

'Breaking The Rules' Concert Will Benefit Preschool Program

by Jennifer Sexton

CHATHAM--- On Tuesday, Aug. 31 at 7 p.m., nationally acclaimed musician and pianist Bob Dawson will perform a benefit concert at the First United Methodist Church. Proceeds from the concert will benefit the Head Start/Preschool Literacy Program of Cape Cod Child Development (CCCDP).

Admission to the concert will be free, however donations are encouraged.

The CCCDP is an organization committed to providing care and community resources for the children and families of Cape Cod and the Islands. The organization serves over 1,000 families a day in the form of childcare, educational and developmental intervention, and family support services.

The goal of the literacy program is to provide an introduction to music as well as provide a new book to each child three times a year. Over 500 children and families are served by this program annually.

Dawson is a Julliard-trained musician who has performed at venues on Cape Cod and the Islands for over 15 years. He describes his Breaking the Rules concert as a vivacious, irreverent investigation of classical music, intended to spur a revolution in music comprehension by introducing classical music from a completely different perspective. Unlike a formal recital, during his solo piano show Dawson invites listeners into the world of classical music with vivid imagery and amusing stories which stimulate curiosity about classical music and its place in the world. Following the intermission, the event will feature audience participation.

"Bob Dawson is a very talented and interesting performer," says Mal Hughes, director of the Head Start Program for Cape Cod Child Development and chair of the board of the Massachusetts Head Start Association. "I had not heard of him, and Pastor Parker at the First United Methodist Church

contacted him. He said he'd be happy to do it. He is committed to giving back to a community that has served him well."

Pastor Clinton Parker, Hughes explains, possesses a strong desire to help the CCCDP's Head Start/ Preschool Literacy Program.

"We looked in the last few months for a way for them to do that," she says. "They run a music series already. If this concert is successful, we would like to do it every year. Hopefully we will connect with a different group of people in the community. The more people who are familiar with us and the services we provide, the more support we can garner, whether its through fiscal donation, volunteering or referrals and things like that. We definitely need the community support to keep us operating."

A \$25 donation to the CCCDP's Head Start/Preschool Literacy Program will purchase three new hardcover books for a child's family library; \$50 will provide a parent/child group literacy activity for 25 families, while \$100 will provide a full year of a music program for one child. \$250 funds one ESL class for a non-English speaking parent; \$500 will purchase three annual books for the entire classroom of 18 to 20 children, while a \$1,000 donation provides one 15-week session of the Music Together program for one classroom. For the very generous benefactors out there, a \$5,000 donation provides the Music Together program for 50 families for one full year.

For additional information on CCCD, including how to donate, volunteer or otherwise support the Head Start/Preschool Literacy Program, visit www.cccdp.org or call 508-418-

5505. For more information about Bob Dawson, visit www.breakingtherules.com.



Pianist Bob Dawson.