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21



HAPPILY EVER AFTER: Vicky, Vanessa, and Jannae in the photo that touched the Somervilles.

This Tuesday, the sober Capitol Hill portraits of John Adams and Abraham Lincoln will be joined by far younger, sweeter company—photos of 50 foster children from 43 states. These candid portraits are a 10th anniversary exhibit from the Heart Gallery, a nationwide network of groups that enlist professionals to take spirited photographs of foster kids in hopes of finding adoptive homes for them.

"When people look into the eyes of one of these children," says Matthew

Straeb, president of the Florida Association of Heart Galleries, "we hope they think, 'She could be my daughter,' or, 'He could be my son.'" Diane Granito, who founded the country's first Heart Gallery, credits a [2005 PARADE article](#) with boosting awareness: "It was our big break, and we were able to go national." To date, thanks to exhibits held in places like airports, malls, and libraries, some 5,000 permanent adoptions have occurred.

Among the stories featured in *PARADE* was that of sisters Vanessa, Jannae, and Vicky, who found parents in Drew and Melinda Somerville. When the couple—who already had six biological children—went to a Heart Gallery exhibit in Santa Fe, N.M., they were instantly captivated by a photo of the three young girls dressed as fairy-princesses. "Something about them spoke to us," Melinda recalls. "They needed us." The Somervilles met the sisters that day, the girls moved in six months later, and six months after that, they were legally adopted.

Today, Vanessa, now 15, is a freshman in high school; Jannae, 18, has started college; and Vicky, 19, is in a special-ed program. Jannae knows just how lucky they are. "If we hadn't been adopted, my sisters and I would probably have been split up," she says. "That would have broken my heart."