



**VALLEY JESTERS AND MILLION DOLLAR ROUND TABLE FOUNDATION
JOIN TO INCREASE SUPPORT FOR JUNIOR BLIND OF AMERICA**

***Local Civic Group and International Foundation ‘Double the Money’ For Los Angeles
Non-Profit Serving the Blind***

Los Angeles, CA, March 31, 2009—Founded in the San Fernando Valley in 1958 as a men’s civic organization, the Valley Jesters today announced it will match a grant from the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) Foundation in support of Junior Blind of America, a Los Angeles-based non-profit dedicated to helping children and adults who are blind, visually impaired or multi-disabled achieve independence.

One of Junior Blind’s longest-standing and most generous donors, the Valley Jesters will make a \$2,000 gift that matches a \$2,000 grant secured from the MDRT Foundation by Valley Jester and MDRT Foundation member, Mark La Vine. The grant is the third contribution Junior Blind has received from the MDRT Foundation and will be used to support the organization’s Child Development Programs, which provide a wide range of early-intervention services for children with visual impairments and other disabilities.

Junior Blind’s programs provide education, training, recreation and rehabilitation to more than 8,000 infants, children, teens and adults every year—nearly 80 percent of whom are considered low-income, according to the California Department of Housing and Community Development. Provided free of charge, Junior Blind’s programs rely on private support from foundations, community organizations, corporations and individuals for more than half of their operating costs.

“We are incredibly grateful for the support of the Valley Jesters and the MDRT Foundation, especially given the current economic climate,” says Miki Jordan, President and CEO of Junior Blind of America. “We look forward to continuing our commitment to improving the lives of the people we serve with their support.”

The MDRT Foundation was created in 1959 to provide MDRT members with a means to give back to their communities. Since its inception, the Foundation has donated more than \$23 million to organizations in 67 countries around the world. Part of the MDRT Foundation’s effort to provide more than \$1 million to more than 100 charities this year, the grant and matching gift will be presented at an annual event honoring the Valley Jesters at Junior Blind’s campus on Sunday, May 17, 2009. In addition, the Valley Jesters will match all donations made prior to the May 17 event that are noted to have been made in support of the Valley Jesters and the MDRT Foundation’s efforts to advance Junior Blind’s mission.

ABOUT JUNIOR BLIND OF AMERICA

Since 1953, Junior Blind of America has remained deeply committed to helping people of all ages who are blind, visually impaired or multi-disabled achieve independence. Each year, Junior Blind of America provides services to thousands of individuals and their families through programs that offer innovative and individualized methods of education, recreation, training and rehabilitation. These life-changing programs are designed to empower infants, children, teens and adults to reach their highest level of potential, independence and self-esteem. To learn more, please visit www.juniorblind.org.

ABOUT VALLEY JESTERS

Founded in 1958, the Valley Jesters is dedicated to encouraging and supporting the congregation of men of good morals, character and integrity for social, recreational, educational and charitable activities – all without profit.

ABOUT MDRT FOUNDATION

The MDRT Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the Million Dollar Round Table, The Premier Association of Financial Professionals®. MDRT is an international, independent association of more than 39,000, or less than one percent, of the world's best life insurance and financial services professionals from 491 companies and 87 nations and territories. MDRT members demonstrate exceptional product knowledge, strict ethical conduct and outstanding client service. MDRT membership is recognized internationally as the standard of sales excellence in the life insurance and financial services business.

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