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Words Alive Program Participants Attend the World Baseball Classic with the Help of Tickets for Kids

San Diego, Calif. (March 18, 2017) — Words Alive, a leading nonprofit literacy organization that inspires a commitment to reading and develops shared reading experiences for children, youth, and families, has partnered with Tickets for Kids® Charities to provide the Words Alive Teen Services and Family Literacy program participants an opportunity to attend the World Baseball Classic through donated tickets from Tickets for Kids.

Tickets for Kids was founded in 1994 and distributes tickets for cultural, sporting, and educational events to in-need and at-risk kids across the United States. As an agency partner of Tickets for Kids, Words Alive was able to invite 60 participants from our Teen Services and Family Literacy Program to attend the World Baseball Classic at Petco Park on March 18, 2017 at no cost to them.

Our programs help participants understand how literacy ties into real-world experiences and how we can make connections between text and our communities. Our programs aim to influence three major areas pertaining to literacy development; habits, interest and motivation, and skills and abilities. Our goal is that participants develop an enduring commitment to reading, become life-long learners, and become advocates for themselves and their futures.

In the Family Literacy Program, an emphasis is placed on teaching parents the importance of talking with their children about new experiences to help build vocabulary and other pre-literacy skills. At the World Baseball Classic, parents had the opportunity to engage their children in literacy education in a fun and exciting new environment, not confined to reading a book. Our teens learn that reading is a way to explore the world around them without needing to go very far. By attending the World Baseball Classic, the teens, children and families in our programs were able to not only attend a fun professional sporting event, but were able to practically apply the skills they have been learning throughout the programs.

This experience, while undoubtedly fun, was also meaningful and educational for our program participants and would not have been possible without organizations like Tickets for Kids and the generosity of their donors.

For more information about Tickets for Kids® Charities, please go to <https://ticketsforkids.org/>.

About the World Baseball Classic

The World Baseball Classic is the premier international baseball tournament, sanctioned by the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC), as the sport's official National Team World Championship, and

features the best players in the world competing for their home countries and territories. More than 2.4 million fans from all over the world have attended the tournament games, held in March 2006, March 2009 and March 2013. Team Dominican Republic is the reigning World Baseball Classic Champion after going undefeated during its 2013 championship run. The 2017 World Baseball Classic, which began on Monday, March 6 continuing until the championship game on Wednesday, March 22, again features the greatest baseball-playing nations in the world. The tournament will be held every four years thereafter. For more information on the tournament, visit www.worldbaseballclassic.com.

About Words Alive

Founded in 1999, Words Alive is a nonprofit organization that helps underserved, low-income, at-risk children, teens and families discover how books and reading can add meaning to their lives. Words Alive engages its program participants in developing a connection to reading with innovative programs and initiatives with the goal of creating lifelong readers and learners. For more information about Words Alive, its programs, volunteer opportunities and sponsorship opportunities, visit www.wordsalive.org.

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