

# Calendar of Events

# Stories of Light

Fall/Winter 2008

**Saturday, October 25, 2008**  
**A Touch of Italy - Merced**

This special night of cocktails, gourmet cuisine, silent & live auctions and live music by John Cardenas as "Frankie" will take place at St. Patrick's Hall in Merced. For more information, call Pam Duarte at 209.358.2505.

**Friday, January 30, 2009**  
**7th Annual Gala of Wishes – Fresno**  
**Stars Over the Serengeti**

Guests will be transported to the plains of the Serengeti, strolling among exotic African animals and listening to the beat of native drummers while enjoying cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. This special evening will also include dinner, dancing, live and silent auctions, including celebrity and sports memorabilia. For more information, ticket purchases or sponsorship opportunities, please call 559-221-WISH (9474).



**Saturday, February 7, 2009**  
**Evening of Wishes – Bakersfield**

This exciting evening at The Petroleum Club will give guests red carpet treatment. The night will include cocktails, dinner and a performance by the unforgettable Wayne Foster Entertainment. For more information contact Angene Grigg at 661.834.7929.

**Sunday, November 9, 2008**  
**Eye-Q Two Cities Marathon & Half Marathon – Fresno/Clovis**

Make-A-Wish is encouraging our supporters and affiliate organizations to get out their running shoes for a great cause! Each registrant at the inaugural Two Cities Marathon has the opportunity to make a donation to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. With any donation of \$10 or more, participants will receive a pair of shoelaces! For race information, including registration, please go to [runfresno.com](http://runfresno.com). For information on how to get involved in putting together a team for your company, email Jill Aiello at [jill@jpmktg.com](mailto:jill@jpmktg.com).



**Thursday, September 25, 2008**  
**World's Largest Ice Cream Social – 5-8 PM**

Share the power of a wish® and get some ice cream too! Mark your calendars now for the Sixth Annual World's Largest Ice Cream Social! The much-anticipated event will be held at all Cold Stone Creamery locations across the country on Thursday, Sept. 25. There's sure to be a Cold Stone near you! Visit [www.coldstonecreamery.com](http://www.coldstonecreamery.com) for a complete list of locations.



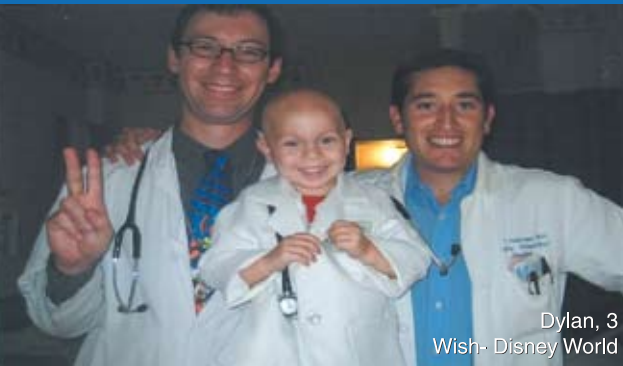
Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Central California  
 83 E. Shaw Ave, Suite 202  
 Fresno, CA 93710

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We grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength, and joy.



Dylan, 3  
 Wish - Disney World

800.831.WISH (9474)  
 559.221.WISH (9474)  
[centralca.wish.org](http://centralca.wish.org)



**Walker, Age 11**  
 Wish - To Meet the New York Yankees

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## Message from the Executive Director

After almost three years as the Executive Director of the Central California Chapter, I have witnessed the dramatic impact of a child's wish being fulfilled. While we can't give them what they need most, a cure, we can give them something they have always wanted – whether it is a trip to a theme park, a room makeover or to meet a favorite celebrity. The wish experience gives these children with life-threatening diseases, the chance to view the world as a kid again. Most importantly, it provides the whole family a much needed break from hospitals, doctors and treatments, and from their precious child's fight in a grown-up battle. Make-A-Wish truly is a different kind of medicine.

We believe the work of the Make-A-Wish Foundation will not be complete until every medically-qualified child has the opportunity to have his or her fondest wish granted. In 2007, we granted 71 wishes for our amazing wish children, but the number of children wishing and waiting is growing. Without the compassionate and caring support of donors and volunteers, fulfilling these wishes would be impossible.

Please remember that every dollar raised in the Central Valley stays in the Central Valley, which means local dollars are helping to fund wishes for local children.

We are excited to embark on a new campaign for the coming holiday season – Stories of Light- which is also our newsletter's namesake. Stories of Light will share the inspirational stories of our wish children, as well as create an opportunity for all members of the community to help fund a child's wish. I ask that you continue to support our efforts in helping to bring hope, strength and joy to these amazing and brave boys and girls. You can make a dramatic difference in the lives of these children and share the power of a wish®.

Best Wishes,

*Diana Rambo*

Executive Director  
Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Central California



## Stories of Light Presented by Eye-Q

**EYE-Q**  
cares

This 2008 holiday season, Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Central California will inaugurate the annual Stories of Light campaign, which we hope will enable us to grant twenty more wishes for Central Valley wish children that are wishing and waiting.

The campaign will commence in mid-November and will run through early December, culminating with a 36 hour radio wish-a-thon on Peak Broadcasting stations. Over the course of the campaign we will share the inspirational stories of wish children, their parents, doctors, clinical social workers, volunteers and sponsors who have experienced the magic, joy and impact of a wish.

The Tower, located in the heart of Fresno's Palm Bluffs, will be the Stories of Light visual symbol and will directly reflect the progress of the campaign. The Tower will be decorated with star-shaped lights and will be lit incrementally as certain dollar thresholds are met and will remain lit throughout the holiday season. Individuals and companies throughout the Valley will be able to donate to this wonderful campaign by telephone, online, at participating Citibank® branches from Bakersfield to Merced or at Eye-Q Vision Care.

We encourage you to join us in lighting the tower, granting wishes and lighting up children's lives.

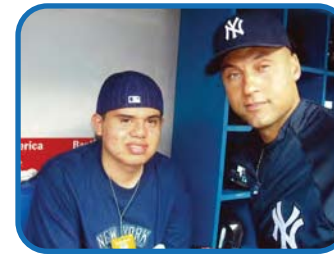


## Remembrances

We are deeply saddened to learn of the loss of the following wish children. We are grateful to have come into their lives for a short time, and together with their families, we honor their memory.



## Wishes In Action



Omar, Age 16  
New York Yankees



Walker, Age 8  
Golf in Hawaii



Audrey, Age 8  
Disney World



Jennifer, Age 5  
Disneyland



Isaac, Age 9  
Disney World

## Foundation Facts

- ★ **Our Mission:** We grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.
- ★ **Our Beginnings:** What began as a single wish from an office in Hanford in 1986 has evolved into twenty-two years of magical wish experiences for over 1,100 amazing children. The devotion and generosity of our wish granters and financial partners has afforded us the opportunity to provide these seriously ill children with a joyous and hopeful break from the constant hospital visits and treatments. The Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Central California serves eight counties including Fresno, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced and Tulare.
- ★ **Our Goal:** The children we serve are all too familiar with doctors and hospitals. But caring for these children involves much more than medical treatment. Our goal is to be a unique part of the treatment process. With doctors providing the medicine, and the Make-A-Wish Foundation® supplying the joy and magic, we strive to create miracles in the lives of some very special children.
- ★ **Our Funding:** The Foundation relies on in-kind gifts and services, financial contributions from individuals, corporations, clubs and other groups, special events, and vehicle donations. The average cash cost of one wish is approximately \$5,000-\$6,000. Every donation, whether large or small, contributes to making children's dreams come true. While the Foundation follows the policies and guidelines of the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of America, it operates as a separate 501(c)(3) organization. All funds raised by the Foundation are used to fulfill our mission in the eight counties we serve.
- ★ **Our Wish:** Our wish is that each year we will be able to grant a heartfelt wish to every child in Central California diagnosed with a life-threatening medical condition. Your continued support is the only way to ensure we can create future smiles on the faces of all our wish children.

## Ways To Give

### Giving Miles, Making Smiles



By donating your frequent flyer miles, you can send local children on the wish of a lifetime. Each year we need upward of 12 million miles to send wish kids and their families on a vacation from their illness. Your help can save us more than \$100,000 in airline tickets which we can use to grant more wishes. To donate frequent flyer miles, visit [centralca.wish.org](http://centralca.wish.org) or call 559.221.WISH (9474).

### Calling All Cars

Donating your car is an easy way for you to support the Foundation. Please call 866-470-WISH to make arrangements.



## Wishes Granted March through August 2008

*I wish to go...*

### To Disney World

Truman S., 4, Merced  
Dylan F., 4, Bakersfield  
Audrey H., 8, Fresno  
Isaac H., 9, Coarsegold  
Isaiah M., 10, Porterville  
Amanda W., 13, Fresno  
Mitchel V., 17, Fresno

### Golfing in Hawaii

Walker F., 11, Bakersfield  
Phillip G., 17, Merced

### To Swim with the Dolphins

Natalia V., 6, Fresno

### To Disneyland

Ashley B., 4, Fresno  
Brooklyn M., 5, Bakersfield  
Carlos M., 7, Bakersfield  
Chris S., 10, Tulare  
Graciela M., 10, Strathmore  
Jasmine M., 10, Visalia  
Guadalupe G., 11, Bakersfield  
Araceli D., 14, Shafter

### To San Diego

Megan M., 13, Fresno  
Sabrina S., 17, Bakersfield

### On a Disney Cruise

Ruth M., 9, Bakersfield  
Chase B., 11, Visalia  
Jonathan C., 17, Bakersfield

*I wish to be...*

### A Model for a Day

Devon H., 18, Bakersfield

*I wish to meet...*

### The New York Yankees

Omar M., 16, Bakersfield

### The Disney Princesses

Savannah R., 4, Bakersfield

### Rey Mysterio

Juan A., 11, Fresno

*I wish to have a...*

### Laptop Computer

Marquelle A., 15, Bakersfield  
Brenda V., 16, Bakersfield  
Kayla S., 17, Fresno  
Jackaline M., 17, Bakersfield  
Jose H., 17, Bakersfield

### Shopping Spree

Rebecca H., 12, Visalia  
Azucena B., 13, Bakersfield  
Jose L., 16, Bakersfield  
Marisol M., 17, Shafter

### Room Makeover

Maliyah M., 6, Fresno

### Birthday Party

Eric S., 3, Wasco