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## 16<sup>th</sup> Annual *Celebrate Our Children* Festival Coming August 23<sup>rd</sup>

- *Mr. Nicky* again joins others at Annual FREE Kid's Event •

**Aurora, Ill., August 6, 2008** (*The Religion Wire™*) — The sixteenth annual ***Celebrate Our Children*** Festival is scheduled for **Saturday, August 23**, noon to 6 p.m. at Aurora's newly renovated McCarty Park, East Galena Boulevard at Fourth Street.

Admission to the festival is FREE! Entertainment, music, food, clowns, FREE games, balloons, and lots of fun are all part of an event designed to give area children a message of hope.

At 12:15 and 1:45 p.m., children's singer/songwriter **Mr. Nicky** will make his third appearance at COC. In 2006, he debuted his new song about *Children's Day* titled "I Love Being a Kid." A FREE MP3 file of the song is available at [www.celebrateourchildren.us](http://www.celebrateourchildren.us). He has released two CDs "Rattlesnakes for Breakfast" and "Mr. Nicky's Science Project" which are being played on numerous radio stations and webcast across the country.

Additional main stage attractions include: **The Merry Heart Clowns**, Kids from the Hood, Shiloh Dance Studio, Salvador Lona, The Master's Martial Arts Academy (Dave Pearson), Kane County Sheriff – Canine Unit, **Wayne Braun - illusionist**, and others.

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Appearing on the park lawn will be Ozzie the Kane County Cougar mascot, The Merry Hearts Clowns, “B” from Old Country Buffet, Aurora Public Library Bookmobile, McGruff & the D.A.R.E. car, Aurora Fire Department, Aurora Community Church, Wayne Braun, and others.

A returning attraction from the last several years is the pony riding ring and also a special petting zoo is again planned and the ever-popular “inflatables.”

Also FREE “snowcones” and other FREE snacks will be available. Additional food and beverages can be purchased during the festival to support local ministries.

Also returning will be FREE prizes and gifts for the children. Numerous FREE games and a craft area will be available for children.

Community outreach and service agencies will have booths at the festival.

Festival parking will be available at the Warehouse Church parking lot, 308 E. Galena Blvd. and at the First Presbyterian Church parking lot at the corner of 4th Street & Downer Place. The event’s rain site is the Harkness Family Center, 60 S. Fourth St.

This year’s planning committee include McCarty Park organizations and churches — First Presbyterian Church, Luz Divina, Main Baptist Church, Warehouse Church, and Wayside Cross Ministries.

See [www.celebrateourchildren.us](http://www.celebrateourchildren.us) for updates and more information on the August

**23 Celebrate Our Children Festival.**