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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**AYS, Inc. Hosts Second Annual Benefit to Raise Funds for After-school Arts Programs with Local Artists & Local Business Support**

**What:** *Audio Mask: We Are The Robots*

**When:** Saturday, August 17, 2013 8:00 p.m.-12:00 p.m.

**Where:** Speak Easy, 5255 N. Winthrop Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46220

**Cost:** Suggested donation of \$10.00 per person; advance tickets available at [tinyurl.com/lyrcjxxi](http://tinyurl.com/lyrcjxxi); tickets also available for purchase at the door.

**Indianapolis, IN**—On Saturday, August 17 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m., AYS, Inc. will host its second annual benefit *Audio Mask: We Are The Robots* at the Speak Easy, located in Broad Ripple. The fundraising event is sponsored by Butler Toyota Scion and Kolman Dental.

Started in 2012, *Audio Mask* is a fundraising show benefitting AYS, Inc.'s after-school arts enrichment programming. Keith Monfreda, Director of Education at AYS, Inc., stressed the purpose of the event stating, "When AYS, Inc. was founded in 1980, the main focus was the safety of latchkey kids. Today, safety is still the number one concern, but arts enrichment is also crucial in our programming. With school budgets being drastically cut, the arts is usually the first to go, and this is why we strive to provide these much-needed arts, music, dance and performance art programs."

Luke Lofland, event committee member and local art teacher at the Math and Science Academy West, added, "Working at a school that had their music program cut, I see the importance of arts education, and there is no better place than in a comfortable and fun after-school environment."

This year's robot theme will be highlighted with classic robot adventure movies streaming throughout the evening, robot masks made available for all attendees and a Rock 'Em Sock 'Em tournament.

The evening will be emceed by Melissa Davis of WFYI and will feature local indie music artists: Liz Janes, Rooms, ToeKnee Tea and DJ Hobbitron. Local beer will be provided courtesy of Upland Brewing Company. A \$10.00 donation per attendee is suggested with additional donations accepted regardless of attendance via [tinyurl.com/lyrcjxxi](http://tinyurl.com/lyrcjxxi).

Headlining artist and local mother of two Liz Janes contributing her talent for the fundraising event stated, "Enriching before- and after-school care anywhere and anyway we can is a great way to love on our kids. They work just as long and hard as adults do every day during the school year, and if we don't offer opportunities, they don't get any. Love the little children people!"

To find out more about AYS, Inc. and *Audio Mask: We Are The Robots*, visit [AYSkids.org/AudioMask](http://AYSkids.org/AudioMask).

Founded in 1980, AYS, Inc. is a local grassroots non-profit agency providing before- and after-school, early childhood and summer programs in eight school districts throughout Marion, Hamilton, Hendricks, Shelby and Montgomery counties. Encompassing all aspects of child development, from early childhood to intermediate school, AYS, Inc.'s programs offer a variety of activities, including arts, science, health and multicultural enrichment in a safe environment during the out-of-school hours. Learn more about AYS, Inc. at [AYSkids.org](http://AYSkids.org).

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To find out more about this fundraiser or schedule an interview with AYS staff, participating artists or sponsors and/or event committee members, please contact Leslie L. Cannon-Grosz at 317-828-3417 or [Leslie@SometimesMarketing.com](mailto:Leslie@SometimesMarketing.com).