

November 2007

Dear foster parents,

Thank you so much for helping to coordinate kids in your home for The Heart Gallery of Central Texas this past summer. The Heart Gallery of Central Texas is a traveling art exhibit featuring kids waiting for adoption – its purpose is to spur interest in adoption. Over 55 professional photographers volunteered their time and photographed over 140 kids featured in 106 portraits. The portraits are beautiful and capture the spirit of the kids, adding a new dimension to the adoption recruitment process. Our goal is to keep this project moving across Central Texas until all of the kids are adopted. You can view the portraits at www.heartgallerytexas.com.

The Heart Gallery of Central Texas is a project of the Adoption Coalition of Texas – a nonprofit organization comprised of Child Protective Services and child placing agencies that focus on foster care adoptions. Our main purpose is to find families for kids. This year, we have partnered with six CASA organizations across Central Texas to help coordinate and spread the word about adoption and kids in foster care.

As the Heart Gallery travels, the Austin Children's Museum (in Austin) has offered to display the exhibit through the entire month of December. We are planning a **Heart Gallery VIP Day** for kids whose pictures are included, as well as their foster families, foster siblings, case workers, CASA's and anyone else they would like to invite. As you will see from the enclosed invitation, on December 1st there will be an Open House. There is typically a charge to get into the museum, but all fees are waived for this event. I just need to know how many are coming so I can put your name on a list for free admission. Everyone in your household is invited. You will probably hear from case workers and CASA's about this event as well.

Please let me know if you can come. If you cannot make it, we would still love for the child to come, so let us know early and we can coordinate transportation. Since it is an Open House, you can come at any time between 10am and 3pm, and stay for as long as you would like. The museum is a blast for kids of all ages. If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 512-301-2825 or 888-441-2009. Thank you very much for all that you do!

Warmest regards,



Tracy Eilers, D.M.
Executive Director



THE HEART GALLERY
of central texas

A project of the Adoption Coalition of Texas and CASAs across Central Texas

The children of The Heart Gallery of Central Texas, their foster families, caseworkers, child placing agencies and CASA volunteers

are cordially invited to be a
VIP Special Guest
at the opening of the 2007 Heart Gallery Exhibit

at
Austin Children's Museum
201 Colorado
Austin, Texas 78701

Open House
Saturday, December 1, 2007
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Special Ribbon Cutting at 11:00 a.m.

Refreshments, crafts and entertainment provided

Please R.S.V.P.
888- 441-2009
by 11/30/07 to waive admission