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Valerie Simpson, Paul Shaffer and Darlene Love Headline Concert for Children's Learning Centers

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Valerie Simpson will take the stage to benefit Stamford nonprofit preschool provider Children's Learning Centers of Fairfield County at Stamford's Palace Theatre on Saturday, April 28. Paul Shaffer will make a special appearance with Simpson, and Darlene Love will also perform.

— *an announcement from Children's Learning Centers of Fairfield County*

Simpson rose to fame along with her late husband Nick Ashford as Ashford and Simpson. The singer and songwriter's chart toppers include "Ain't No Mountain High Enough," "Ain't Nothing Like the Real Thing," and "I'm Every Woman."

Singer and composer Paul Shaffer is best known as the longtime bandleader for David Letterman. His 2017 album — "Paul Shaffer & The World's Most Dangerous Band" — features guest appearances from Simpson and Bill Murray.

Darlene Love is a member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and was recognized by Rolling Stone Magazine as one of the greatest singers of all time.

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[Children's Learning Centers](#) will honor Synchrony Financial CEO Margaret Keane with its inaugural “CLC Knobby Award,” named for long-standing CLC supporters William and Audrey Knobloch.

A cocktail reception begins at 6 p.m. with a special performance from CLC preschool children. Stamford resident and former Late Show with David Letterman announcer Alan Kalter will host and MC the event.

“We are extremely pleased to bring these incredible artists to Stamford for our benefit concert,” said Marc E. Jaffe, CLC’s chief executive officer. “The evening’s proceeds will help us serve children with our unique, holistic approach to early learning. This concert is a critical part of our fundraising efforts.”

CLC is distinctive among nonprofits because it addresses a wide range of social issues: in addition to education and child development, it plays a pivotal role for the immigrant community, combats food insecurity, fights homelessness and develops crucial social and emotional skills, added Jaffe.

For premier seating and sponsorship opportunities, call CLC at 203-653-1337. General admission tickets became available Dec. 18 through the Palace Theatre, 203-325-4466 or on the [Palace Theatre website](#).

About Children’s Learning Centers of Fairfield County

Children’s Learning Centers of Fairfield County serves 950 children a day, 10 hours a day, 51 weeks a year.

The nonprofit agency educates, serves meals to and provides summer care for more young children than any organization in Southwest Connecticut. CLC’s comprehensive pre-K curriculum, on-site healthcare providers, family service workers and nutrition program make it a truly unique organization.