

**NEWS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**

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*Bringing the healing power of music to children battling cancer.*

**MUSIC THERAPY FOR CHILDREN BATTLING CANCER  
CELEBRATES ONE YEAR IN ATLANTA**

**CHAPEL HILL, N.C.** – Rock Against Cancer (RAC), a nonprofit which funds music therapy for pediatric cancer patients, celebrates the anniversary of its Atlanta programs. Dr. Lisa White, the founder and executive director of RAC, will present \$45,000 to support RAC’s Hot Topic Foundation ‘School of Rock’ music therapy programs with the Aflac Cancer Center and Blood Disorders Service of Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta at Scottish Rite and Eggleston. The check presentation will be part of a ceremony on **Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2009, at 1 p.m.** in the Aflac Cancer Center inpatient unit of Children’s at Scottish Rite.

The anniversary celebration will also feature a music-therapy session with a group of children battling cancer. The music therapist for the Aflac Cancer Center of Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta funded by RAC, Beth Collier, will lead the demonstration, which will feature two young patients, Leo and Bubba, who have been positively impacted by RAC’s music therapy programs.

“Leo’s told me several times that singing and playing music makes him forget about his pain,” Collier says.

Leo, 18, is battling Rhabdomyosarcoma, a relatively rare soft tissue cancer. As a participant in another RAC program this summer, Leo met Stevie Wonder and joined him on stage for the music icon’s performance.

Other Georgia children treated at the Aflac Cancer Center of Children’s, have also benefited from music therapy and the musical equipment provided by the ‘School of Rock’ program.

“I used the electric guitar and amp the other day with a patient,” Collier says. “She just wanted me to play so she could hear it. This 10-year-old has had a brain tumor for several years. She has a lot of trouble voicing, but when we pulled out the microphone, she sang along with the music!

“It was a fantastic tool that made a big difference in her session.”

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About Rock Against Cancer:

Dr. Lisa White, family and friends founded RAC in 2000 in Chapel Hill, N.C., after her son, Gabriel, survived leukemia. RAC uses music therapy and innovative music programs, works with well-known musicians and entertainers, and supports the emotional needs of young cancer patients. RAC's programs provide children and families respite from the long and painful cancer treatment process while garnering public awareness and support for the youngest cancer patients and survivors. For more information, visit [www.rockagainstcancer.org](http://www.rockagainstcancer.org).

About the Aflac Cancer Center and Blood Disorders Service of Children's:

The Aflac Cancer Center and Blood Disorders Service of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta is a national leader among childhood cancer, hematology, and blood and marrow transplant programs, serving infants to young adults. Recognized as one of the top childhood cancer centers in the country by *U.S. News & World Report*, the Aflac Cancer Center treats more than 350 new cancer patients each year and follows more than 2,500 patients with sickle cell disease, hemophilia and other blood disorders. Visit [www.aflaccancercenter.org](http://www.aflaccancercenter.org) or call 404-785-1112 or 888-785-1112 for more information.