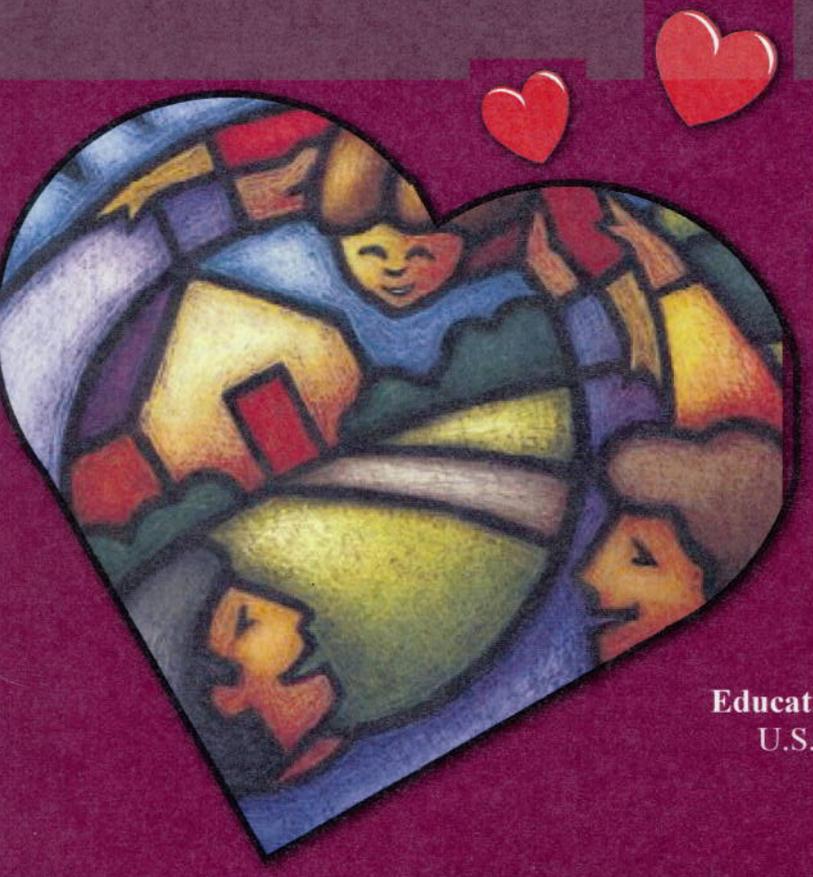


*Freddie Mac Foundation*  
*Heart Gallery*

*presents*



**A Portrait Exhibit  
of Children in  
Need of Adoption**

**Thursday, July 19, 2012  
11 a.m.**

*At the*

**Lyndon Baines Johnson  
Education Building Auditorium  
U.S. Department of Education**



*Presented by  
U.S. Department of Education  
Office of Communications and Outreach and  
Office of Innovation and Improvement*

*The Freddie Mac Foundation Heart Gallery and*

*Adoptions Together*

**The Freddie Mac Foundation Heart Gallery** features compelling portraits of children in foster care who are waiting to be adopted. The moving photos capture the spirit of these children—all of whom are hoping to find a loving, permanent family of their own. Their faces are just a few of the half million that form the picture of foster care in this country. The children featured in the gallery are from Washington, D.C., and the surrounding areas. Since November 2005, the exhibit has traveled around the Capital area. To date, 71 children have been adopted nationwide. For more information, please visit <http://www.freddiemacfoundation.org/heartgallery/>.

**Adoptions Together** supports children and families formed through adoption, guardianship, foster care, and kinship care with specialized services offered at locations in Maryland, Virginia, and D.C. Its support remains available to every family for a lifetime of guidance, education, and counseling to ensure that each family stays strong together. With a holistic network of more than three dozen innovative services that build and strengthen families, Adoptions Together is one of the most diverse nonprofit social service agencies serving the Washington/Baltimore area. It also serves as a regional center of knowledge and activity on child welfare issues for a broad spectrum of educational, mental health, and other professionals as well as legislators, public officials, and the general population.

Adoptions Together is far more than just an adoption agency. It is a lifelong resource for families where information, support, and counseling can always be found.

**The U.S. Department of Education's Student Art Exhibit Program**, now in its ninth year under the direction of the Office of Communications and Outreach and the Office of Innovation and Improvement, features visual art created by students in U.S. and international schools. The program provides students and teachers an opportunity to display creative work from the classroom in a highly public place that honors their work as an effective path to learning and knowledge for all. The works also provide Department employees and visitors with both a beautiful environment and the means to be in touch with the Department's principal customers—students. While the Freddie Mac Foundation Heart Gallery is not about student art, it is about students' lives and the contributions we can all make to ensure their well-being so they become creative, well-educated contributors to our society.

The program features two exhibits at all times throughout the year: The winners of the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards are exhibited for a year beginning every August, and another exhibit, rotated every two to three months, accommodates the many educators who want to exhibit their students' work. Exhibits are currently booked through 2015. To schedule a visit to the exhibits contact Nicole Carinci at [nicole.carinci@ed.gov](mailto:nicole.carinci@ed.gov) or at 202-453-5585, and to learn more about the exhibiting opportunity contact Jackye Zimmermann at [jacquelyn.zimmermann@ed.gov](mailto:jacquelyn.zimmermann@ed.gov) or at 202-401-0762.

*Agencies available to answer adoption questions and provide  
informational materials in the lobby:*

**DC Child and Family Services**  
**Bittersweet Zine**

*&*

Welcome  
Steve Robinson  
*Special Assistant*  
*White House Domestic Policy Council*

Remarks  
Wendell Chambliss  
*Executive Director*  
*Freddie Mac Foundation*

Adoption Information Panel  
*Moderated by*  
Janice Goldwater  
*Founder and Executive Director*  
*Adoptions Together*

*With*

**Adoptive ED Parents**  
Kathy Ellis  
Denise Forte  
Steve Freid  
Larry Ringer

*And*

*Two adopted children and their parents*

Formal Ribbon-cutting Ceremony

Lunch

*More than half a million children in the U.S. are in foster care, and 118,000 are in need of adoption. Each year, 30,000 teenagers "age out" and leave the system, on their own without the support of a family.*

There are many ways you can help a child in foster care:

- ♥ Consider foster parenting or adoption.
- ♥ Spread the word to friends and family about the need for families.
- ♥ Feature a foster parent recruitment campaign in your company or organization newsletter.
- ♥ Volunteer to provide temporary or "respite" care to a child every few weekends.
- ♥ Provide a scholarship to a foster child for lessons or camp.
- ♥ Become a mentor or tutor.
- ♥ Donate new toys and gift cards for foster children during the holidays.
- ♥ Call 202-671-LOVE or 1-800-669-HOPE for more information.

Many of the Heart Gallery children are part of Freddie Mac Foundation's Wednesday's Child, a televised feature that introduces viewers to children in foster care who need adoptive homes. The program airs on NBC4 during Wednesday's 5 p.m. news, Thursday's 10 a.m. news and Sunday's 9 a.m. news.

