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UNICEF AMBASSADOR CLAY AIKEN TO SERVE AS 2005 TRICK-OR-TREAT FOR UNICEF NATIONAL SPOKESPERSON

NEW YORK, NY (August 8, 2005) - The U.S. Fund for UNICEF announced that internationally known Multi-Platinum recording artist Clay Aiken will serve as the national spokesperson for the 2005 Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF campaign. Throughout October, Mr. Aiken will be encouraging kids to get involved by raising funds for vulnerable children around the world with the time-honored Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF orange box.

“Trick-or-Treat is more than a fundraising program,” said Clay Aiken, a native of Raleigh, N.C., who was appointed a UNICEF Ambassador in 2004. “For many children, it is their first introduction to philanthropy and the needs of their peers in places far away. It is wonderful to know that I can be a part of that moment.”

Last March, Aiken witnessed UNICEF in action during a field trip to the tsunami stricken region of Indonesia. While in the country, he met with numerous affected children at schools and shelters. Most recently, Aiken traveled to Uganda where a civil war has been raging since 1988 and more than 20,000 children have been abducted to be used as combatants or sex slaves. While in Uganda, he spent time with children who leave the comfort of their homes every night and walk miles to avoid being stolen from their beds by armed militia.

“Clay is a very committed and compassionate Ambassador,” said Charles J. Lyons, president of the U.S. Fund for UNICEF. “Not only has he traveled to far away places to help bring much needed attention to some of the most vulnerable children, he has challenged leaders to keep their commitment to these children, as evidenced by his recent testimony before the United States House of Representatives.”

Long before his current singing career, Clay Aiken's life ambition was to work with individuals living with disabilities. Mr. Aiken intended to pursue a career in special education. Although his time and energy has turned toward the music industry, he remains passionate about assisting individuals with developmental delays, specifically children, to live full lives in the real world.

Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF began in 1950 when a group of young trick-or-treaters went door-to-door on Halloween in Philadelphia. At each door, they not only opened their bags for candy, but held out empty milk cartons to collect coins for children in need overseas. They collected \$17 and sent it to UNICEF. Today, Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF has educated millions of American children about their peers in developing countries and empowered them to raise more than \$127 million to help support UNICEF programs around the world.

Founded in 1946, UNICEF helps save, protect and improve the lives of children around the world through immunization, education, health care, nutrition, clean water and sanitation. UNICEF is non-partisan and its cooperation is free of discrimination. In everything it does, the most disadvantaged children and the countries in greatest need have priority. For more information or to make a donation, please visit www.unicefusa.org or call 1-800-4UNICEF or 1-800-486-4233.

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