



The Relentless Pursuit of Results

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Comedian Artie Lange reaches out to help the Friends for Adam Trust, performs Oct. 9 at Detroit Opera House

July 21, 2009, Detroit, MICHIGAN – While reading Artie Lange’s book, titled *Too Fat To Fish*, Ross Niskar realized he had more in common with the actor, comedian and *Howard Stern* radio show regular than he ever imagined.

Both he and Lange understand what it is like when a loved one becomes paralyzed.

A 1999 diving accident left Ross’s brother, Adam Niskar, paralyzed. The Niskar family established the **Friends for Adam Niskar Trust** shortly after the accident to assist with the mounting medical expenses and to help cover the cost of modifying Adam’s living environment.

Nearly every year since the accident, Ross has organized an event asking that friends and family donate what they could to the Friends for Adam Trust. Now, a decade later, as Adam Niskar thrives in his career and reaches out to counsel others who share his physical challenges, his brother was inspired to aim even higher. He wanted to create an event that would celebrate his brother’s accomplishments. After reading that Lange’s father was also paralyzed, Ross could easily relate. He reached out to the comedian and shared his own story.

“I wrote a letter asking him whether we might collaborate on an event that would promote his autobiography and also benefit my brother,” said Ross Niskar. “Days later, Artie called me personally. It was unbelievable, a true long shot. He offered to perform for free.”

Beginning July 31, fans and supporters can purchase tickets to see **Artie Lange** perform at 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 9, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. Comedian and Southfield native Mike Young will open the show. Tickets are \$30-\$60, available through Ticketmaster at (248) 645-6666. Proceeds are not tax-deductible. For more information about the event, or the Friends for Adam Trust, visit www.friendsforadam.com.

“My family and I are unbelievably grateful to Artie Lange and all those who support our mission and have helped make this event possible,” said Ross Niskar.

To schedule an interview with Comedian Artie Lange, Ross Niskar or Adam Niskar, please contact Jim Miller at millerj@publicityworkspr.com or Stephanie A. Casola at scasola@publicityworkspr.com or call Publicity Works at (248) 691-4466.

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