show. He then went back outside, joining the other strolling magicians in entertaining the people who were standing in line waiting to get into one of the magic shows. The strolling magicians that helped make this year's event such a huge success were (listed randomly): Scott 'Scotto' Smith, Kirk Grodske, Howard Grodske, Jack Medlevine, Phil Van Tee, Christopher Lopez, Stephen Levine, Jesse Altamirano, and Jesus Berdin along with his dad, Robert Berdin, and four members of his family who have been volunteers for this event for several years in the past.

Sign up to be a magician volunteer for our special charity outreach shows. The next one is at the Motion Picture Television Fund in Woodland Hills, August 8, 7 to 9 p.m.

To help us extend our magic into the community, email us at outreachcommittee@magiccastle.com.

- *Tim Holly*

Pictures on previous page, top to bottom: Arian Black, Bruce Gold, Phil Van Tee.

This page, top to bottom: Aye Jaye, Brandon Scott, and The Whole Gang:

- *Standing, from left to right: Jeannie Smith, Tim Holly, Harry Evry, Jesus Bardin, Christopher Lopez, Kirk Grodske, Steve Levine, Brandon Scott, Jessie Altamirano, Jack Medlevine, and Peter Deyell.*
- *Seated: Scotto Smith.*

