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## **Creative Bridge Coalition Receives \$2,000 CVS Caremark Community Grant**

***Donation to Creative Bridge Coalition is part of CVS Caremark Community Grant's Commitment to Helping All Children Reach their Full Potential***

**Pacific Palisades, CA – July 2, 2012** – Creative Bridge Coalition (CBC) announced today that it has received a \$2,000 [CVS Caremark Community Grant](#). CBC's mission is closely aligned with CVS Caremark All Kids Can, the company's signature philanthropic program committed to helping all children on their path to better health. The grant from CVS Caremark will help to fund CBC's continuing efforts to serve children and youth in the Los Angeles area.

Creative Bridge Coalition ([www.cbridgec.org](http://www.cbridgec.org)) is a non-profit organization with a mission to bring music into the lives of young children and those with special needs. To achieve its mission, CBC brings appropriate music programs into schools, learning centers, care facilities and other organizations that serve children and youth. This grant will help support the second year of CBC's successful *Count Me In* program at Lanterman High School in Los Angeles. *Count Me In* is an innovative music program for students with cognitive and developmental disabilities. Its unique approach uses music to engage and encourage students, helping them to improve their health and wellness and learn new skills, and giving them opportunities for creativity and self-expression through music and music-making.

"Our success at Lanterman High School stems from a concerted effort to bring together funding from local individuals, businesses and foundations," according to Bill Bodine, Co-Founder of Creative Bridge Coalition. "We're grateful to welcome CVS Caremark into this coalition of community supporters."

"We are committed to making a positive impact in the communities where we live and work and the CVS Caremark Community grants program does just that by supporting organizations that truly make a difference in the lives of children and families," said Dennis Palmer, SVP CVS/pharmacy West Division Operations. "We are proud to support the work that Creative Bridge Coalition does in the community and we look forward to working with them in the year ahead."

Creative Bridge Coalition was selected to receive a grant through the CVS Caremark Community Grants 2011 grant application process. Grants were awarded to organizations that share a common vision with CVS Caremark's All Kids Can program, which strives to empower children with and without disabilities to reach their full potential. The goals of the All Kids Can program are to increase access to early-intervention programs that help

children develop strong foundations early in life, reduce barriers to medical rehabilitation and health care services, and create greater opportunities for physical activity and creativity.

*Count Me In* is an ideal match. With its three central goals – to promote better health and wellness, improve learning and development, and provide music enrichment – the program advances the missions of both CVS Caremark and Creative Bridge Coalition. All students served by *Count Me In* have moderate to severe cognitive and developmental disabilities. In addition, over 95% are economically and socially disadvantaged. Following a highly successful first year at Lanterman High School, Creative Bridge Coalition and its generous community supporters, including the Rochelle and Richard Maize Foundation and Michael Geller, look forward to continuing their efforts to improve the lives of Lanterman students.

#### **About Creative Bridge Coalition: Helping Music Find Children**

CreativeBridge Coalition is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization operating in Los Angeles County, California. The group's mission is to bring music into the lives of young children and those with special needs. Creative Bridge Coalition designs its initiatives as collaborative projects with other organizations, caregivers, schools, and researchers. Projects center on music therapy, special music programs, music education, and increasing access to music and music making. Each project is designed to give children access to meaningful music programs that enhance their learning, development, and creative expression, and improve their quality of life.

#### **About CVS Caremark All Kids Can**

CVS Caremark All Kids Can, a program of the CVS Caremark Charitable Trust and CVS Caremark, is committed to support children with disabilities. The goals of All Kids Can are to support children with disabilities by raising awareness in schools and in local communities about the importance of inclusion, creating greater opportunities for physical activity and play, and providing access to medical rehabilitation. CVS Caremark and its more than 200,000 employees plan to help children with disabilities learn, play, and succeed through partnerships with leading local and national nonprofit organizations such as VSA and many others across the country. [www.cvscaremarkallkidscan.com](http://www.cvscaremarkallkidscan.com).

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