

**MEDIA ADVISORY  
REQUEST FOR COVERAGE**

April 24, 2013

Contact: Caroline Lee or Michelle Abdow  
(413) 787-1133



**PATIENTS AT SHRINERS HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN GET FRONT  
ROW SEATS FOR SPECIAL PERFORMANCE**

“Circus with a Purpose” will bring exciting acts directly to kids on  
Wednesday, May 1, 2013, the day before opening night

**Springfield, MA** – Patients, families, staff and volunteers at the Shriners Hospitals for Children will have front row seats for a special mini-performance by the talented acts appearing at the 2013 Melha Shrine Circus. The show will take place on **Wednesday, May 1, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.** in the hospital’s courtyard, located at 516 Carew Street in Springfield.

“This special performance for the children epitomizes why we do what we do each year, through the efforts of the Melha Shrine Circus,” said Allen G. Zippin, Chairman of the Circus Committee for the Melha Shrine Circus. “For 59 years, we have made the Shriners Hospitals for Children and their wonderful patients from all over the world the recipients of funds we raise from all of our events, but especially the circus—the biggest event of them all.”

This year’s theme for the circus with a purpose is “Thrills and Chills,” focusing on how all proceeds from the circus stay in Western Massachusetts, to support the good work of the Melha Shriners. The circus will run from Thursday, May 2, 2013, to Sunday, May 5, 2013, at the Eastern States Coliseum in West Springfield.

The box office, also located at the Eastern States Coliseum, is open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. On performance days the box office will remain open until 9:00 p.m. Reserved seats are just \$14.

**Schedule of 2013 Performances:**

Thursday, May 2, 2013	7:00 p.m.
Friday, May 3, 2013	7:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 4, 2013	10:00 a.m., 2:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 5, 2013	12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

The Melha Shriners are proud to announce that the 2013 sponsors include: Big Y World Class Markets; Smith and Wesson; 94.7 FM WMAS; CBS Sports Radio- The Hall; CBS 3 Springfield; Rock 102 WAQY; The Springfield Republican; MassLive.com, the online

home of The Republican; ABC 40/FOX 6; The Reminder Publications and the Hampden County Bar Association. The Shriners thank you for your support and are excited to celebrate the “Circus with a Purpose!” with you and your family once again this year.

***About the Melha Shriners***

Shriners International is a philanthropic fraternity based on fun, fellowship and the Masonic principles of brotherly love, relief and truth. With approximately 325,000 members in 194 temples (chapters) in the United States, Canada, Germany, Mexico, the Philippines, Puerto Rico and the Republic of Panama, our fraternity is open to men of integrity from all walks of life. More information about Shriners International can be found at [www.shrinershq.org](http://www.shrinershq.org). For more information about the local area Shriners call the Melha Shrine Center located at 133 Longhill Street in Springfield, MA, at (413) 736-3647, or visit the web site at [www.melhashriners.com](http://www.melhashriners.com).

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