

Founder

Dr. Fred B. Craddock (1928-2015)

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Children's Enrichment **Program Artists**

Judy Chastain Amanda Galloway Natalie Jones

June 18, 2020

Dear Friends,

We hope this letter finds each of you doing well and staying healthy. Yes, life has been quite different for all of us over the past few months, and the same is true for The Craddock Center. Work has continued but in a distinctively unique sort of way. In mid-March, our board of directors, under the direction and guidelines from Georgia's governor, closed The Craddock Center. We were not designated as an essential business, and schools were also closed.

Our actual facility continues to be partially closed, except for essential duties. However, our outreach and availability have remained active and visible to the community we serve. With guidance from Connie Chancey, our Programs Director, our artists have implemented a wonderful way to interact with our community while doing it safely. We have a strong presence on social media through our Facebook page and website. So, our group of artists decided that being online might create a great way to reach out to our community. Connie, Amanda, Natalie, and Judy began posting stories, songs, music, and videos online each week for everyone to enjoy and share. This is continuing today and through the summer. Though nothing can take the place of going into the classroom with face-to-face songs and stories, we have discovered that this unique outreach can continue to bring "Happy & Hope" to all.

Today we are looking toward summer and next fall when school will begin again. With so many uncertainties, our board wisely decided to suspend Camp Craddock for Summer 2020. When contacted in early spring, all groups planning to attend Camp Craddock were in total agreement and were pleased that we valued safety above everything else. Later this summer, our artists will be in full creative mode, and they have plans to record and archive additional collections of videos, storytelling, and songs to use and upload if the school year brings about unexpected changes.

Finally, as an update, our fundraising campaign of "Challenge 2020" was a tremendous success. Thank you for your amazing support. Because of you, we raised enough money to secure a working schedule for our Children's Enrichment Program to be in classrooms EVERY week. We also expect to increase the number of sites we visit, and therefore, the number of children we can serve. Our vision of "Every classroom, Every week!" is a reality.

Even though this can be a time of uncertainty, it is also an important time to remember our blessings. Each of you is a true blessing to The Craddock Center. Thank you for your love and continuing support. Remember, we are able to deliver "Happy & Hope" because you care about the children and community we serve.

With appreciation,

Pam Colvin