



Media Advisory
November 10, 2008

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**9th ANNUAL NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY
WILL FINALIZE 200 FOSTER CARE ADOPTIONS IN LOS ANGELES**

Hundreds of Adoptions to Take Place at Children's Court, Open on Special Saturday

- WHAT:** 200 children in Los Angeles foster care will become a part of permanent families on National Adoption Day. The Edmund D. Edelman Children's Court in Los Angeles, along with hundreds of courts across the country, will open its doors for the annual event. Special guests, including actors Lucy Liu, Nia Vardalos and Willie Garson, who is going through the foster care adoption process himself, and President of HBO Entertainment, Sue Naegle will join Presiding Judge Michael Nash in the adoption proceedings. Nationally, for the third year in a row, courts in all 50 states will finalize the adoptions of nearly 4,000 children from foster care. Los Angeles is the birthplace of National Adoption Day, which is modeled on the community partnership of the "Adoption Saturday" program that has helped more than 15,000 Los Angeles County foster children join permanent, loving families since 1998.
- WHY:** Of the 510,000 children in foster care in the United States, approximately 129,000 are eligible for adoption, but have not yet joined the permanent, stable and loving families they need and deserve. Los Angeles County, with nearly 25,000 children in foster care, is the country's largest foster care system. National Adoption Day is an important opportunity for local courts, child welfare agencies and communities to raise public awareness of these waiting children and the need to find adoptive families for them.
- WHO:** **Honorable Michael Nash**, Presiding Judge, Los Angeles Juvenile Court
Janis Spire, Chief Executive Officer, The Alliance for Children's Rights
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, Los Angeles Department of Children and Family Services
Karen Ullman, Senior Staff Attorney, Children's Rights, Public Counsel Law Center
Lucy Liu, Actor
Nia Vardalos, Actor, My Big Fat Greek Wedding
Willie Garson, Actor, Sex and the City
Sue Naegle, President, HBO Entertainment
- WHEN:** **Saturday, November 15, 2008**
8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- WHERE:** Edmund D. Edelman Children's Court
201 Centre Plaza Drive
Monterey Park, CA 91754

Get Involved in an Event in Your Community

Visit www.nationaladoptionday.org



Freddie Mac Foundation for Adoption



- Press Conference, with special guest speaker Nia Vardalos, will be held at 8:30 in the first floor conference room (through security to the right).
- Adoptions with Judge Nash will take place on the 4th Floor, Department 413 beginning at 9:00 a.m. through 11:30 a.m. Cameras and media will be allowed in the courtroom with approval from the families.

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