



UNC  
HEALTH CARE  
SCHOOL of MEDICINE  
HOSPITALS

UNC HEALTH CARE

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## News Release

For immediate use

Feb. 3, 2006

### **‘School of Rock’ launches Monday at N.C. Children’s Hospital, thanks to Rock Against Cancer and Hot Topic Foundation**

CHAPEL HILL -- The first-ever “School of Rock” for hospitalized children will launch Monday, Feb. 6 at the N.C. Children’s Hospital, thanks to a generous donation from Rock Against Cancer and the Hot Topic Foundation.

The two organizations will present a \$10,000 check to hospital officials at 1 p.m. in the Sigma Sigma Sigma Foundation Robbie Page Play Atrium in the N.C. Children’s Hospital. Members of the news media are welcome to cover this event. (Please RSVP to Tom Maltais at 919-966-2860 or [tmaltais@unch.unc.edu](mailto:tmaltais@unch.unc.edu) if you would like to attend.)

Rock Against Cancer teamed up with the Hot Topic Foundation to fund the program. The “School of Rock” at the N.C. Children’s Hospital is the first to open; nine more are planned to open across the United States in 2006. It will provide all patients in the N.C. Children’s Hospital and their families with music therapy and an opportunity to create, perform and record their original compositions.

Founded in January 2000, Rock Against Cancer is a national nonprofit organization working with well-known entertainers from the music industry to provide innovative and exciting opportunities for children and teens with cancer to meet artists and attend concerts. Additionally, kids receive music care packages and hospital visits from artists. These programs empower and support the emotional needs of children and teens fighting cancer. Rock Against Cancer's programs provide children and families respite from the long and painful cancer treatment process using music, while helping to garner public awareness and support for the youngest victims of cancer.

The Hot Topic Foundation believes music and the arts make everyone’s life a whole lot better, so it has decided to enrich kids’ lives by enabling them to express themselves musically

and artistically. The Hot Topic Foundation aims to support programs and organizations that specifically focus on encouraging and educating youth in music, creative writing, painting, photography, filmmaking and more.

Increasing public awareness of childhood cancer is one of the missions of Rock Against Cancer. More than 15,000 children are diagnosed with cancer each year. Despite remarkable progress in treating childhood cancers, cancer remains the No. 1 disease killer of children, killing more children than asthma, diabetes, cystic fibrosis, congenital anomalies and AIDS combined.

For more information, please visit [www.rockagainstcancer.org](http://www.rockagainstcancer.org). To request a free gold ribbon via the Internet, please visit [www.ChildhoodCancerAwareness.org](http://www.ChildhoodCancerAwareness.org).

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### **ABOUT UNC HEALTH CARE**

The UNC Health Care System is a not-for-profit integrated health care system owned by the state of North Carolina and based in Chapel Hill. It exists to further the teaching mission of the University of North Carolina and to provide state-of-the-art patient care. UNC Health Care is comprised of UNC Hospitals, ranked consistently among the best medical centers in the country; the UNC School of Medicine, a nationally eminent research institution; community practices; home health and hospice services in seven central North Carolina counties; and Rex Healthcare and its provider network in Wake County.