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**Poe Center Receives Sponsorship to Unlock the POEtential**

**Raleigh, NC (May 24, 2011)** –The Alice Aycock Poe Center for Health Education received its first sponsorship for its Unlock the POEtential event, September 17, 2011, celebrating 20 years of health education in Raleigh.

Robert P. Majors, Jr. and his wife, Helen Majors made a generous donation to make upgrades to the Transparent Anatomical Model in the General Health Theater that is sponsored by Kerr Cares for Kids. The Majors have been long-time supporters of the Poe Center and its mission. Helen Majors was the first full-term President after the Poe Center was incorporated, following Faye Miller and Dianna Burroughs, Co-Chairs of the first Executive Committee.

Additional sponsorships for the Unlock the POEtential event will be directly applied to upgrading the Poe Center’s interactive educational theaters as well as other learning tools. Each space will receive upgrades to ensure the center remains innovative and creative in learning techniques. The WakeMed PlayWell Park at Poe will receive new benches as a part of the Majors’ gift, and funds will be used to “Raise the Roof” on the Poe Center, as well as update the HVAC for the entire building.

“We are very thankful for Bob and Helen’s generosity and that of their family,” said Poe Center Executive Director, Ann Rollins. “The Poe Center continues to enjoy the dedicated support of our founding members. The Majors’ gift will make a difference in the lives of many North Carolina children and families as we continue to provide education to empower them to make positive health choices.”

The Unlock the POEtential event is being held at the Poe Center, and features entertainment by local students, raffles, and presentations of annual awards. The Poe Center will kick-off selling “building block” bricks to build a pathway to a sustainability garden, the center’s newest feature, which will be presented at the event.

**About the Poe Center**

*The Poe Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to positively impacting the lives of North Carolina youth through health education. Since opening in Raleigh in 1991, the Poe Center has educated more than 850,000 participants from 74 counties using innovative teaching theaters, exhibits and offsite programs. For additional information or to schedule a visit, go to [www.poehealth.org](http://www.poehealth.org).*

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