



for children with heart disease

# THE BEAT

NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS OF CAMP ODAYIN  
WINTER, 2005



## The Happiest of Holiday Wishes from Camp Odayin!



Greetings Camp Odayin families and friends, It's hard to believe that the Holiday season is already upon us; time is flying at the World Headquarters of Camp Odayin! We are very excited to share the news of our expansion to three weeks of resident camp in 2006. This will create 75 more spaces for children with special hearts to attend our overnight camp. Odayin's growth is a result of the wonderful support all of you have shown in attending our camp programs, participating in fundraising events and sending contributions. We thank you for being a part of Odayin and we look forward to a fabulous 2006!

Wishing you a happy, healthy holiday season,

*Jan, Michelle & Molly*



## Don't Miss the 6th Annual Have a Heart Benefit!

The **6th Annual Have a Heart Benefit** will take place Saturday, February 25th, 2006. It's a great opportunity to support Camp Odayin and have fun. So, grab all of your friends and treat yourself to a night on the town! The event takes place at the Mill City Museum at 704 S. Second Street in Minneapolis ([www.millcitymuseum.org](http://www.millcitymuseum.org)). Mill City, an old flour mill, is a one-of-a-kind museum in the heart of downtown.

**Big Heart Reception: 7:00 - 9:00pm, \$85/person**

- ♥ special live music
- ♥ silent auction preview
- ♥ camper presentation
- ♥ complimentary wine
- ♥ hors d'oeuvres by D'Amico catering

**General Admission: 9:00—Midnight**

**\$25/pre-pay or \$30/at door**

- ♥ dancing to **Mick Sterling**
- ♥ silent auction

We're soliciting corporate sponsorship of the event (starting at \$500.00) as well as silent auction items. Please contact us if you are interested in either of these options. Invitations will be mailed out after the New Year—hope to see you there!

## Camp Odayin's 2nd Annual Family Camp was BIG Fun!



Our 2nd Annual Family Camp took place October 21st-23rd at Camp Knutson and it was fabulous! We had 21 families and over 80 people there for lots of laughs and the kinship of wonderful folks. Family campers participated in camp activities, fun evening programs, horse-n-buggy rides, campfires and so much more. So far, the favorite activities seem to be the night Scavenger Hunt complete with glow sticks, pontoon rides and 'Mission Impossible'. We look forward to doing it again next year!



# Camper Corner...

Ten year old Odayin camper, Nick was part of the State Inventors Congress in Redwood Falls this past Spring. Nick invented "Ready Rails" which are hand railings to go on a set of wooden stairs his grandpa made. The stairs were made for Nick's brother, Danny, who is 4 yrs



Nick (left) is pictured here with his brother and his "Ready Rails"!

old and an incomplete paraplegic...he needs to practice walking! Nick, with help from his grandpa, came up with some lightweight, easily removable and low cost railings for the stairs. The Inventors Congress was in June and his whole family joined him and had a great time!

Nine year old Noëlle R. of Minneapolis was one of the 40 member Basilica Children's Choir who sang with the Minnesota Orchestra in November to a sold out audience and was heard on National Public Radio.

This poem was written by a Kaiti, a 13 year old camper from Ontario, Canada with Transposition of the Great Arteries.

*Everyone has their own scars,  
Their own differences; their own weaknesses.  
But a weakness isn't a weakness until you make it  
one. And a difference is a similarity until you identify  
it as unnatural.*

*No matter what you feel or think, everyone is different.  
It's what makes you different, that makes you unique  
and makes you who you are.  
It creates your identity, your personality, your life.*

*Not everyone is smart; not everyone is tall;  
Not everyone is athletic.  
In a way being someone else destroys who you are  
and who the other person is.  
It steals away everything they are and can be.  
The only truly similar thing between us,  
Is we're all human.*



## Goes Global!

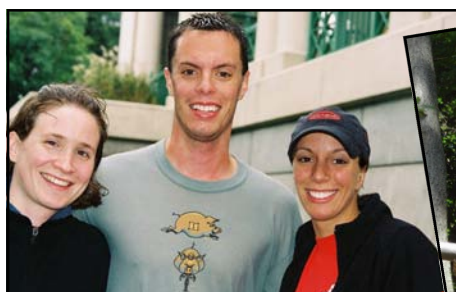
Despite some rain, the 3rd Annual "Heart & Sole Fun Run/Walk" was a HUGE success on Saturday, September 25th at Como Park in St. Paul.

The Run/Walk went global with our camper Allie walking in Germany on the same day and breaking the record of most pledges collected by raising over \$1000! Way to go, Allie!

We especially enjoyed the camper and staff reunion luncheon immediately following the walk. It warmed our hearts to see our campers and their families enjoying the opportunity to connect outside of camp.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who made everything run so smoothly and to Guidant for sponsoring the event. Over 400 people were in attendance and we raised over \$12,000!

**GUIDANT**



↑  
Allie in Germany!



## Do Your Holiday Shopping at [www.campodayin.org](http://www.campodayin.org)!



Camp Odayin gear is available on our website and makes a great holiday gift. Proceeds from the purchase of these items directly supports Camp Odayin. You can find a variety of sweat-shirts, t-shirts, mugs, caps, bags and more! *Call the Odayin office in December and sing a holiday tune for 10% off your next order!*

ATTENTION SNOWBIRDS: Don't miss our next newsletter, please let us know if you head south for the winter and we'll update your address. Thanks!

## Year End Donations Welcome!

Share your giving heart with Camp Odayin. Your generous support allows us to provide wonderful opportunities to our very special campers. All 2005 year end donations will be earmarked for the 3rd session of residential camp and matched by the **Medtronic Foundation**. This grant is above and beyond the generous funding we have already received from the Medtronic Foundation this year. We thank them for their amazing support.

We accept donations of cash, stock or from your credit card. You can also make a contribution to Camp Odayin through the United Way. It's easy, select option "B" on your form and write in: ID # 41-2014358.



# WOW! How Generous!



Thank You to **Harvey's Bar and Grill** for so generously donating the proceeds of over \$2000 from their charity golf tournament to Camp Odayin. Harvey's is located at 106 N 3rd St. in Minneapolis. [www.harveysmpls.com](http://www.harveysmpls.com).

Thanks to **Panino's Restaurant** who donated \$2000 from their golf tournament, as well. Panino's is located at 857 Village Center Drive in North Oaks.

Kudos to **Jay Ettinger** of Edina Realty who has pledged a portion of each of his home sales to Camp Odayin. To date he has donated \$1000. Thanks, Jay! [www.jayettinger.com](http://www.jayettinger.com).

Hats off to volunteer counselor **Tom Pavlik** and his wife, Ann Marie who hosted their 4th Annual Halloween/4th of July Bash in Portland, OR to support Camp Odayin. Tom lives with heart disease himself and has been a member of our volunteer staff for two summers. His party made over \$600, with donations still coming in. All proceeds will be matched by NIKE, where Tom is employed.

A belated thank you to all of the Twin City Odayin families who hosted our out-of-town campers before and after camp this year. You went above and beyond with your trips to the airport and by opening your homes. Your generosity was appreciated by many!

Thanks to campers **Allie and Marissa** in Michigan who raised \$175.00 at a lemonade stand for Camp Odayin along with their friends Heather and Keelin.



# Camp Doc Doing Good Things!



Dr. Peter Bartz, a pediatric cardiologist who has volunteered at Odayin the past two summers, was part of a team of medical folk that participated in a very successful Children's HeartLink mission to China. Children's HeartLink is a Minnesota based organization that works to help children in need throughout the world living with heart disease. Dr. Bartz is pictured here with a young girl they treated on their mission —she's holding a Camp Odayin pencil! Learn more about Children's HeartLink and all of the good things they are doing at [www.childrensheartlink.org](http://www.childrensheartlink.org).

## Important Camp Dates

- February 25, 2006: Have a Heart Benefit
- March 1, 2006: Camper Applications Mailed
- March 15, 2006: Staff Applications Mailed
- May 1, 2006: Camper Applications Due
- May 15, 2006: Staff Applications Due
- June 19-22, 2006: Day Camp ages 6-7
- June 26, 2006: Whole Heart Golf Tournament
- July 22, 2006: Residential Camp Staff Orientation
- July 24 - 28, 2006: Residential Camp ages 8-11
- July 31 - Aug. 4, 2006: Residential Camp ages 12-14
- August 7 - 11, 2006: Residential Camp ages 15-17

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