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**The Children's Courtyard Director  
Named Collin County Director of the Year**

Plano, Texas, May 15, 2008 – The Children's Courtyard is honored to announce that Kelley Thomson, director at its 8001 Parkwood Blvd. location, was selected by the Collin County Association for the Education of Young Children (CCAAYC) as their Director of the Year. Thomson received an overwhelming number of nominations from parents, staff and the Plano / Frisco community. (Photos attached).

This honor is awarded every year during the Week of the Young Child Banquet and celebrates children and those who dedicate their careers to the next generation's future. Awards are presented for Teacher of the Year, Trainer of the Year, Child Advocate of the Year and Director of the Year.

"We are extremely fortunate to have Kelley as part of The Children's Courtyard family," said Michelle Morrison, district manager. "Her commitment to providing the highest quality care in a safe, educational environment is unparalleled in the industry and this prestigious honor is truly well-deserved."

As the director of The Children's Courtyard in Plano, Thomson is responsible for managing the early education and child care program for 170 students between the ages of six weeks and five years of age.

Some of the comments made by parents for Thomson's nomination include:

- She is a consummate teacher of young children and an empathetic leader of her staff.
- She wants what is best for the children and will not settle for less.
- Kelley is an educator that is the heart of the school and she treats all of the children as if they were her own.
- She continues to study and research better ways to bring out the best in her staff.

**About The Children's Courtyard**

Founded in Arlington, Texas in 1986, The Children's Courtyard operates approximately 50 early education and child care locations in the Austin, Houston and Dallas-Fort Worth areas. With programs for infants through school-agers, The Children's Courtyard offers exciting and educational learning experiences through active exploration and discovery. Its innovative Lab Schools train and develop staff ensuring that each teacher helps promote a lifetime love of learning. For more information, please call Customer Support at (877) 892-4453 or visit [www.childrenscourtyard.com](http://www.childrenscourtyard.com).

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**Editor's Note:** Born and raised in Tucson, Arizona, Thomson currently resides in Frisco, Texas.