THE 2002 HEART GALLERY

A Portrait Exhibit to Raise Awareness about New Mexican Children Available for Adoption



Presented by the New Mexico Children, Youth & Families Department

THE GERALD PETERS GALLERY
1011 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe, NM 87501

OPENING RECEPTION: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2002 5 – 7 PM EXHIBIT IN PLACE THROUGH SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

THE 2002 HEART GALLERY

EMCEE

JEFF SIEMBIEDA, NEWS ANCHOR, KRQE-TV CHANNEL THIRTEEN

SPEAKERS

MARCIA KENNAI, CYFD, DIRECTOR, PROTECTIVE SERVICES DIVISION

ARLEEN LUCERO, CYFD, PLACEMENT SUPERVISOR

CATHY AND REID CALLANAN, HEART GALLERY PHOTOGRAPHERS AND ADOPTIVE PARENTS OF BELLA

DON USNER, HEART GALLERY PHOTOGRAPHER AND ADOPTIVE FATHER OF JENNIFER, WITH HIS WIFE DEBORAH HARRIS

Donna and Frank Payne, foster and adoptive parents of eleven

SPECIAL GUEST

Wes Studi

SPECIAL PERFORMANCES BY

Mariachi Fiesta

Andé Team Marimba Band



THE 2002 HEART GALLERY: ART + HEART = HOMES

Thank you once again for my own 'heart opening'. I hope that all of these children find loving homes.— Jackie Mathey, photographer, 2001 and 2002 Heart Galleries

Anyone who watches the news these days knows that we are living in challenging times. Much of the most frightening and disheartening news lately has concerned children. Haven't we all wondered about humankind upon hearing of the fate of some of our children?

To all those who need their hearts refilled with hope, who need to once again believe in the beauty of the human spirit, I would say this: Organize a Heart Gallery. Just as the Heart Gallery portraits speak louder than words, so do the actions of everyone involved in this project, whose generosity, kindness, and concern have been truly inspirational.

Diane Granito
CYFD Foster and Adoptive Parent Recruiter
Heart Gallery Coordinator

THE MISSION OF CYFD AND THE HEART GALLERY

Each year in New Mexico, the Children, Youth & Families Department (CYFD) must remove thousands of children from their families of origin due to abuse or neglect. While the vast majority of these children are eventually reunited with their families, hundreds of them cannot be safely returned home, and become available for adoption. They dream of finding what we may take for granted: permanent, loving homes where they will always have someone to count on, someone to care, someone to share their fears, joys, and hopes.

The Heart Gallery was created as a way to raise awareness about these vulnerable children. The first Heart Gallery took place in Santa Fe on March 9, 2001. Randy Travis serenaded the children, and the portraits and speakers, including foster and adoptive parents and children, moved the crowd to tears and to action. The exhibit then toured the state, taking its message to five other venues. The Heart Gallery received positive media attention throughout New Mexico and beyond, and has inspired other states and cities to host their own Heart Galleries.

This year's Heart Gallery exhibit will be featured on the highly acclaimed annual CBS special, "A Home for the Holidays", which will air in December. KRQE-TV, the local CBS affiliate, is co-hosting the Heart Gallery's opening reception.

CYFD hopes that, in looking into the eyes of these very special children, you will make a connection with them, and, in some way, act upon that connection.

JAMEY STILLINGS (NICK G.)

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They say that eyes are the windows to the soul. The moment I saw Carlito, I knew that this six year old boy was one in a million; the kind of child who is wise beyond his age. His big brown smiling eyes welcomed me with the confidence and open friendliness found only among those who shine from within. — ESHA CHIOCCHIO

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As soon I walked into Damion's home and saw his bright face and his quick, intelligent eyes, I knew I had no worries. In fact, I believe it would be hard to take a bad picture of Damion: he is a natural. For a couple of hours, as we walked around his neighborhood park, we talked about lots of things. He impressed me with his interest in science and he told me things about sharks and the ocean that convinced me that he must be an interested, hardworking student. It was a pleasure to meet Damion; he was easy to get to know and a real friendly kid.

- SCOTT CARAWAY

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Very special thanks to:

THE GERALD PETERS GALLERY

LISA BRONOWICZ

Our talented and generous Heart Gallery photographers, whose extraordinary "art from the heart" is The Heart Gallery

Our very special Heart Gallery Children

Our dedicated foster and adoptive parents



COVER PHOTOGRAPH © JENNIFER ESPERANZA

HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD

There is always one moment in childhood when the door opens and lets the future in.— Graham Green

You can become a foster or adoptive parent through CYFD, and truly make a difference in the life of a child.

As a foster parent, you can choose the age, gender, ethnicity and needs level of the children you care for, and can choose to provide varying levels of care, from respite (1-4 days) to emergency (1-30 days), to regular, day-to-day care. As a foster parent you receive financial assistance each month, and all children have medical coverage. CYFD staff members provide continual support before and after the children are placed in your home. Foster parents of all types are urgently needed throughout the entire state of New Mexico.

As an adoptive parent, you can offer these children stability, security, and new hope for the future. Subsidies are available on a case-by-case basis. Adoption is truly the choice of a lifetime for children who need homes and for their new families.



CATHY MAIER CALLANAN (MATTHEW H.)

Foster and adoptive parents can be single or married, and do not have to own their own homes. There is no upper age limit.

Information about foster care and adoption can be obtained by calling CYFD at 1-800-432-2075 or visiting CYFD.ORG.

Ask about private Heart Gallery informational sessions with a CYFD staff member, available from Sept. 14th – 21st at the Gerald Peters Gallery.

OPEN YOUR HOME AND HEART TO A NEW MEXICO CHILD, AND FOSTER A FUTURE!

