

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **PHILADELPHIA HEART GALLERY'S FOURTH ANNUAL EXHIBIT AT PLEASE TOUCH MUSEUM**

**Touching portraits of local foster children promote adoption awareness.**

**PHILADELPHIA, PA** – Heart Gallery Philadelphia will host its Fourth Annual Gala exhibit Saturday, June 20th, 6 to 9 p.m. at the new Please Touch Museum located at 4231 Avenue of the Republic, Philadelphia, PA 19131. The exhibit, which will be on display at Please Touch Museum through the month of July, features compelling portraits of 30 foster children who are awaiting adoption in Philadelphia.

The Heart Gallery showcases stirring images of children-in-waiting taken by professional photographers who have volunteered their time and talent to the project. The exhibit serves to not only highlight the need for adoptive families but also gives a face and a voice to the many foster children in our community looking for their "forever family." "Our hope is that loving, prospective parents will be moved to make room in their hearts and their homes for these incredible children," adds Terry Hirst, one of the founders of Heart Gallery Philadelphia.

The exhibit at Please Touch Museum, presented collaboratively by Heart Gallery Philadelphia and Philadelphia Department of Human Services, marks the fourth year of the Heart Gallery Philadelphia. Since opening in 2005, 30 children have been matched with an adoptive family. For more information about the Heart Gallery Philadelphia, go to [www.heartgalleryphiladelphia.org](http://www.heartgalleryphiladelphia.org). If anyone is interested in showcasing the Heart Gallery exhibit, please contact Terry Hirst at 610-789-3553.

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### **ABOUT PLEASE TOUCH MUSEUM**

Please Touch Museum® at Memorial Hall, Fairmount Park, located at 4231 Avenue of the Republic, Philadelphia, PA 19131, is the children's museum of Philadelphia and is dedicated to enriching the lives of children by providing learning opportunities through play. Please Touch features six interactive exhibit zones and a restored 1908 carousel, along with daily activities and theater performances. Please Touch is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Sundays 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission is \$15 for adults, children age one and over and children under one are free. For more information, please call 215-581-3181, or visit [www.pleasetouchmuseum.org](http://www.pleasetouchmuseum.org).

### **ABOUT PHILADELPHIA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

The Philadelphia Department of Human Services is the City agency charged with protecting children from abuse, neglect, and delinquency; ensuring their safety and permanency in nurturing home environments; and strengthening and preserving families by enhancing community-based prevention services. In partnership with community organizations, DHS provides services to strengthen the overall well being of Philadelphia children, youth, and families using a customer focused approach that is responsive to evolving community needs. The City of Philadelphia and the Department of Human Services do not discriminate, or permit discrimination against people because of race, color, religion, age, marital status, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or ancestry.

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