Media Alert

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ROCK OUT: FREE CHILDREN'S CONCERT TO FEATURE FAMED MUSICIAN

Third Annual Preschool Palooza brings
Mr. Tommy to Zephyrhills for a free, family-friendly event

The **Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc.** will host its third annual **Preschool Palooza**, a **free** children's concert, from 3 to 5 p.m., Saturday, August 8, at Heritage Academy (35636 State Road 54 West) in Zephyrhills. This family-friendly event will feature masterful storyteller and musician Mr. Tommy.

Known for his engaging style of entertainment, Mr. Tommy is a favorite among the region's youngsters. His unique, interactive program gets children off their feet and encourages them to build their self-esteem and imagination.

Tommy Girvin, also known as "Mr. Tommy," is renowned for his talented guitar work during his 25-plus year career as lead guitarist for Eddie Money. He is also passionate about sharing his love of music with young children.

This free family event is sponsored by the Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc. For more information about this event, contact Bev Doucet, Quality Supervisor, at b.doucet@phelc.org. For additional information about the Coalition, including office locations and VPK registration, visit www.phelc.org.

PHOTO CUTLINE: *Tommy Girvin, also known as Mr. Tommy, sings with a young fan at a recent event. He will perform Saturday, August 8, at Preschool Palooza, a free concert sponsored by the Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc.*

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About the Coalition

The Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc. is one of 30 Early Learning Coalitions in Florida. It works to ensure that programs and services are available to assist families with young children during their formative years. Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) program is for all

children who are four-years old on or before September 1. School Readiness provides subsidized child care for low-to-moderate income working families. Starting as separate organizations in 2000, Pasco and Hernando counties joined forces to form the Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties in 2005. The non-profit serves over 9,000 children between infancy and eight years old, working with more than 300 providers in the counties.