

WISHES

MARKESHA'S WISH

ALL DRESSED UP...AND OFF TO THE 2004 BILLBOARD MUSIC AWARDS!!!

Yearning for glamour, celebrity sightings, and excitement, 13-year-old Markesha wished to attend the 2004 Billboard Music Awards. Together with the assistance of the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of America and Wish Sponsor MasterCard International, the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Metro St. Louis worked hard on making Markesha's fondest wish a reality.

Everything was done to make Markesha's experience extraordinary, including helping secure military leave for her brother Ricky, so he could share this special experience with her. Markesha, her mom, grandmother and brother were picked up by limousine, taken to the airport, and flown to Las Vegas, where her wish awaited. The awards ceremony took place at the MGM Garden Grand Arena and was broadcast on Fox. Decked out in a beautiful pink dress, Markesha walked the red carpet. She looked so much "the part," the press actually thought she was a celebrity!

Her "superstar" status allowed her the chance to "hob knob" with her favorite musicians and other pop idols. She had pictures taken with many celebrities including local rapper Nelly, and 2004 Billboard Music Award winner Fantasia. It was an experience everyone involved will revisit for many years to come.

HUNTER'S WISH

A POLICE HELICOPTER DELIVERED MY WISH!

Four-year-old Hunter wished to go to Walt Disney World® Resorts. Committed to making Hunter's wish joyous and memorable, Make-A-Wish® Wish Granters arranged for special gifts to be couriered to Hunter every week for the month prior to his departure.

Knowing of Hunter's growing fascination with helicopters, Wish Granters invited the St. Louis County Police Air Support Operations to deliver Hunter's send-off package – via helicopter! As the helicopter circled near Hunter's home and Hunter was brought outside,

the excitement on his face was priceless. The pilot presented Hunter with a bag of Disney goodies and then enhanced his experience even more by having Hunter sit in the helicopter, put on his helmet, and even place a call over the speaker. Everyone present that day witnessed Hunter's true delight – and enjoyed the immeasurable joy of a wish come true.

SARAH'S WISH

THAT'S SOME PIANO!

Two years ago, Wish Teen Sarah was diagnosed with kidney failure. She was told she would have to endure dialysis treatments three days per week, four hours per treatment. Because of her sickness, Sarah was forced to drop out of sports and missed many social events with her friends. The only activity that she was able to continue and brought her happiness was playing the piano.

"The piano I had before had chipped keys that cut my hands when I played," says Sarah.

So it wasn't hard for Sarah to decide on a Yamaha Disklavier Grand Piano for her wish request. The Make-A-Wish Foundation® partnered with Yamaha Cares to grant Sarah's wish. Sarah not only received this beautifully constructed piano but Yamaha Piano Division representative George Litterst made a special trip to Sarah's house for a day-long piano lesson, presenting her with a special surprise on top of everything else - an autographed CD of Grammy® Award-winning musician Elton John.

Sarah was thrilled about her new piano and all its exciting features. She immediately began thinking of ways she could brighten others lives with her new gift. "I could record my students when they start taking lessons, and after a couple of months, I could put in the diskette of when they were beginners, and they would be able to really see how much they had improved. I think this would be a great way to give them confidence that they were learning," says Sarah.

Today, Sarah enjoys sharing her talents with others with her amazing wish come true.

FACT SHEET

The Make-A-Wish Foundation® is a non-profit organization that grants wishes to children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. We have 75 chapters in the U.S and 27 international affiliates. Over 143,000 wishes have been granted.

The Foundation was founded in 1980 in Phoenix, Arizona. A small group of people helped a very ill little boy named Chris achieve his wish – to be a state trooper for a day. Now, over 25,000 volunteers help make thousands of wishes come true each year.

The first local wish was granted in 1986; the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Metro St. Louis received chapter status in 1990. We serve 48 counties in eastern Missouri and southern Illinois and have granted over 1,700 wishes to local children.

Wishes fall into four categories. I wish to go ... I wish to meet ... I wish to have ... and I wish to be ... The most popular wish is for a trip to Disney World. Other popular wishes include shopping sprees, computers and trips to Hawaii.

To the degree possible, the Foundation encourages family members to be a part of the wish experience, knowing that parents and siblings, like the wish child, need a respite from the stress of the illness at hand.

Throughout the year, our chapter provides Wish Children and their families with Special Moments. These are moments in addition to children's wishes that complement the organization's mission and help our youngsters "remember to be kids again."

The average cash and in-kind cost of a wish for our chapter is \$6,500. The FY2004 expense budget is \$1,618,163.

Dedicated to the chapter philosophy to be an organization that is in the community, for the community and through the community, funds raised in our area remain in our community to grant wishes to local children.

In the past four years, the Metro St. Louis chapter has granted on average 186 wishes annually. We are one of only a handful of chapters that has its own wish home. In addition, our chapter has a Program Center in Collinsville, Ill.

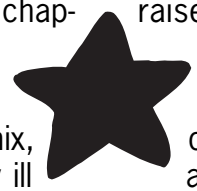
The Foundation has a variety of donor programs including Sponsor of all Seasons, Adopt-A-Wish®, Community Campaigns, Kids for Wish Kids®, planned giving and a full events menu.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation relies heavily on its volunteers. Chapter-wide, our corps is 450 strong and always looking for new members to join its rank.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation does not engage in residential telemarketing or door-to-door solicitations.

To qualify for a wish, children and/or their parents, guardians, or associated medical professionals, can make a wish referral by contacting our offices. The life-threatening nature of the child's illness/condition must be confirmed by the child's doctor before a wish can be granted. Children may qualify for a wish between the ages of 2 1/2 to 18.

For more information or to learn more about the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Metro St. Louis, call or write us. Contact information may be found on the next page.



OFFICES/SERVICE AREA

HEADQUARTERS

Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Metro St. Louis

1324 N. Rock Hill Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63124
Phone (314) 918-WISH (9474)
(800) 548-5058
Fax (314) 918-8690
Email info@stlouis.wish.org
Web site: www.stlouis.wish.org

Southern Illinois Program Center

100 E. Clay Street, Ste. 201
Collinsville, IL 62234
Phone (618) 343-9682
(800) 548-5058
Fax (618) 345-7266
Email info@stlouis.wish.org
Web site www.stlouis.wish.org

The Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Metro St. Louis serves 48 counties in southern Illinois and eastern Missouri.

Counties that are served by our chapter include:

Eastern Missouri (16)

Clark	Montgomery	St. Genevieve
Franklin	Pike	St. Louis County
Jefferson	Rolla	Washington
Lewis	St. Charles	Warren Counties
Lincoln	St. Francois	Independent City of St. Louis
Marion		

Southern Illinois (32)

Alexander	Hamilton	Marion	Saline
Bond	Hardin	Massac	St. Clair
Calhoun	Jackson	Monroe	Union
Clay	Jefferson	Perry	Wabash
Clinton	Jersey	Pope	Wayne
Edwards	Johnson	Pulaski	White
Franklin	Lawrence	Randolph	Washington
Gallatin	Madison	Richland	Williamson

WISHES

Number of Wishes Granted Locally: 1,700+

Types of Wishes

Disney Resorts	Gifts/Shopping Sprees
Computers	Other Travel
Celebrity Meetings	Swimming Pools
Entertainment Centers	Chapter figures are based on FY2004.

DO'S AND DON'TS

DO

We fulfill the wishes of medically-qualified children.

We begin the wish process as soon as a Wish Referral is made.

We remember and remain sensitive to the fact that each member of the family is impacted by a Wish Child's illness and include the family in the wish experience.

Both before and after a Wish experience, we invite Wish Children and their families to participate in Special Moments, events that are in addition to a child's wish and which complement our mission of enriching the human experience with hope, strength and joy.

Funds raised in the community stay in the community to make wishes come true for local children.

DON'TS

The children that we serve have life-threatening illnesses or conditions. We do not use the words "dying" or "terminal." Our wishes are about bringing hope, strength and joy to our Wish Children, inspiring recovery of emotional, spiritual and sometimes physical health.

We do not solicit residential homes through use of telemarketers and/or door-to-door solicitations. In addition, we do not solicit gifts via the internet.

Suspicious Fundraising Activities

We encourage the community to call us to verify the legitimacy of any fundraising event and/or solicitor.

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteers are an integral part of fulfilling wishes. Whether you choose to get involved as a Wish Granter, a speaker, office volunteer, etc., your time and energy can help mend broken hearts and heal broken spirits.

OPPORTUNITIES

Wish Granters

With each wish, two volunteers are assigned as a "Wish team." Wish Granters meet with the family, determine the true wish of the child, and act as a liaison to the Foundation staff during the wish process. It is especially important that our chapter secure Wish Granters in each of its 48 counties.

Speakers – Share the Make-A-Wish® Story

Make-A-Wish receives a tremendous amount of requests each year for speakers. Because those making the requests have diverse needs, presentations may be anywhere from five minutes to one hour in length and be given to school groups, corporations, community groups, etc. It's a great way to *Share the Power of a Wish®*.

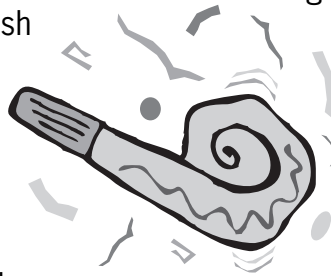
Office Support

Make-A-Wish relies heavily on its office support volunteers. From mailings to special projects, there is a place and need for your help.

Special Events Assists

Special Events fall into two categories at Make-A-Wish: events for our Wish Children, called *Special Moments*, and events to raise funds for wishes.

For our Wish Children, we host *Special Moments*, events that complement our mission of enriching the human experience with hope, strength and joy. *Special Moments* provide an opportunity for Wish Kids to come together and remember to "be kids"



again. From year to year, *Special Moments* may include Carnival of Wishes, an end-of-year Holiday Party, hospital parties, or special outings. Volunteers are needed to plan, coordinate and implement many of these events.

Our chapter locally coordinates several fundraisers each year including a Missouri Golf Classic, a southern Illinois Golf Tournament, and a dinner auction. In addition, community members host fundraisers donating proceeds to the Foundation. Volunteers are needed for a variety of purposes. From soliciting auction items to helping the day of the event, you can help us meet our goals.

VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

- Volunteers are an integral part of fulfilling wishes. Volunteers must agree to abide by the policies and procedures of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Metro St. Louis.
- Wish volunteers must be 21 years of age or older.
- Volunteers must complete an application and obtain the appropriate state criminal history background check. Forms are provided by the Foundation. A minimal charge for the background check is requested.
- New volunteers must attend a one-on-one interview and an orientation with the Volunteer Coordinator.
- Those wishing to volunteer as Wish Granters must volunteer in other areas for a minimum of three months and are required to attend additional training.
- Speakers are required to attend a Speakers' Bureau training, with some exceptions due to experience.

To volunteer, please call (800) 548-5058.

CONTRIBUTIONS

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Consider making a financial contribution to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Metro St. Louis. Call (800) 548-5058. An overview of fund raising efforts include:

Adopt-A-Wish®

You can play an integral part in the life of a Wish Child and his/her family by adopting a wish. Typical wish adoptions range between \$2,500-\$5,000.

Stories of Light®

Involve yourself in the best thing going in town ... the Make-A-Wish Stories of Light® Campaign. Whether you are a business owner willing to sponsor campaign PSAs or an individual with a little "I'm so grateful for the health of my children" cash in your pocket, every contribution goes towards helping wishes come true. The campaign runs from September 1 - January 1 and a separate summer campaign also takes place.

Sponsorship Events & Sponsors for All Seasons

Each year, the Metro St. Louis Chapter hosts its own fundraisers including a Missouri Golf Tournament, a southern Illinois Golf Tournament and a Wish Gala. Consider recruiting your corporation, business, or organization to sponsor an event or purchase a table and/or attend the event and show your support.

Want to make a triply rich commitment to the Make-A-Wish Foundation while maximizing your giving dollars? Consider becoming a Sponsor for All Seasons by participating in 3-4 activities at the sponsorship level. Extensive recognition, along with a cost break, is provided.

External Fundraising Events

From hosting bowl-a-thons to car washes, and nearly everything in between, the outside community sets forth its commitment to our Wish children by raising funds to grant their fondest dreams. They coordinate all efforts and graciously award the Foundation with a check to ensure wishes come true.

Wish Mobile

Thinking about getting a new vehicle? Consider donating your old car/van/truck/boat to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. With the monies earned from auction proceeds, several wishes come true.

Kids for Wish Kids® and Wishmaker®s on Campus

These programs are geared to increase the sensitivity and understanding of school-aged students to our Wish Children while establishing an early interest in philanthropy and voluntarism. Kids for Wish Kids® is geared to children from pre-school years through high school. A program for college students, Wishmaker®s on Campus, is also available.

Tributes & Memorial Gifts

A donation to the Make-A-Wish Foundation is the perfect way to commemorate birthdays or anniversaries, celebrate births or remember a recently deceased friend or relative. Written acknowledgment will be sent to the designated party for gifts of \$10 or more.

Matching Gifts

Hundreds of companies provide matching gifts on behalf of their employees. To see if yours is one of them, we encourage you to call your human resource department.

Combined Federal Campaign

Federal government employees are encouraged to contribute through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). Look for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Metro St. Louis in your booklet or call the Make-A-Wish offices for the designation code.

Planned Giving

Remembering the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Metro St. Louis in your will is a way that you can help make wishes to local children keep coming true. Contact us at 800-548-5058 for more information.

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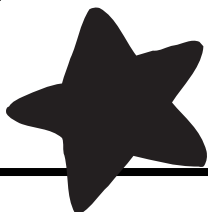
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