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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ohio DEAFair 2005 was a ROARING SUCCESS!!!!

November 11, 2005.....Over 2,500 People attended in Columbus, Ohio for the Ohio Association of the Deaf's 4th biennial Ohio DEAFair 2005 event on Saturday, November 5, 2005 at the Aladdin Shrine Center.

The Ohio DEAFair 2005 was the best ever with the highest number of attendees and over 70 exhibitors were on hand to enjoy the day with entertainment lined up all day for the attendees. CJ Jones, a one man stand up show; Vikee Waltrip, a one woman stand up show; Magician Matthew Morgan, Russian Dancer Liliana Morgan, and Bill Carwile, a mime, all did fabulous in entertaining the audience. Miss Deaf Ohio Teresa Gasaway and Stephen Rute, a Columbus, Ohio comedian, served as Emcees for the afternoon entertainment.

"Ohio DEAFair 2005 brought together so many old and new friends together and exhibitors had the opportunity to showcase the latest in technology, colleges that provided specialized services for the deaf and hard of hearing, art and crafts, and services that are available in the State of Ohio," said Ohio DEAFair 2005 Chairperson Marsha Nippert Moore. The event also provided opportunities for people to network and interact with each other.

The Ohio DEAFair 2005 met one of the goals set by Ohio Association of the Deaf who was the host of the event. "We wanted attendees to live, see and breath the world of Deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind people and its unique culture, language, and celebration of diversity," said Moore.

Sponsors for the Ohio DEAFair 2005 include SorensonVRS, Sprint/CSD, IP-Relay.Com, Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission, T-Mobile, Bank One, Fifth Third Bank and Coldwell Banker King Thompson. Our sponsors made it possible for Ohio DEAFair 2005 to offer flat five dollar admissions to all of our attendees, ages 3 and up and that included admissions to our Children's Corner for our younger attendees. Many children wanted to the day to go on forever!!

Both sponsors and exhibitors gave away door prizes near the end of the day and Ohio DEAFair 2005 gave away over 100 door prizes. Everyone was so thrilled with just being able to participate in the door prize drawings which were held on the dot every hour until the conclusion of the event.

Ohio DEAFair 2005 also held the first ever evening social entertainment which was well attended as well. Vikee Waltrip served as our Emcee for the evening and helped facilitate our Family Feud and Wheel of Fun games with our local DJ, TEAM DJ. "She kept the audience entertained all evening and was a wonderful entertainer," added Moore. Stephen Rute also performed in an hour long stand-up show and was wonderful too!!

Check photos of the Ohio DEAFair 2005 event through Ohio Association of the Deaf's website at www.oad-deaf.org and click on Ohio DEAFair.

Plans are already underway for Ohio DEAFair 2007 as Ohio DEAFairs has becomes the expected biennial event for Ohioans and surrounding states to come and visit. Ohio DEAFair 2007 will host its 5th biennial event in October/November 2007. More information can be obtained regularly through our website at www.oad-deaf.org.

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