



# PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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## The Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial Tops Off Record Charitable Year With Holiday Giving

**(Fort Worth, Texas - December 9, 2008)** – Colonial Country Club capped off its record \$6.6 million year in fundraising today by distributing to 81 local charities \$250,000 in donations at the annual Colonial Country Club Charities holiday breakfast.

The tournament's record-breaking year of fundraising is helping a lot of local charities, and places it among the best on the PGA TOUR. The \$6.6 million in total charitable contributions generated from the May tournament is a 50% increase over 2007.

According to tournament officials, the Birdies for Charity component of the tournament's fundraising efforts brought in \$5.3 million, which also set a record and was the best such program on the PGA TOUR. In this year's Birdies For Charity program, 24 local non-profit organizations solicited pledges from individuals and corporations for every birdie made during the 2008 Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial. As a bonus, the pledge efforts were energized by a matching fund of more than \$180,000 from Crowne Plaza Hotels & Resorts, Bank of America, Colonial Country Club and other supporting companies.

*"The tradition of professional golf at Colonial is unprecedented," shared Colonial Country Club President John Anderson. "It is this tradition and hard work of so many volunteers that results in the success of raising these charity dollars. The members at Colonial are proud to be part of this successful effort."*

The tournament has generated cash and services for more than 120 different organizations in the last decade totaling over \$26 million, including more than \$5 million generated for its primary beneficiary, Cook Children's Medical Center. The breadth of donations focus on children and support a variety of programs, including camp scholarships for disabled, special needs or low-income children, residency programs/services for abused, neglected and at-risk children, cultural programs/field trips for underserved students, college scholarships, educational mentoring programs, medical diagnostic and treatment services for disabled and low-income children, after-school programs, support services for homeless families and more. The tournament surpassed the million dollar mark in annual giving in 1998, and has exceeded that level every year since. The annual average since 1998 is more than \$2 million.

*"These charities provide important and critical services for so many of our area children," noted John Cockrell, Chairman of the Colonial Country Club Charities Committee. "We are excited to significantly impact young lives throughout the community."*

Colonial and Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial tournament officials distributed donations to this year's final recipients:

All Church Home for Children  
Alliance For Children, Inc.  
All Saints Health Foundation  
American Diabetes Association/Camp Aurora  
American Red Cross Chisholm Trail Chapter  
Arts Council of Fort Worth  
Asthma & Allergy Foundation  
Bart Granger Foundation, Inc.

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of North Texas  
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Fort Worth  
Buckner Foundation  
Camp Carter YMCA  
Camp Fire USA (After School Program)  
Camp Summit  
Cancer Care Services  
CASA of Tarrant County

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Cassata High School  
Child Evangelism Fellowship  
Child Study Center  
Christ's Haven for Children  
Clayton YES!  
Easter Seals Greater NW Texas  
Ekklesia Christian School  
First Command Education Foundation  
The First Tee of Fort Worth  
The First Tee of Arlington  
Fort Worth Museum of Science and History  
Fort Worth Opera  
Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra Association  
Gill Children's Services, Inc.  
Girl Scouts-Circle T Council, Inc.  
Goodfellow Fund  
Harris Methodist Health Foundation  
Hill School of Fort Worth  
Historic Fort Worth, Inc.  
H.O.P.E. Farm, Inc.  
I Have a Dream Foundation  
Imagination Celebration Fort Worth  
Immunization Collaboration of Tarrant County  
Junior Achievement of the Chisholm Trail, Inc.  
Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc.  
Kids Who Care, Inc.  
The Learning Center of North Texas  
Lena Pope Home, Inc.  
Longhorn Council, Boy Scouts of America  
Leukemia and Lymphoma Society  
Make-A-Wish Foundation  
MHMR Visions  
Mothers' Milk Bank of North Texas  
The Parenting Center  
Performing Arts Fort Worth, Children's Ed. Program  
Presbyterian Night Shelter  
Prevent Blindness Texas  
REAL School Gardens  
Reata Rehabilitation  
Recovery Resource Council  
Ronald McDonald House of Fort Worth  
SafeHaven of Tarrant County  
Schola Cantorum  
Senior Citizen Services of Greater Tarrant County  
Sickle Cell Disease Association of Tarrant County  
Southwestern Exposition & Livestock Show  
Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure  
Tarrant Area Food Bank  
Tarrant County Challenge, Inc.  
TCU KinderFrogs School  
The Texas Boys Choir  
Texas Girls' Choir  
Texas Golden Gloves Athletic Association  
Texas Wesleyan University  
Theater Arlington  
Trinity Habitat for Humanity  
Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County  
United Community Centers, Inc.  
United Negro College Fund  
Van Cliburn Foundation, Inc.  
The WARM Place  
Wings of Hope Equitherapy  
Wish With Wings  
Youth Orchestra of Greater Fort Worth  
YWCA Fort Worth & Tarrant County

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