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Westside Pavilion Launches the National Heart Gallery Photo Exhibit to Help Los Angeles Foster Children Find Permanent Families

Tomorrow, on March 14th, 10 area foster children from the ages 6 to 17 years old will be getting the star treatment and pampered by stylists for a photo shoot with Joseph Cultice at Westside Pavilion.

Celebrity photographer, Joseph Cultice, has photographed stars like Tyra Banks, William H. Macy and Will i. am. Wednesday he'll be photographing 10 new stars, the foster kids of LA's Heart Gallery. Launching in Los Angeles, Heart Gallery is a national photo exhibition where volunteer celebrity and award-winning photographers capture the heart and spirit of foster kids hoping to find a loving family.

Their photos will be 10 of 50 on display to help foster kids find forever families.

There are 17,000 foster children living in Los Angeles. The older they get the less chance they have of getting adopted.

Local parents Michael Troynel and Jason Cook adopted seven foster children, Heart Gallery has proven successful in helping these kids get adopted. Brothers Richard (10) Jesse (8) Ryan (6) and Jacob (5) are keeping hope alive that Heart Gallery will help them find a "forever home" and family who will take in all four of them.

Photographer Joseph Cuotice will help L.A. foster children put their best face forward to find a family.

Los Angeles will be honoring its true stars—foster children—helping find forever homes for some of 17,000 foster children living in Los Angeles. At Westside Pavilion shopping center, red carpet treatment will be given to 10 Los Angeles foster children ranging from 5- to 17- years old.

These children will be shopping and experiencing "hair" and "make-up" all to prepare for their professional photo shoot. This experience is part of Heart Gallery, a national exhibit where 50 of some of the hardest-to-place foster children are shared through portraits, with a goal to educate and encourage families to adopt.

The City of Los Angeles will declare March 14, 2012, Heart Gallery Los Angeles Day.

Created by the National Heart Gallery Exhibit, volunteer celebrity and award-winning photographers capture the heart and spirit of foster kids hoping to find a loving family.

This national traveling exhibit powerfully brings into sharp focus the pressing needs faced by the growing population of foster children.

The National Heart Gallery Exhibit, with support from HSBC and Casey Family Programs is partnering with the County Department of Children and Family Services, to assist efforts with parent recruitment for children who are desperately in need of permanent families.

Wednesday, March 14, 10 a.m.

11 a.m. Event Begins

Westside Pavilion, 10800 W Pico, Space 136 near Nordstrom Espresso Bar Intersection of Pico & Westwood Blvds

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