Heart Gallery Bulletin

July - September 2025



A note from The Heart Gallery:

This summer, the Heart Gallery stayed busy spreading awareness and building connections in our community! From cheering at Tampa Bay Rays games to sharing resources at the Angels Against Abuse Expo and learning alongside others at the DCF Summit, we were grateful for every opportunity to highlight children in need of adoption. We were proud to support FSS as they hosted "Pop In for Permanency" events and an adoption recruitment afternoon at the Dunedin Fine Art Center. Behind the scenes, our team worked hard to update galleries and continue growing our reach — all to help more children find their forever families.

A BIG SHOUT OUT to the Dunedin Fine Art Center for hosting and assisting with the adoption recruitment event! We had so much fun partnering with their team.

Did you know... that 16 is currently the most common age of children featured on the Heart Gallery of Pinellas and Pasco? Older teens, just like younger children, need guidance, love, and support — many are still waiting to find the stability of a forever home.

Did hear the **BIG NEWS...** First Presbyterian Church of Dunedin will be hosting a "Stuff a Stocking" event to provide presents for Heart Gallery children this holiday season! We are so thankful for their continued support.

Facts & Figures

The difference your support makes...

Heart Gallery Adoptions: 495

Total number of pending adoptions: 54

Do you have room in your heart & home for a child in need of a forever family?

THANK YOU
TO OUR
SUPPORTERS!





Stay in touch:



Heart Gallery of Pinellas & Pasco



@heartgallery_pinellaspasco



heartgallerykids@gcjfcs.org



HEART GALLERY UPCOMING EVENTS





SAT 10/11

FSS Foster Parent Education Day

- 10:00am-1:00pm
- Old McMicky's Farm, Odessa FL
- Learn how to become a foster parent and what all is involved in the journey!



TUES 10/14

Virtual Heart Gallery Advisory Council Meeting

- 6:00pm-7:00pm
- Volunteers needed! Want to make a difference in a child's life behind the scenes? We need you! Email heartgallerykids@gcjfcs.org for the meeting link.



MONTH OF NOV

National Adoption Month

 November is National Adoption Month, a time to celebrate adoptive families and, through the Heart Gallery, bring awareness to the children and teens still waiting for their forever homes.



FRI 11/7

Pasco's National Adoption Day Event

• The Heart Gallery will proudly stand alongside community partners to celebrate the official adoption of multiple children in Pasco County. We can't wait!



SAT 11/8

Cheap Cheeps

- 5:00pm-8:00pm
- A Heart Gallery child's artwork will be on display for the Morean Arts Center's Cheap Cheep Cheeps exhibit. Stop by to support this budding artist!



HEART GALLERY UPCOMING EVENTS





Pinellas' National Adoption Day Event

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Virtual Heart Gallery Advisory Council Meeting

- 6:00pm-7:00pm
- Volunteers Needed! Want to make a difference in a child's life behind the scenes? We need you! Email heartgallerykids@gcjfcs.org for the meeting link.



TUES 12/9

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SAT 12/13

Downtown Dunedin Holiday Parade

- 3:30pm-9:00pm
- The holiday parade is bringing festive floats, music, and community cheer to downtown Dunedin! The Heart Gallery will be there, and we'd love for you to join us in the festivities.



HEART GALLERY SHINING STARS





Elijah proudly displaying his latest masterpiece

Elijah

LSF- 106902252

Elijah is a bright and imaginative 10-yearold who loves creating stories and
bringing them to life through his own
illustrations. One of his favorite characters,
"Octo-Man," is featured in the drawing
pictured here — a glimpse into his passion
for writing and art. Elijah also joined us at
the September adoption recruitment
event, where his creativity and kind heart
shined. He dreams of a big, loving family
and the chance to keep exploring his
many talents.

Vyolette pictured with Florida CraftArt CEO, Jorge, at a recent Heart Art session



Shoutout to Vyolette, Youth Programming Coordinator for Florida CraftArt!

Vyolette plays a key role in our monthly Heart Art sessions, sharing her incredible artistic talent, creativity, and kindness with the children we serve. Her encouragement and dedication make these sessions truly special, and we are so grateful for all she does to support our mission.

WANT TO SUPPORT THE HEART GALLERY BUT DON'T KNOW HOW?

- <u>Host or connect us with a host</u> for a gathering that celebrates how the Heart Gallery of Pinellas and Pasco helps make adoption from foster care possible.
- <u>Give or rally support</u> to raise \$1,000 toward our Bear Hugs Adoption Month fundraising goal, helping us recruit loving families for children waiting in foster care
- <u>Engage with us</u> online by liking, commenting on, and sharing the Heart Gallery of Pinellas and Pasco's social media posts.