



Heart Gallery NYC: Helping Children in Need!

Heart Gallery NYC is a unique, not-for-profit organization that combines the artistic talents of notable photographers with children who are in need of a family and place to call home. Our goals are to raise awareness about children and youth living in foster care and to make a positive difference in their lives through adoption, fostering, mentoring, or internships.

Photographers involved in the Heart Gallery project volunteer their talents by shooting portraits that help capture the individuality and spirit of each foster child. The pictures are then displayed in traveling gallery exhibits and via the Web, in the hope that prospective parents will be moved to open their hearts and homes through adoption.

The Heart Gallery was originally founded in 2001 in New Mexico by the New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department. In January 2005, a Parade article about the project touched the hearts of millions of readers, resulting in a virtual explosion of Heart Gallery groups across America, where over 100,000 foster children are waiting to be adopted.

Later coverage included People, the Today Show, CNN, The View, USA Weekend, The New York Times and 20/20. What began as a local adoption recruitment program in New Mexico has now spread to more than 80 cities across the United States. There are currently nearly 100 Heart Galleries throughout the nation. Thousands of children have been adopted as a direct result of Heart Gallery exhibitions.

Our recent exhibits have been presented at Queens Center Mall, Grand Central, Penn Station, and LaGuardia. This January, we hosted our annual Match Party in Times Square where we created an opportunity for prospective adoptive parents and foster care youth to meet and make potential matches. We invite you to join the Heart Gallery NYC Team, and help make a difference in the life of a child! Please visit our website to view the Heart Gallery NYC photos and for additional information at www.heartgallerynyc.org

How Volunteers Can Help Make a Difference!

Volunteers are the heart and soul of our organization! Here are some areas where we can use your help:

- Special Events (Match Party, Fundraisers)
- Photo Shoots (assisting photographers, interacting with kids)
- Office Work (administrative tasks including follow up phone calls)
- Mentoring (We partner with foster agencies to provide mentoring opportunities. Our volunteers mentor children who are most at risk of aging out of foster care without finding a "forever family". You must be over 21 years of age, and a further application process is required. Training is provided.)
- Recruitment Table (Volunteers help staff the information booths on site at our exhibits. We provide training.)
- Securing donations in the community (Adopt-a-Portrait sponsorships, in-kind and monetary contributions)



Heart Gallery NYC Volunteer Questionnaire

Name:

Phone Number:

Email:

Address:

1.) What is your availability? (days, evenings, weekends)

2.) Computer skills?

3.) Do you own or have access to a car? **Yes / No** [we need help in transporting materials to/from exhibit sites]

4.) Do you speak another language? ___ _ If yes, which one(s)_____

5.) Are you willing to do volunteer work in boroughs other than Manhattan and/or Long Island? ___ If yes, which boroughs?_____

6.) Skills/Experience (please underline/bold all that apply)

- Working with children/youth (mentoring, tutoring or other)
- Photography/Film (filming, photographing children, behind the scenes, editing)
- Fundraising, Grant writing
- Financial Planning
- Bookkeeping/Accounting
- Legal Services
- PR/ Marketing
- Graphic Design
- Web design/maintenance
- Computer maintenance/repair
- Display skills/Art and Design
- Cooking/catering
- Advocacy work
- Administrative duties (phone calls, organizing databases, tracking recruitment information)
- Other: _____