



MEDIA ALERT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ILLUSIONIST CHRIS DARE TO PERFORM FIRST STAGE SHOW IN THE HUDSON VALLEY TO BENEFIT ABILITIES FIRST

Poughkeepsie, NY (December 15, 2018) – Illusionist Chris Dare will have his first Hudson Valley stage show “Dare to Believe” on Thursday, January 25, 2018 at the Newburgh Brewing Company in Newburgh, NY to benefit Abilities First, a not-for-profit organization serving the needs of over 1,400 children and adults with developmental disabilities, from pre-school through adulthood throughout the Hudson Valley.

“Chris’s mission is to inspire others with the belief that anything is possible is in line with the Abilities First mission of providing people with disabilities and their families the support to help them reach their greatest potential,” said Melissa McCoy, Chief Advancement Officer for Abilities First.

Chris, a Newburgh native, has performed for thousands of people nationally and for corporate clients such as Toyota and GE but has also made it his mission to use his talent to give back to the community for organizations including American Cancer Society, The Michael J. Fox Foundation, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and Abilities First.

"Magic has the ability to affect others and make a difference on an emotional level." said Chris Dare. "Locally, this will be a milestone show with never before seen magic. Collectively bringing the community together centered around a single purpose. Nothing is impossible. At times we all need to challenge our beliefs and become inspired and magic can do that in a unique and creative way. I am very excited to be partnering with Abilities First for a special night of wonder and encouraging what I call, the Dare to Believe."

Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Attendees will have the opportunity to see Chris's illusions close up as he mixes and mingles with guests. At 6:30 p.m., the Dare to Believe Stage Show will amaze the crowd as Chris performs his special brand of magic, combining magic, suggestion, psychology, misdirection, and showmanship followed by the VIP Meet & Greet at 7:30 p.m. The Meet & Greet is available for General Admission ticket holders for an additional \$10.

VIP tickets are now on sale for \$40 and include a VIP Meet & Greet with Chris Dare, reserved seating, one complimentary beer or house wine, complimentary hors d'oeuvres, and an autographed souvenir. Pre-sale for General Admission tickets to the stage show begins January 5, 2017 for \$20 and will increase to \$30 after January 15, 2018.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Proceeds will benefit the programs and services of Abilities First. To inquire about tickets or sponsorship opportunities, contact Melissa McCoy at 845.485.9803 ext. 223 or MelissaMcCoy@abilitiesfirstny.org. For more information about the event, visit <http://www.abilitiesfirstny.org/magic/index.php>.

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About Abilities First

Founded in 1962, Abilities First is a not-for-profit organization serving the needs of the community, as well as those with developmental disabilities, from pre-school through adulthood. Abilities First has had a long-term commitment of providing a cohesive culture of compassion, empowerment and respect for people with a variety of disabilities through educational, vocational, residential, and habilitation services. It presently serves over 1,400 children and adults throughout the Hudson Valley region of New York State. AF is accredited for the person-centered care by the Council on Quality and Leadership (CQL).

Abilities First's mission is to provide people with disabilities and their families support to attain independence, self-determination, integration, and acceptance by others through education, exploration, and experience.

For more information, visit www.AbilitiesFirstNY.org or on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/AbilitiesFirstInc](https://www.facebook.com/AbilitiesFirstInc) and [@AbilitiesF](https://twitter.com/AbilitiesF) on Twitter.