



NEWS RELEASE

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Mixed Roots Foundation

Apl.de.ap of Black Eyed Peas Teams Up Again with Mixed Roots Foundation and Throws Out First Pitch for 3rd Annual ‘Adoptee Night’ with MN Twins – Friday, July 31, 7:10 p.m. at Target Field
‘Adoptee Night’ is a Special Night for All Who are Touched by Adoption and Foster Care and will Set New Goal to Send 1,000 Adopted and Foster Youth to Their First MN Twins Baseball Game

Minneapolis, MN (Friday, June 19, 2015) – To continue celebration of its **4th Year Anniversary** as well as the **4th Year of hosting its signature sporting events, Mixed Roots Foundation** will present its **3rd annual ‘Adoptee Night’ with the MN Twins** as they take on the **Seattle Mariners** on **Friday, July 31, 2015 at 7:10 p.m. at Target Field**. Just this past May for National Foster Care Month, **Apl.de.ap, co-founder of the Black Eyed Peas** and founder of **Apl.de.ap Foundation** threw out the First Pitch to **Mixed Roots Foundation’s Vice Chair, Glenn Bowie** for the 3rd Annual LA Dodgers Adoptee Night at Dodger Stadium while being joined on the field with his adoptive father, Joe Ben Hudgens who adopted Apl at the age of 14 from the Philippines. Apl will **throw out the first pitch again to Glenn Bowie** for the **MN Twins Adoptee Night** to help **raise awareness and funds for the adoption and foster care community in Minnesota**.

“I am so excited to throw out the first pitch again for **Mixed Roots Foundation’s 3rd Annual Adoptee Night with the MN Twins**,” said **Apl.de.ap, co-founder of Black Eyed Peas and founder of Apl.de.ap Foundation**. “**Not only I am an adoptee**, but I also want to prove to everyone that being **legally blind with a rare eye disease called Nystagmus** that **you can do and be anything if you put your mind to it and believe in yourself**. So, come on out all of my MN PEAbodies and **help me throw out the first pitch again and send 1,000 adopted and foster youth to their first MN Twins baseball game – You can donate to Mixed Roots Foundation** – a portion of ticket proceeds will not only help send kids to the game, but will also support the work that the Apl.de.ap Foundation does. I look forward to seeing all of ya’ll there – Go Twins!”

“We look forward to working with Mixed Roots Foundation again this year along with special guest Apl.de.ap of the Black Eyed Peas for our 3rd annual MN Twins Adoptee Night”, said **Rob Malec, MN Twins Director of Group Sales**. “It has been pretty cool to see how this event has grown from when we first hosted Adoptee Night in 2013 to now in 2015... **We will continue to partner with Mixed Roots Foundation to keep Adoptee Night going and growing stronger every year.**”

Mixed Roots Foundation has partnered with **Apl.de.ap Foundation, MN Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) / MN ADOPT, Children’s Home Society & Family Services (CHSFS) / Lutheran Social Service of MN, Connections to Independence, Adopted Koreans (AK) Connection** and several other businesses and organizations 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 again,” said **Apl.de.ap Foundation’s Executive Director, Ted Benito**. “Thank you again for another chance to **share all the work that Apl is doing through the foundation in Minnesota...** We will continue to positively impact the lives of orphans and specifically children and families here and in the Philippines.”

“We are thrilled to be part of this exciting event that provides an opportunity for foster, adopted youth and families to have an evening of fun as well as raise awareness about the lifelong needs of adoptive families,” said **Rachel Walstad, Executive Director, MN ADOPT**. “We look forward to partnering with Mixed Roots Foundation and **help them reach their goal of sending 1,000 adopted and foster youth to their first MN Twins baseball game!**”

Mixed Roots Foundation will host a **pregame VIP Meet & Greet in the Twins Digital Clubhouse at Target Field at 5:00 p.m.** along with 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 be seated in an **exclusive Adoptee Night section**, receive a **signature Adoptee Night rally towel** and be able to enjoy **Friday Night Fireworks** after the game.

Tickets cost \$25. To become a strategic partner or sponsor, please contact 213.725.8054 or email sponsor@mixedrootsfoundation.org. **To donate or sponsor kids, visit crowdrise.com/mntwinsadopteenight2015**. To volunteer or learn more about the event, please email events@mixedrootsfoundation.org or **visit 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**, **LIKE Mixed Roots Foundation on Facebook** or **Follow on Twitter @mixedroots**.

About Apl.de.Ap

The eldest of seven siblings, **Allan Pineda Lindo** 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 and also www.forfilipinochildren.com or LIKE Apl.de.ap Foundation on Facebook.**

About MN ADOPT

Founded in 1980 by a group of adoptive parents, MN ADOPT promotes and supports successful adoptions for Minnesota children and families by providing information, resources, education, public awareness and support in an effort to find stable and permanent homes for Minnesota waiting children. MN ADOPT serves Minnesota children and their adoptive, kinship and foster families. For more info about MN ADOPT programs and services, please **call 866.303.6276 or visit www.mnadopt.org.**

About Children's Home Society & Family Services (CHSFS) / Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota

Founded in 1889, Children's Home Society of Minnesota works to give every children security, opportunity, and a loving family. On July 1, 2012, Children's Home Society and Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota came together in partnership to combine complementary adoption services and provide high standards of quality and strength as a national provider of adoption services. **For more info, please visit: www.chsfs.org.**

About Connections to Independence

Connections to Independence (C2i) is a community based non-profit organization that strives to end youth homelessness and jurisdictional recidivism in foster care youth by giving them tools to create long-term and systemic change in their lives and communities. C2i provides unique programming and advocacy for foster care youth to promote a successful transition to independent living as they reach adulthood. C2i promotes the development of youth by strengthening their mind, body, and soul as a way to prepare them for a healthy, balanced life as productive adults and citizens. **For more info, please visit: www.c2iyouth.org.**

Adopted Korean (AK) Connection

Since 2000, AK Connection has proudly served the adult Korean adoptee community in Minnesota (primarily in the Twin Cities region). The mission of AK Connection is to be resource for adult Korean adoptees in Minnesota by providing information and building a supportive community. Through providing up-to-date information on its website and resources of interest to adult Korean Adoptees in Minnesota, AK Connection also hosts educational, cultural, and social events that foster friendship, networking, and support for the various needs for Korean adoptees in Minnesota. **Please visit, www.akconnection.com for more info.**

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