



DONALD J. CORBETT ADOPTION AGENCY

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“Home, Heart & Harmony”: National Adoption Month Gala for Children Awaiting Parents

Rochester, NY—The November and December holidays can be the most difficult time of the year for children in foster care. With the holiday’s emphasis on family, but without a “forever family” of their own, many of these children find that time of year particularly challenging.

Children Awaiting Parents’ (CAP) gala, **“Home, Heart & Harmony: A Forever Home for the Holidays”** is the non-profit’s most critical fundraiser of the year. Starting at 6 pm on **Saturday, November 30**, the Lilac Ballroom at the **Joseph A. Floreano** Rochester Riverside Convention Center will be transformed into a jazz club, emceed by media personality **Joe Lomonaco**, iHeart Media, NewsRadio WHAM 1180.

Attendees can gather at more intimately sized tables of their choosing, listen to musicians **Gap Manigione** and the **Jimmie Highsmith, Jr. band**, enjoy a variety of food at numerous **grazing stations**, a **cash bar**, a **silent auction**, **raffles**—including a trip for four to **Killarney, Ireland—a wine pull**, and more.

Held during **National Adoption Month**, the gala’s purpose is multi-fold, says CAP Executive Director Lauri McKnight. “In addition to our guests having a marvelous time, this is an opportunity to call attention to the children and youth waiting the longest in foster care, while we garner support for our work to assist families throughout the adoption process, and provide programs and services that recruit, train, and support foster and adoptive parents.

McKnight points out that more than 60% of children in foster care spend two to five years in the system before being adopted, and nearly 20% spend five or more years before being adopted. “Unfortunately,” she adds, “some ‘age out’ without ever having a forever family. We are working hard to change those statistics.”

Tickets are \$125 each. To purchase tickets or become a sponsor, visit: childrenawaitingparents.org.

CALENDAR:

What: “Home, Heart & Harmony: A Forever Home for the Holidays” Children Awaiting Parents’ gala

When: Saturday, November 30, 6 pm

Where: **Joseph A. Floreano** Rochester Riverside Convention Center, Rochester, NY 14604

Tickets: www.childrenawaitingparents.org

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