

# BLOOMING INCLUSIVENESS

It's The Season For Inclusion  
With Laila's Gift



# ABOUT LAILA'S GIFT

Advocating, Supporting & Celebrating Children

## ABOUT LAILA'S GIFT

Our Mission Is To Advocate For, Support, & Celebrate Children With Special Needs & Disabilities, & Their Families, Recognizing The Obstacles They & Their Caregivers Face, & Rejoicing In The Unique Gifts They Bring Into The World.

Our vision is to have a world where children with special needs and disabilities are celebrated and embraced by their community, with a strong network of support around them and their family. Our organization operates through our 5 core values:



Inclusiveness



Compassion



Diversity



Connection



Family



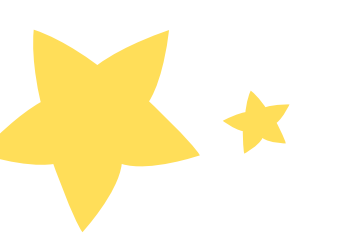
### A NON PROFIT CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION

Laila's Gift is a nonprofit, tax exempt charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is a registered Non-Profit Organization in Maryland. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

EIN: 88-1842234







## DEAR FRIENDS,

I Am Thrilled To Have This Opportunity To Introduce Myself And Share The Story Behind Laila's Gift, A Nonprofit Organization That Holds A Special Place In My Heart. My Name Is Shari Bailey, And I Am Not Only The Founder Of Laila's Gift But Also A Proud Mother To An Extraordinary Little Girl Named Laila.

Laila's journey began with a diagnosis of Jacobsen Syndrome, a rare and challenging condition. Back in 2014, when Laila and her twin sister Lana were born, there were only about 100 reported cases of Jacobsen Syndrome in the entire world. The statistics were disheartening, with a staggering 25% of children not making it to the age of two. In those early days, Laila's future seemed uncertain, and our family faced countless hurdles. It was during this time that the seeds of Laila's Gift were planted. Inspired by Laila's incredible strength and resilience, we wanted to create an organization that celebrated the lives and achievements of children with special needs and disabilities. We firmly believe that with a little extra love and attention from the community, these children can feel included, celebrated, and accepted.



One of our most significant initiatives, Blooming Inclusiveness, holds a special place in my heart and signifies the growth and beauty that can emerge from embracing diversity. This series of events is centered around the sunflower, a powerful symbol of strength, resilience, and inclusiveness. Just like a sunflower, children with special needs and disabilities have unique qualities that shine brightly when nurtured and given the chance to blossom.

Blooming Inclusiveness aims to promote inclusion in our community, supporting acceptance and combating bullying within the special-needs community which is a potential result of misunderstandings. By coming together in celebration, we can make the world a better place for everyone, regardless of their abilities.

Through Blooming Inclusiveness, we have organized various events and activities that encourage interaction, understanding, and kindness. These events provide a platform for individuals from all walks of life come together to celebrate and embrace differences. By highlighting the importance of recognizing everyone's uniqueness, we hope to break down barriers and change perceptions, fostering a more inclusive society.

I am incredibly grateful for the support we have received so far, but there is still much work to be done. Together, we can create a world where every child feels valued, cherished, and accepted for who they are. Join us in spreading the message of love, inclusion, and acceptance, and let us bloom together.

In Celebration of our Differences,



Shari Bailey  
Founder, Laila's Gift





# LAILA'S GIFT

Celebrating One Gift At A Time

## THE VOICE OF THE SPECIAL NEEDS & DISABILITY COMMUNITY

Since Establishing Laila's Gift, We Have Become The Voice Of The Special Needs & Disability Community.

Our commitment is to advocate for, support, and celebrate children and their families dealing with challenges that come with raising a child (or children) with special needs and disabilities. We provide emotional support and resources to help families withstand their circumstance and be assured they are not alone.

Along with the support and resources Laila's Gift offers to the community and caregivers, we also uniquely bring joy to each child by celebrating their birthday and significant /milestone(s). Not only because tomorrow is not promised, but primarily because each year they face many ups and downs, and many personal difficulties. Laila's Gift appreciates the perseverance and determination each child and caregiver exhibit to overcome these hardships.

We are proud to be unduplicated in our offerings in the nation.







## BLOOMING INCLUSIVENESS

*It's the Season for Inclusion with Laila's Gift*

### AN INITIATIVE BY LAILA'S GIFT

Blooming Inclusiveness Is An Initiative By Laila's Gift In Partnership With Several Local Organizations That Aims To Promote Inclusiveness For Individuals With Diverse Abilities Using The Arts.

Through the Blooming Inclusiveness initiative, the community comes together to promote inclusiveness, celebrate diversity, and support the dreams of children with special needs and disabilities.

#### WHY SUNFLOWERS?

We use sunflower to symbolize individuals with special needs and disabilities because of the sunflower's unique characteristics and growth process. Just like the sunflower, these individuals have the potential to thrive and reach limitless possibilities with intentional nurturing from their community, and their family.

The sunflower starts as a small seed, just as children with special needs and disabilities begin their journey in life. With proper care and support, both the sunflower and the children can grow and develop. The sunflower needs sunlight, water, and nutrients to flourish, while children with special needs require love, understanding, and specialized care to grow.

The sunflower's ability to turn towards the sun, known as heliotropism, represents the individual's resilience and ability to adapt to their surroundings. Similarly, individuals with special needs can overcome challenges and adapt to their environment with the support and encouragement of their community, and their family.



# BLOOMING INCLUSIVENESS

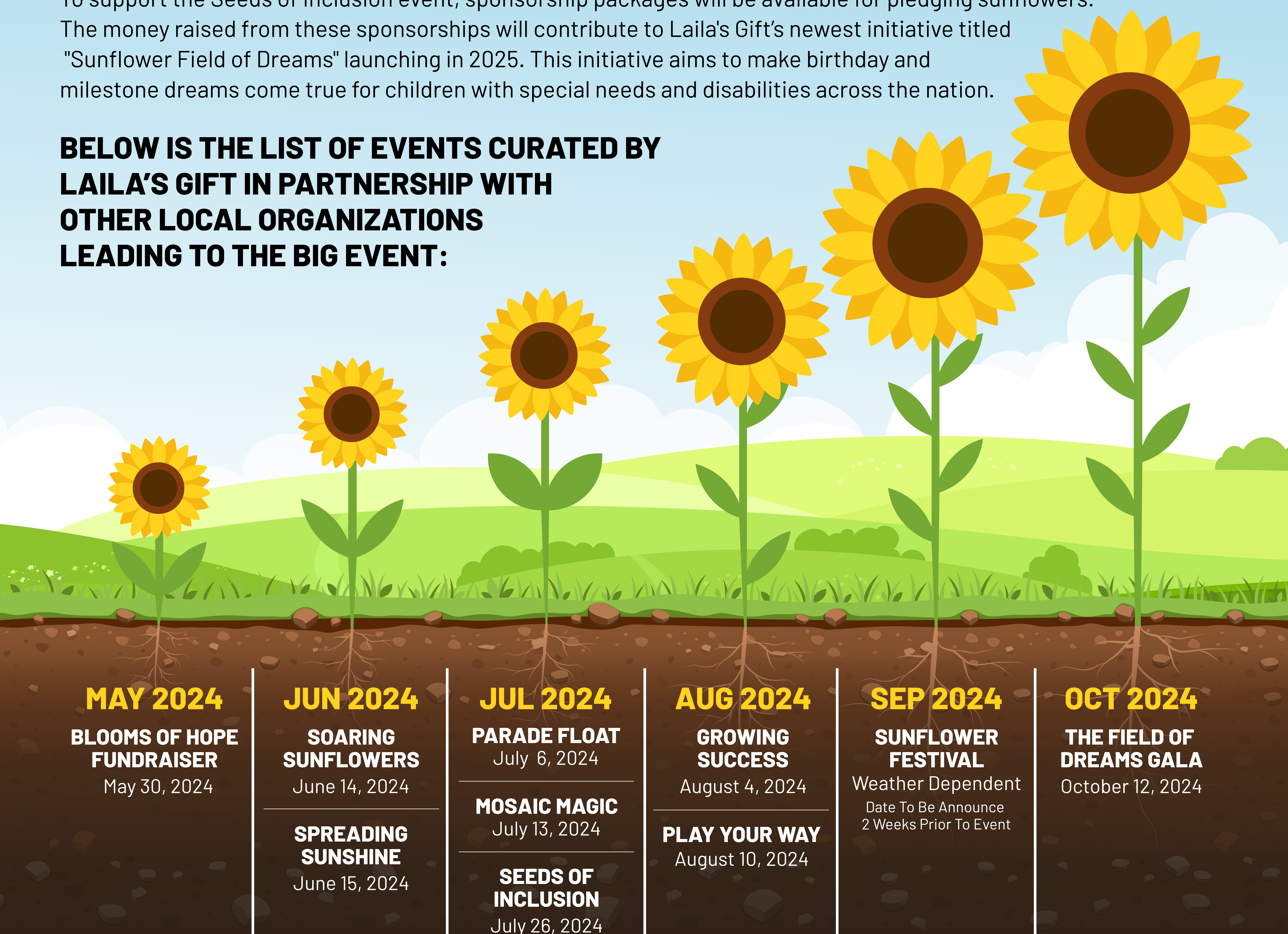
Blooming Inclusiveness Involves A Series Of Events Centered Around A Sunflower Theme. The Highlight Of These Events Is The First Annual Seeds Of Inclusion Event, Where Community Members Come Together To Hand Plant Sunflower Seeds At A Local Sunflower Field In Jarrettsville MD.

This act symbolizes how intentional nurturing of sunflower seeds can allow them to grow and blossom in limitless ways, just like individuals with diverse abilities.

To celebrate the growth of these sunflowers, a Sunflower Festival will be held in the fall. This festival will be a sight to behold, showcasing the gorgeous sunflowers that have grown and become a representation of individuals with diverse abilities.

To support the Seeds of Inclusion event, sponsorship packages will be available for pledging sunflowers. The money raised from these sponsorships will contribute to Laila's Gift's newest initiative titled "Sunflower Field of Dreams" launching in 2025. This initiative aims to make birthday and milestone dreams come true for children with special needs and disabilities across the nation.

## BELOW IS THE LIST OF EVENTS CURATED BY LAILA'S GIFT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHER LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS LEADING TO THE BIG EVENT:







# BLOOMING INCLUSIVENESS EVENTS

Save The Dates



**BLOOMS OF HOPE**  
AN ART AUCTION TO GROW TOGETHERNESS

## BLOOMS OF HOPE: AN ART AUCTION TO GROW TOGETHERNESS

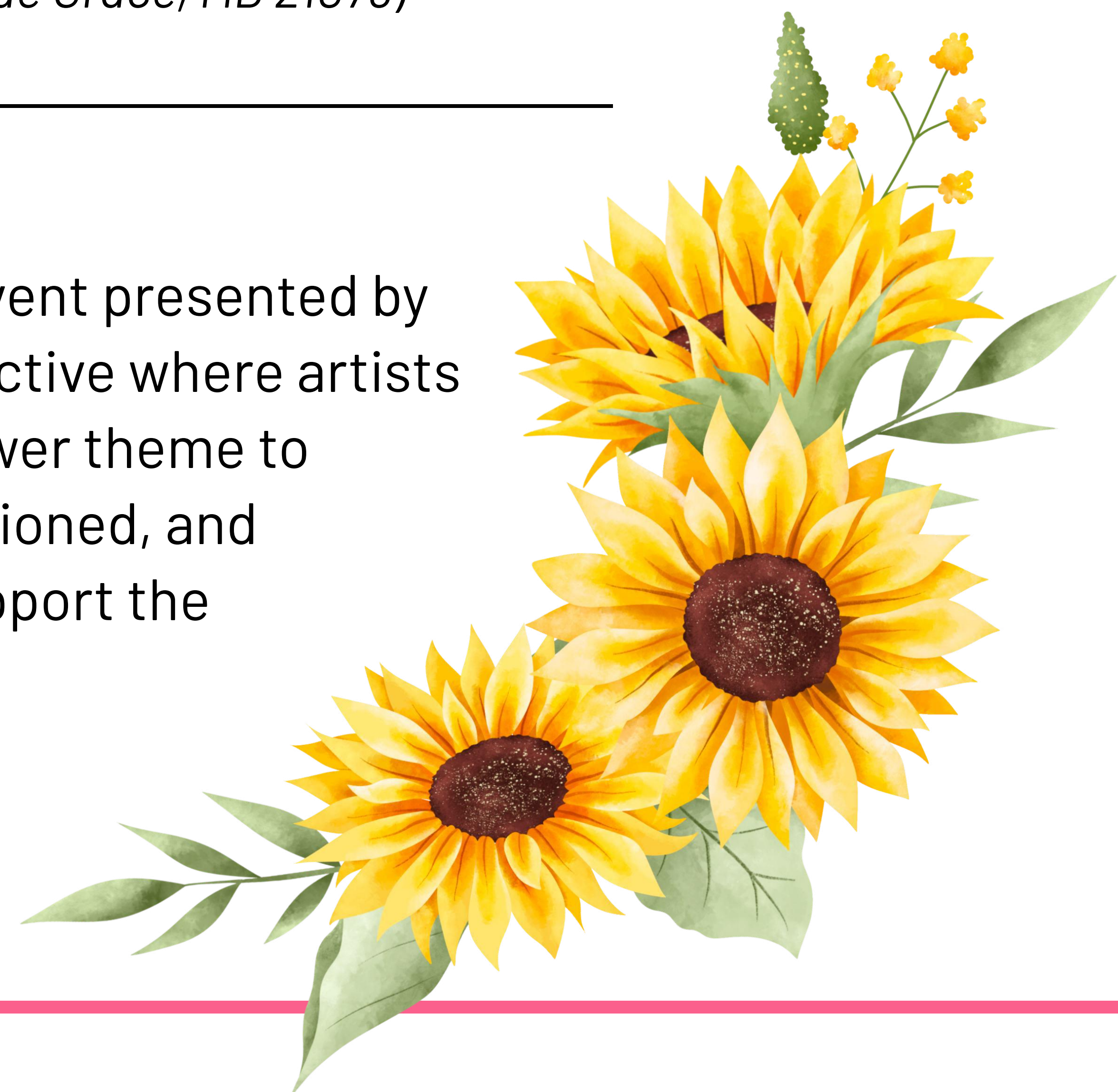
 May 30th, 2024  6:00PM – 9:00PM

 Gallery 220 (220 N. Washington Street | Havre de Grace, MD 21078)

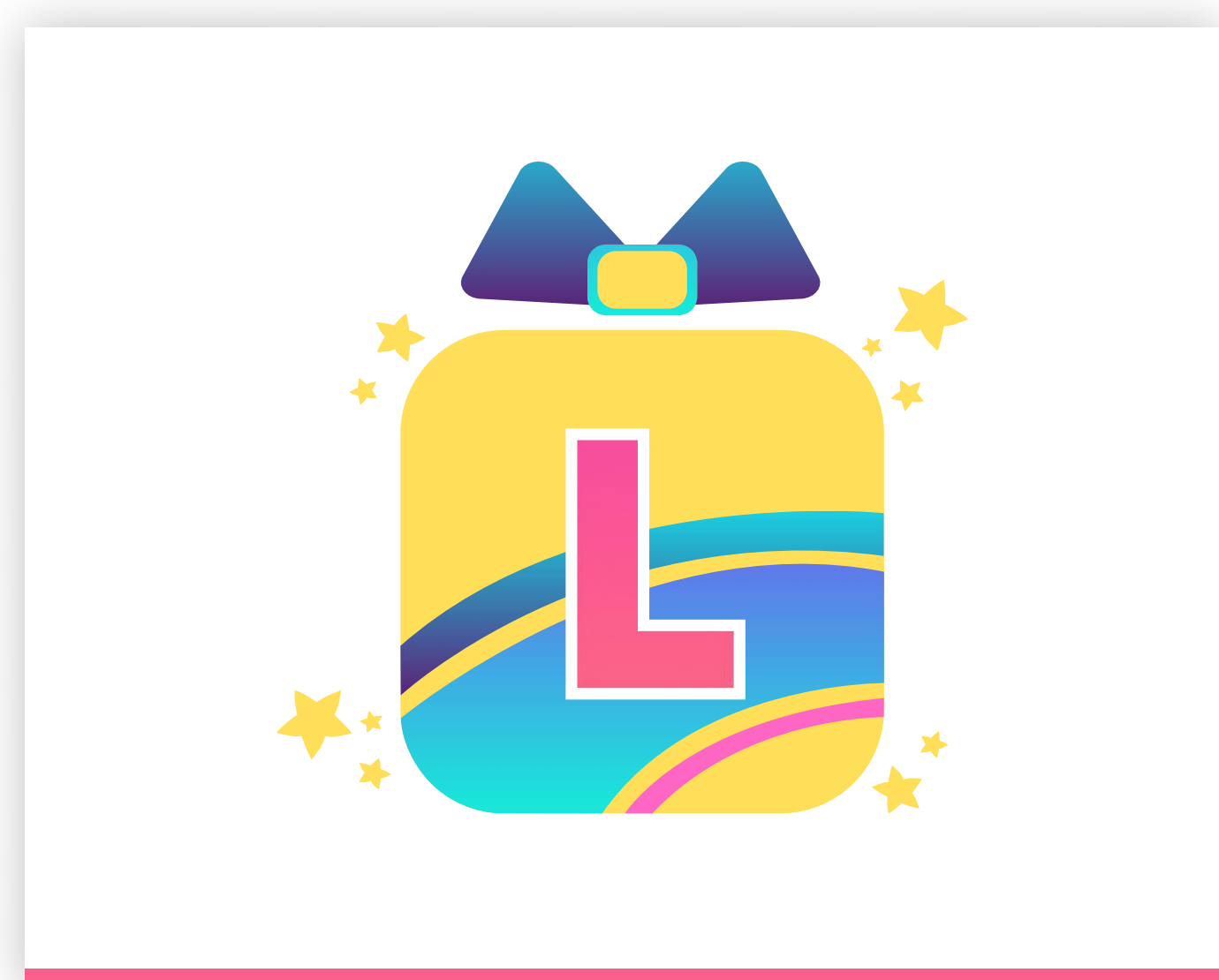
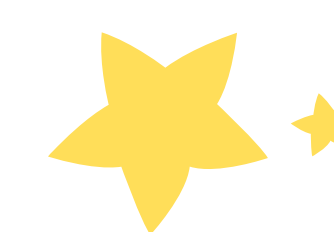
### Event Details

Hosted by WMAR's Kristy Breslin, this is an event presented by Laila's Gift and the Havre De Grace Arts Collective where artists will submit original artwork using the Sunflower theme to promote inclusivity. This artwork will be auctioned, and proceeds will be donated to Laila's Gift to support the Blooming Inclusiveness initiative.

Event Cost: \$45 / Per Person.








## SOARING SUNFLOWERS: CELEBRATING THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR FOR SUNFLOWER FAMILIES

 June 14th, 2024  6:00PM – 8:30PM

 Harford Academy Bel Air

### Event Details

Join us for an extraordinary end-of-year celebration dedicated to children with special needs and disabilities and their families in Harford County Public Schools. Introducing "Soaring Sunflowers," a Gala-style silent disco that promises an unforgettable night of joy and connection.

At Soaring Sunflowers, we believe in creating inclusive and memorable experiences for all. Each attendee will receive cool headphones, immersing them in a world of music and dance.

Our talented DJ will spin fun and uplifting tunes all night long, ensuring that the dance floor stays alive with laughter and rhythm. But it's not just about the music.

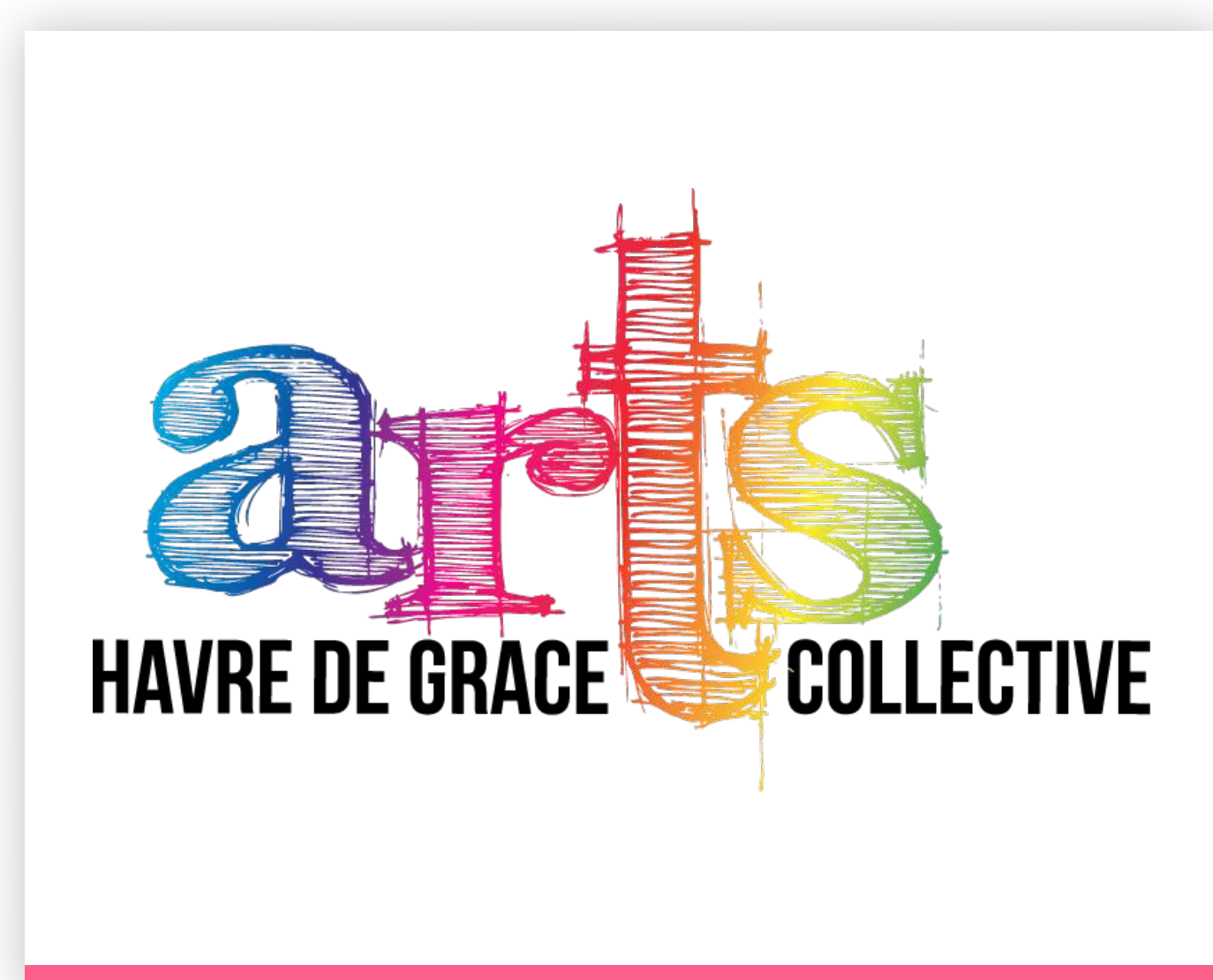
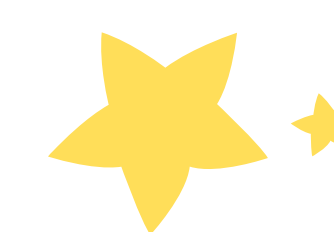
We understand the importance of good food and refreshments to complete the celebration. Indulge in a delectable spread of delicious treats and beverages, carefully curated to cater to everyone's tastes and dietary needs.

This Gala-style silent disco is an opportunity for children with special needs and disabilities, along with their families, to come together, celebrate, and create lasting memories. It's a night where everyone can express themselves freely, surrounded by a supportive and inclusive community.

Don't miss out on this unforgettable experience. Save the date and get ready to dance, laugh, and connect like never before at Soaring Sunflowers!







## SPREADING SUNSHINE: A PAPER SUNFLOWER YOUTH ARTS WORKSHOP

 June 15th, 2024  10:00AM – 11:00AM

 Gallery 220 (220 N. Washington Street | Havre de Grace, MD 21078)

### Event Details



Laila's Gift is excited to partner with The Havre de Grace Arts Collective on the first of two Youth Arts Workshops this summer!

Kids will craft two sunflowers - one to keep and one to be displayed in the community!

Event Cost: \$10 / Per Person.



## HAVRE DE GRACE INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

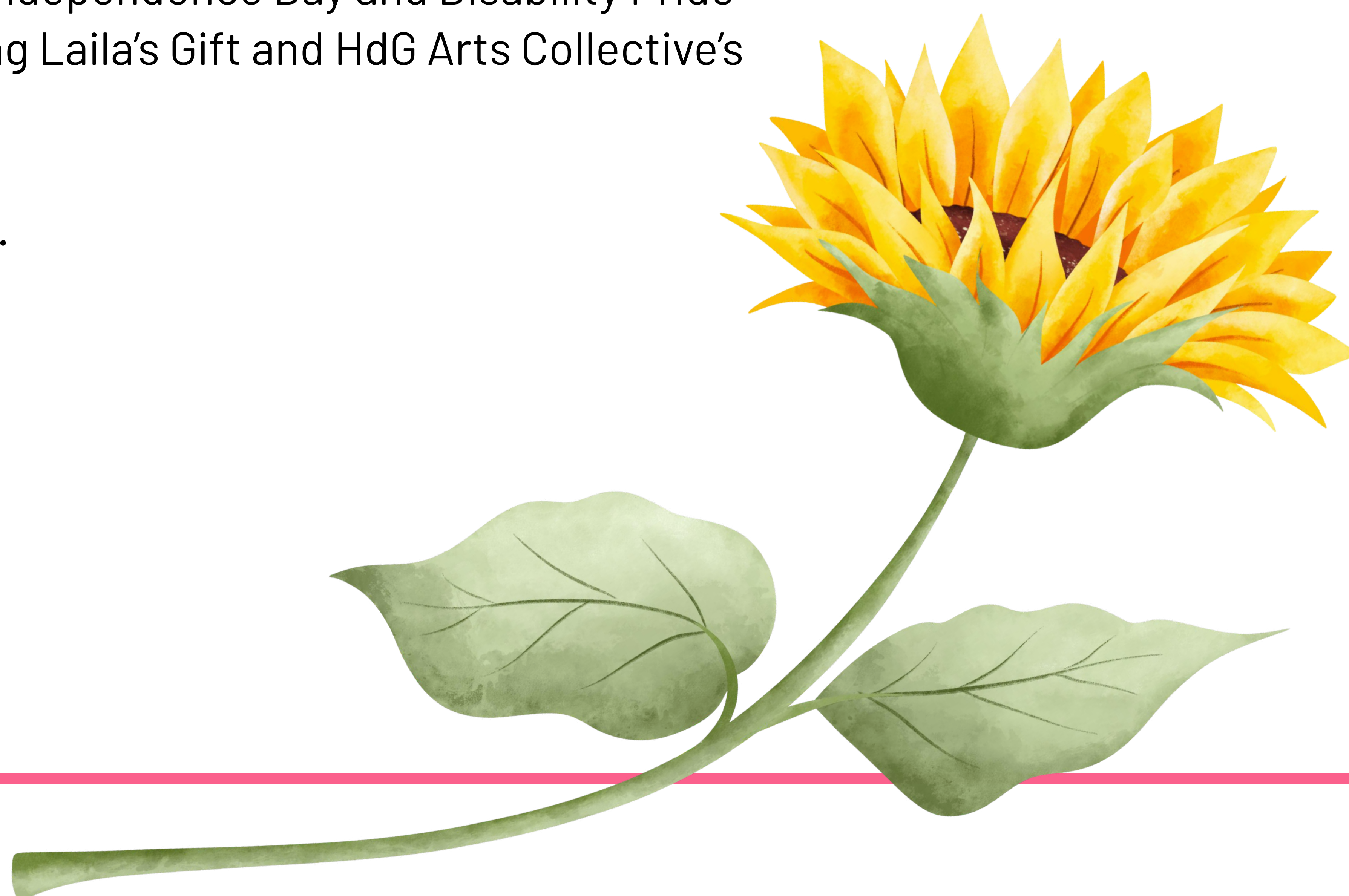
 July 6th, 2024  2:00PM

 Downtown Havre de Grace, Maryland

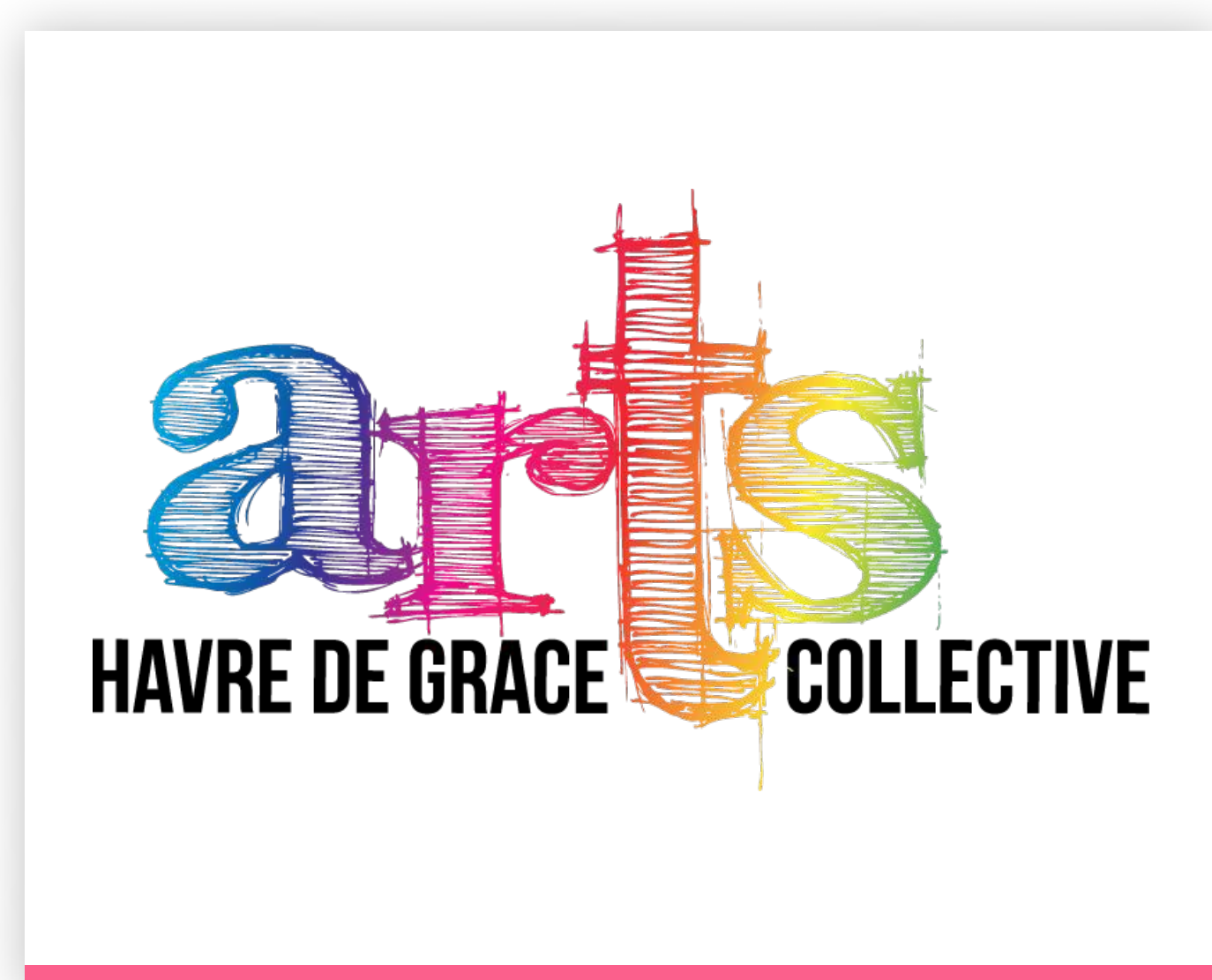
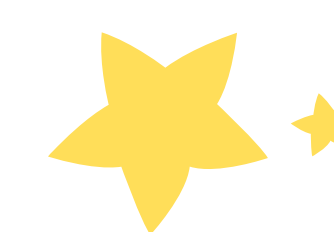
### Event Details

Help us kick off Independence Day and Disability Pride Month by cheering Laila's Gift and HdG Arts Collective's Parade Float!

Event Cost: Free.







## MOSAIC MAGIC: A MOSAIC STONE YOUTH ARTS WORKSHOP

 July 13th, 2024  10:00AM – 11:00AM

 Gallery 220 (220 N. Washington Street | Havre de Grace, MD 21078)

### Event Details

Laila's Gift is excited to partner with The Havre de Grace Arts Collective on the second of two Youth Arts Workshops this summer!


Kids will create a colorful mosaic on a small concrete stone that will then be incorporated into a larger stone and live at the edge of a special Laila's Gift sunflower field in Jarrettsville, MD! The final piece will be unveiled later this summer at their Sunflower Festival.

Event Cost: \$10 / Per Person.



## SEEDS OF INCLUSION

 July 26th, 2024 (Rain Date: Friday, August 2nd, 2024)  8:00AM – 11:00AM

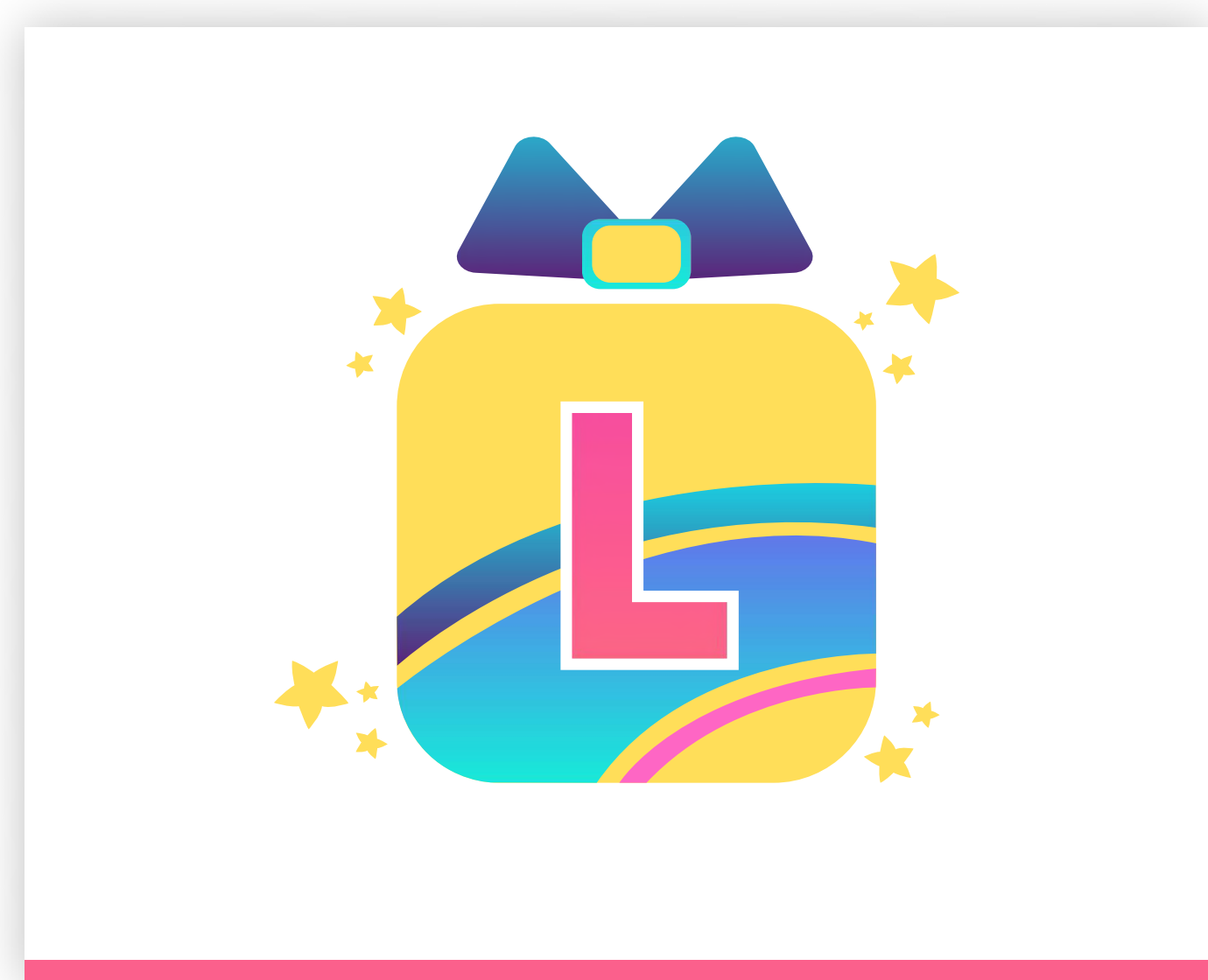
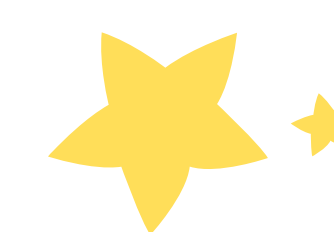
 Sunflower Field In Jarrettsville, MD (3726 Norrisville Road | Jarrettsville, MD 21084)

### Event Details

The Laila's Gift Seeds of Inclusion program is a fundraising initiative aimed at fostering community and celebrating children with diverse abilities referred to as Sunflowers! The program will hand-plant an annual Sunflower Field to symbolize the beauty of inclusion and art, and raise funds as Laila's Gift prepares to Launch "Sunflower Field of Dreams" program in 2025 to make birthday and milestone dreams come true for children with special needs and disabilities across the nation.


Event Cost: Free. Sponsors Are Invited To Plant Sunflowers!





## GROWING SUCCESS: A BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT FOR HCPS SUNFLOWER FAMILIES

 August 4th, 2024  1:00PM – 3:00PM

 Celebration & Advocacy Center (1040 Hardees Drive | Suite F | Aberdeen MD 21001)

### Event Details

Get ready for the upcoming school year with "Growing Success," a back-to-school event dedicated to supporting the Sunflower families of Harford County public school students with special needs and disabilities.

As part of our commitment to fostering success, we will be providing free school supplies to a limited number of Sunflower families in preparation for the 2025 academic year.

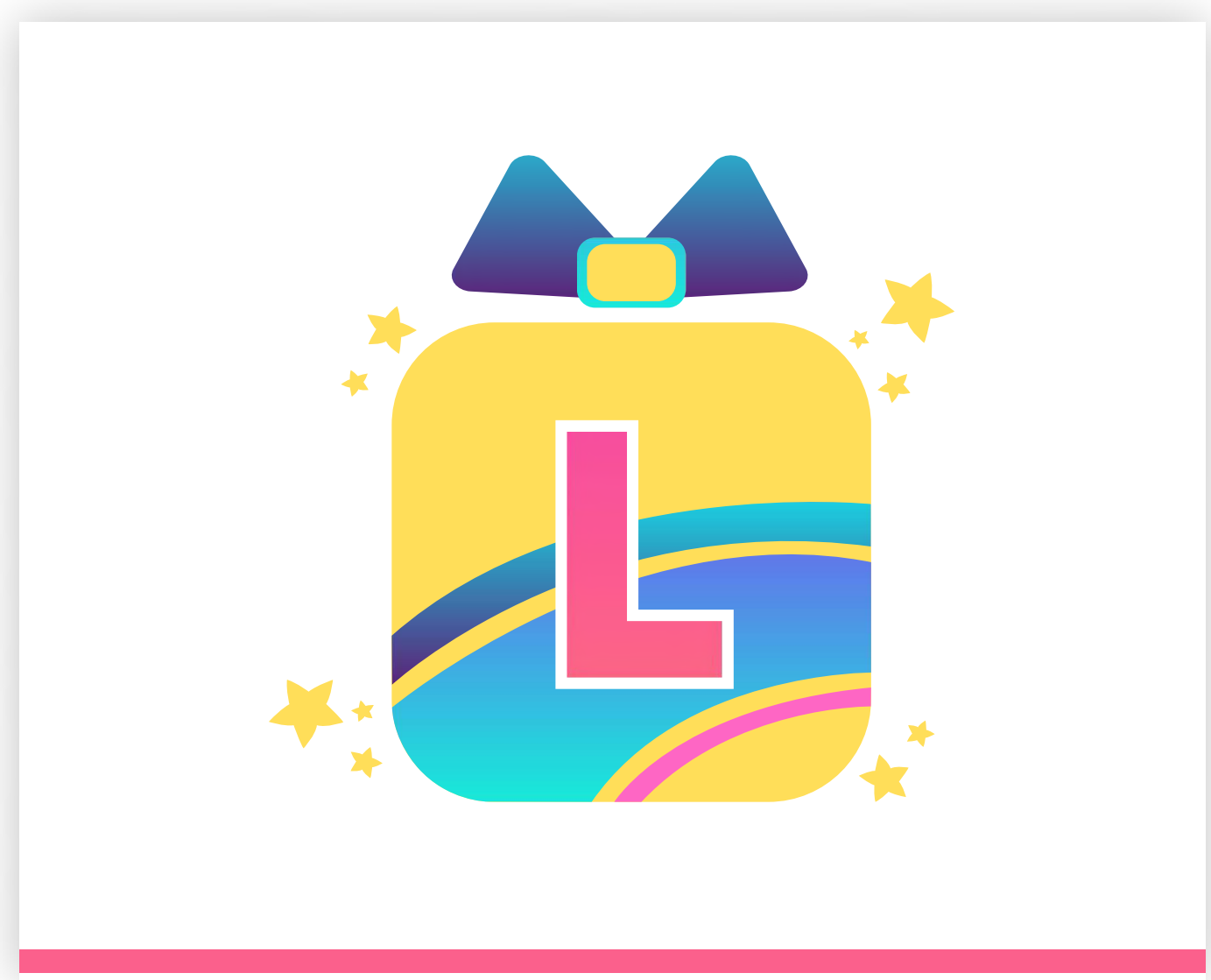
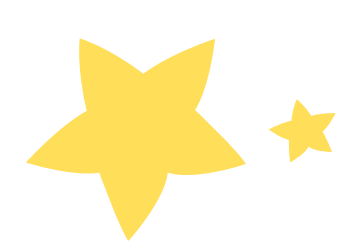
From notebooks and pencils to backpacks and folders, we aim to equip students with the tools they need to thrive in their educational journey.

Join us for this special event and ensure that every student has the resources they need to achieve their full potential. Let's grow success together!

Event Cost: Free For The First 100 Attendees. Pre-Registration Is Required.







## PLAY YOUR WAY FAMILY FUN DAY

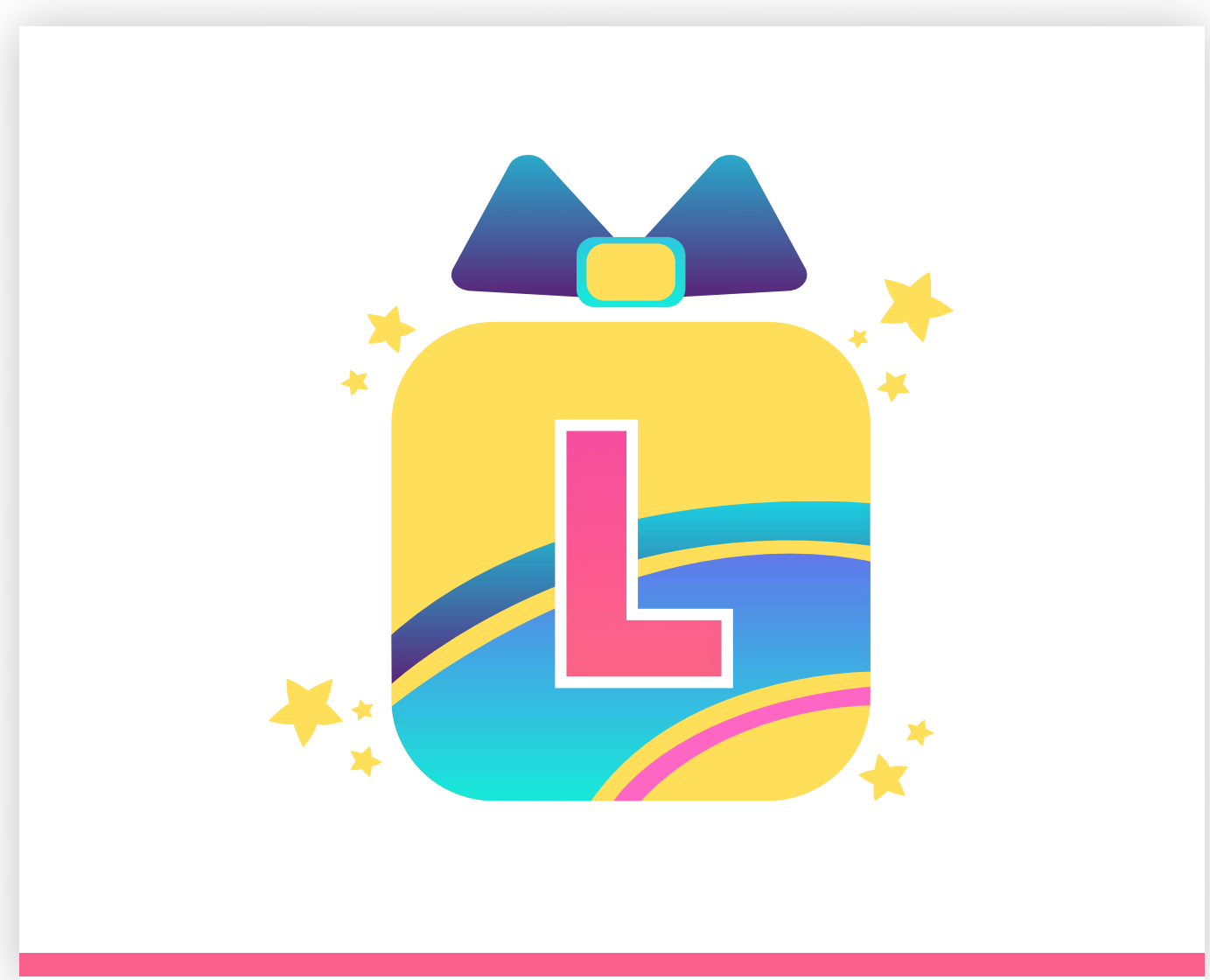
August 10th, 2024 11:00AM – 3:00PM

Cedar Lane Regional Park (1100 Cedar Lane | Bel Air, MD 21015)

### Event Details

This free community event is designed to bring families together outdoors, offering a variety of entertainment, activities, and games suitable for all abilities. Whether you're looking to participate in interactive games, explore creative arts and crafts, or enjoy lively performances, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Food trucks will be on-site, serving delicious food and refreshments, ensuring that no one goes hungry. Additionally, resource vendors will be available to provide valuable information about organizations that cater to the diverse abilities within our community. Come and join us for a day filled with laughter, connection, and endless opportunities to play your way!

Event Cost: Free For The First 500 Attendees. Pre-Registration Is Required.



## SUNFLOWER FESTIVAL

TBD (Weather Dependent: To Be Announce 2 Weeks Prior To Event) TBD

Sunflower Field In Jarrettsville, MD (3726 Norrisville Road | Jarrettsville, MD 21084)

### Event Details

Laila's Gift will participate in the annual Sunflower Festival and admire the Sunflower sights curated by the Seeds of Inclusion event. Each Sunflower does not only represent the intentional support from the community to highlight individuals with diverse abilities, but they also represent the dreams awaiting to become realities following the Sunflower Field of Dreams Launch in 2025.

Event Cost: Stay Tuned For More Information!





# SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Get Involved With Laila's Gift

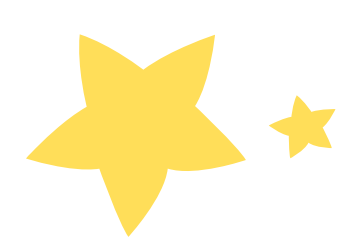
## HELP US BLOOM

By Partnering With Us As Sponsors, You Can Pave The Remarkable Way Towards Blooming Inclusiveness, Fostering Diversity, & Empowering Communities.

LEVEL	SEEDLING LIMIT: N/A	BRONZE LIMIT: N/A	SILVER LIMIT: N/A	GOLD LIMIT: N/A	PLATINUM LIMIT: N/A	TITLE LIMIT: 1
Investment	\$100	\$300	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$5,000
GENERAL BENEFITS						
Name on Website	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Link on Website		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo on Website			✓	✓	✓	✓
Option for a Guest Blog Post					✓	✓
Thank You Post	1	1	1	2	4	6
Thank You Recognition on Facebook Events				✓	✓	✓
Thank You Recognition in eblast	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo Included in eBlasts			✓	✓	✓	✓
Name Included in Press Releases				✓	✓	✓
BLOOMS OF HOPE EVENT BENEFITS (MAY 30TH)						
Tickets to the Event				2	4	6
Sponsor Recognition at the Event				✓	✓	✓
SOARING SUNFLOWERS: END OF SCHOOL YEAR CELEBRATION (JUNE 14TH)						
Sponsorship Recognition at the Event				✓	✓	✓
SPREADING SUNSHINE: A PAPER SUNFLOWER YOUTH ART WORKSHOP (JUNE 15TH)						
Sponsorship Recognition at the Event					✓	✓



# SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES (PART 2 OF 2)



LEVEL	SEEDLING LIMIT: N/A	BRONZE LIMIT: N/A	SILVER LIMIT: N/A	GOLD LIMIT: N/A	PLATINUM LIMIT: N/A	TITLE LIMIT: 1
Investment	\$100	\$300	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$5,000
HAVRE DE GRACE INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE (JULY 6TH)						
Option to Ride Along on the Laila's Gift Float!						✓
Sponsor Recognition on the Laila's Gift Float						✓
MOSAIC MAGIC: A MOSAIC STONE YOUTH ARTS WORKSHOP (JULY 13TH)						
Sponsor Recognition at the Event					✓	✓
SEEDS OF INCLUSION (JULY 26TH / AUGUST 2ND RAIN DATE)						
Invitation to Our Planting Day at the Farm this Summer	2	4	6	8	10	12
Planting of Sunflower Bouquets	1	3	5	10	20	50
Acknowledgement on our "Seeds of Inclusion" Recognition Board	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
An Invitation to the Sunflower Festival in the Fall to Celebrate the Blooming of Our Sunflower Field!	2	4	6	8	10	12
PLAY YOUR WAY FAMILY FUN DAY (AUGUST 10TH)						
Tickets to the Event	2	4	6	8	10	12
Option for a Vendor Booth			✓	✓	✓	✓
Sponsor Recognition at the Event				✓	✓	✓
GROWING SUCCESS: A BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT (AUGUST)						
Option to Distribute Promotional Giveaway to Students (100 Items Needed One Week Prior to Event)			✓	✓	✓	✓
Sponsor Recognition at the Event					✓	✓
SUNFLOWER FESTIVAL (SEPTEMBER)						
An Invitation to the Sunflower Festival in the Fall to Celebrate the Blooming of Our Sunflower Field!	2	4	6	8	10	12
Sponsor Recognition at the Event				✓	✓	✓
BONUS: LAILA'S GIFT PRESENTS: FIELD OF CELEBRATIONS GALA (OCTOBER 12, 2024)						
Tickets to the Gala				2	4	8
Sponsor Recognition at the Gala				✓	✓	✓

## INTERESTED IN SPONSORING?

Please Contact Us Today At [www.LailasGift.org](http://www.LailasGift.org) To Learn More About Becoming A Sponsor!





**THANK YOU TO OUR DIRECT COMMUNITY PARTNERS!**

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**LAILA'S GIFT**

*Celebrating One Gift at a Time*

## **CONTACT US**



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www.LailasGift.org