



## NEWS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Mixed Roots Foundation**

**Apl.de.ap of Black Eyed Peas Teams Up with Mixed Roots Foundation to Raise Awareness and Funds by Throwing Out First Pitch for National Foster Care Month at 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual ‘Adoptee Night’ with LA Dodgers – Friday, May 22, 7:10 p.m. at Dodger Stadium**  
*‘Adoptee Night’ is a Special Night for All Who are Touched by Adoption and Foster Care and will Provide 1,000 Adopted and Foster Youth An Opportunity to Attend Their First Baseball Game*

**Los Angeles, CA (Tuesday, April 28, 2015)** – In recognition of **National Foster Care Month** and celebration of its **4<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary**, **Mixed Roots Foundation** will host its **3<sup>rd</sup> annual ‘Adoptee Night’ with the LA Dodgers** as they take on the **San Diego Padres** on **Friday, May 22, 2015 at 7:10 p.m. at Dodger Stadium**. **Apl.de.ap**, one of the founding members of the **Black Eyed Peas** and founder of **Apl.de.ap Foundation** was born in the Philippines and was later adopted to the United States at the age of 14 **will throw out the first pitch**.

“I look forward to throwing out the first pitch for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Adoptee Night with the LA Dodgers to help raise awareness about the unique needs of adoptees and their families,” said **Apl.de.ap, founding member of Black Eyed Peas and founder of Apl.de.ap Foundation**. “As a fellow adoptee, I encourage all adoptees and their families to come out and support this great cause that touches millions of lives... **please help me send 1,000 adopted and foster youth to their first baseball game by donating to Mixed Roots Foundation** - I look forward to seeing all of you there...It’s going to be an amazing night – Go Dodgers!”

In addition, Mixed Roots Foundation will be partnering with the **Apl.de.ap Foundation and The Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)** to help recruit adoptees, foster youth and their families to participate in the special event.

“We are honored to have the opportunity to work with Mixed Roots Foundation,” said **Apl.de.ap Foundation’s executive director, Ted Benito**. “We look forward to not only supporting Apl throwing out the first pitch, but we believe through our partnership with Mixed Roots Foundation, **this will provide a great way to share all the work that he is doing through the foundation that is truly making a difference in the lives of orphans and specifically children and families in his native home country, the Philippines** – Thank you, Mixed Roots Foundation for this special opportunity and we look forward to partnering more in the future.”

“**Currently there are 18,000 children in Los Angeles County living in foster care**. The Dodgers Adoptee Night Event will help promote more awareness that all youth deserve safe, nurturing and permanent families. I thank all of the foster and adoptive parents who are committed to providing children in need, with a loving home, and also all of our DCFS social workers and staff who work so hard for our children,” said **Philip L. Browning, director of the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services**. “I especially want to thank Mixed Roots





Foundation and to all of those who have helped make this special event possible for all of the children and families that will be in attendance.”

Mixed Roots Foundation will host a VIP pregame meet & greet at their community booth where **fans will have the opportunity to meet Apl** as well as **learn more about important post adoption resources that are available for adoptees and their families**. Adoptee Night ticket holders will also receive a **signature Adoptee Night rally towel**.

**Tickets cost \$25**. To become a strategic partner or sponsor, please contact 213.725.8054 or email [sponsor@mixedrootsfoundation.org](mailto:sponsor@mixedrootsfoundation.org). **To donate or sponsor a kid, visit [www.crowdrise.com/adopteeday-adopteenight2015](http://www.crowdrise.com/adopteeday-adopteenight2015)**. To volunteer or learn more about the event, please email [events@mixedrootsfoundation.org](mailto:events@mixedrootsfoundation.org) or visit [www.mixedrootsfoundation.org](http://www.mixedrootsfoundation.org) for more information.

#### **About Mixed Roots Foundation**

Mixed Roots Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Los Angeles, CA and serves as the first and only national / global multicultural foundation for adoptees and their families representative of the international, domestic, and foster care adoption experience and leverages philanthropy and grassroots fundraising to support post-adoption resources for adoptees and their families. For more info, **visit [www.mixedrootsfoundation.org](http://www.mixedrootsfoundation.org), LIKE Mixed Roots Foundation on Facebook or Follow on Twitter @mixedroots**.

#### **About Apl.de.Ap**

The eldest of seven siblings, **Allan Pineda** better known as **Apl.de.ap** grew up in Angeles City, Pampanga, Philippines. He worked in the farm with his grandfather and sold the crops at the open market. Coming from a poor family, he knew early on that going to school was his long-term ticket to a better life. Clinically blind, the young Apl managed to get treatment for his eyes in the U.S. through the Pearl S. Buck Foundation with his sponsor, **Joe Ben Hudgens, who eventually adopted Apl**. At the age of 14 years old, Apl moved to LA where Hudgens fostered the importance of education that would lead to achieving his dreams. **Apl became a rapper, record producer, and member of the multi-Grammy award winning group the Black Eyed Peas**. Drawing from his own life experiences and putting action behind his words, he established **the Apl.de.ap Foundation**.

#### **About Apl.de.ap Foundation**

As Apl.de.ap became financially stable and one of the most famous Filipinos in the world, he dedicates himself by giving back to his country and youth everywhere through his Apl.de.ap Foundation which focuses on education, technology, helping vision-challenged newborns and art-therapy. Apl has not shied away from acknowledging his Filipino roots and continues to embrace his heritage, even in his work. From his humble beginnings to his extreme fame he still retains the Filipino hospitality and "bayanihan" spirit. His humility, generosity, sense of humor and graciousness to his fans remains a core part of who he is. For more info, **visit [www.apldeapfoundation.org](http://www.apldeapfoundation.org) and also [www.forfilipinochildren.com](http://www.forfilipinochildren.com) or LIKE Apl.de.ap Foundation on Facebook**.

#### **About The Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)**

LA DCFS is the largest child protection agency in the country. **The department serves over 36,000 children on any given day**. The primary goal of the department is to protect children from abuse and neglect as well as reunite families when it is safe to do so. For children that are unable to safely remain home, loving foster families and adoptive homes are always needed. For more information about LA DCFS programs and services, please call **888.811.1121** or visit [www.shareyourheartla.org](http://www.shareyourheartla.org)

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