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## RECIPE FOR A TASTY WISH



Nine-year-old **Miya's** wish trip to New York City to meet Emeril Lagasse had all the ingredients to whip up a tasty experience. A cup of love, a pinch of imagination, a dash of the royal treatment and a spoonful of smiles made for a flavorful treat.

Miya wished to meet Emeril because she can't get enough of his vibrant personality. When she's not in school, she's watching one of his cooking shows because "he makes cooking fun." Miya said it did not matter where she would meet the celebrity chef. When she found out her big moment would take place on the set of "The Martha Stewart Show," it was just icing on the cake because she is also a huge fan of Martha Stewart.

On the New York City set, Miya sat anxiously in a private room watching the show's rehearsal on a television monitor. Instead of clamming up, she lit up as Emeril walked into the room. He asked, "What do I always say?" and Miya responded exuberantly, "Bam! Yeah baby!" She was overjoyed that Emeril spent time with her, his biggest fan, chatting and posing for pictures.

Miya was psyched to have a front row seat to watch the show's taping. Emeril chatted with her during each commercial break. After his segment, he and Martha acknowledged Miya's presence and the camera panned to the audience, focusing on her beaming face. Both Emeril and Martha stopped by to say goodbye after the taping. Miya was enchanted!

She returned home with several gifts from both Emeril Lagasse and Martha Stewart. She also proudly wears the "Emeril's Assistant" chef hat that her father gave to her. Miya often asks her mother when she can see Emeril again. Her mother said, "Miya loved every minute. I can't even describe what it meant to her!"

*Wish Granters: Beth Stebel & Pamela K. Syx*

*Referred by: her mother*

*Wish adopted in honor of Shareef Malnik*



The Make-A-Wish Foundation grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.

**Visit us on the web at [www.sfla.wish.org](http://www.sfla.wish.org)**

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Smugglers' Notch in Vermont was the idyllic setting for 6-year-old **Paul's** wish trip to see snow for the first time. He and his family stayed in a beautiful mountainside condo equipped with a jacuzzi tub, fireplace and balcony. Paul enjoyed nighttime tube sledding, a sleigh ride, making snow angels and visits to the Vermont Teddy Bear Factory and the Ben and Jerry's Factory. As he and his family woke up on the last day of the trip, they were treated to falling snowflakes that seemed to follow them everywhere they went. The highlight for Paul was hitting the slopes after some ski lessons. His mother said, "He skied so effortlessly, so happy, so free of any thoughts of hospitals, needles or treatments."

*Wish Granters: Tanju Comert & Sheilagh Mylott*

*Referred by: his mother*

*Wish adopted by: Lorber Charitable Fund*



"The quinceañera of my dreams" - that's what **Ashley** wished for. She visualized a huge event with lots of pink, butterflies and flowers, and a dance floor big enough so that everyone can enjoy it. Ashley's big day included everything she imagined and more - a limo, a gorgeous gown, a professional hair and makeup session, a glamorous photo shoot, a choreographed dance routine, favors and a catered party at the Reception Palace. She celebrated her 15th birthday like a movie star!

*Wish Granters: Yenisse Alonso & Priscilla Ferreira*

*Referred by: her mother*

*Wish adopted by: Trafalgar Capital Advisors, Inc.*

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“I wish to be a rock star!” For 14-year-old **Keyanna**, who suffers from Dandy-Walker Syndrome, a congenital brain malformation, the chance to sing and dance in front of an audience like Miley Cyrus was something she often imagined. Her wish was granted in true rock star fashion with fancy

hotel accommodations, limo rides, professional styling and a photo shoot. Keyanna traded in her fake microphone for a real one as she performed on stage in front of dozens of cheering fans, many of whom later wanted the singing sensation’s autograph!

*Wish Granter: Connie Martin*  
*Referred by: Children’s Medical Services*  
*Wish adopted by: T.G.I.Friday’s*



Hawaii was the one place in the world that 9-year-old **J'Khari** always wanted to visit but never thought he would. He enjoyed a week of non-stop fun in the Pacific Paradise. J'Khari and his family took a sunset dinner cruise complete with live entertainment, snorkeled in Hanauma Bay and visited the dormant volcano at Diamond Head Memorial Park. He enjoyed authentic local cuisine at the Paradise Cove Luau where he played Hawaiian games and learned how to hula dance. At Sea Life Park, J'Khari got up close with his aquatic friends. He will always hold a special place in his heart for his exhilarating getaway to Hawaii!

*Wish Granters: Michael Gold & Nancy HartGold*  
*Referred by: Jackson Memorial Hospital*  
*Wish adopted by: Mr. & Mrs. John Preston*



There was only one thing that 11-year-old **Frederick** wanted to do for his wish – shop, shop, shop. With a limousine ride to the Indian River Mall, his dream day had begun. Frederick, who is living with a heart condition, exclaimed, “This is the best day of my life!” He hit every store on his list in search of clothes, video games,

DVDs and the big-screen television he’d always wanted. He enjoyed having personal shoppers, over-the-top welcomes and special perks. Frederick also got a tour of the kitchen at the Outback Steakhouse before diving into his favorite meal – lobster! It was one day at the mall that he will never forget.

*Wish Granters: Steve & Julie Hurley*  
*Wish adopted by: Trafalgar Capital Advisors, Inc.*



All of 4-year-old **Joseph’s** favorite movies have one thing in common – they star Zac Efron. The chance to travel to Hollywood, California and meet his favorite actor and singer was something straight out of a movie. At the famous El Capitan Theatre, Joseph attended a special showing of Disney’s “High School Musical” and its sequel. He sang along with all the songs and was amazed when the cast came out to talk to the crowd. Afterward, it was off to a private room for some ice cream and time with Zac Efron. It meant the world to Joseph to meet Zac and give him a huge hug!

*Wish Granters: Bob DesJardin & Abby Onuska*  
*Referred by:*  
*Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida*  
*Wish adopted by: Tommy Bahama*

Five-year-old **Andrea** had a not-so-secret agenda for wishing to go to *Walt Disney World*<sup>®</sup>. She wanted to meet a princess, visit Cinderella's castle and see what color it is, and discover how royalty lives. At the Bibbidi Bobbidi Boutique, Andrea was crowned a princess with the help of her fairy godmothers. She was blown away to meet all her favorite princesses and share a special meal with them. Andrea hopes to write a book when she gets older and this was wonderful inspiration for penning her own fairy tale!



*Wish Granters: Ligming Delgado & Carlos Gonzalez*  
*Referred by: Jackson Memorial Hospital*  
*Wish adopted by: Waiora*



**Eric's** wish brought him halfway around the world to China for the 2008 Summer Olympics. When he was not attending track and field, men's basketball and swimming events, he also visited the Great Wall of China, Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City and the Summer Palace. Eric saw world records shattered and met countless Olympians. It was a once-in-a-lifetime adventure that he will never forget.

*Wish Granters: Laura DeLucca & Christine VanGroesbeck*  
*Referred by: Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida*  
*Wish adopted by: Earl Morrall Perfect Season Golf Tournament*

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*If you know of a child with a life-threatening medical condition who would love to experience a wish come true, call the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Southern Florida at 888.773.9474*



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