Wish Kid Lola, 12
Jefferson County
“ I wish to be a judge in my own food competition!”
We celebrated in style on September 17th during the 2016 Sugarman Law Firm Wish Ball! Held in the renovated Finger Lakes Ballroom at the Marriott Syracuse Downtown, the Roaring 20’s-themed gala helped net over $75,000 for wishes throughout our 15-county territory!

A special thank you to the more than 500 guests who joined us, as well as to event emcee Niko Tamurian, CNY Central’s Sports Director, the John Spillett Duo and CNY party band “The Horn Dogs,” Sara Kerr Photography, and especially our featured speaker, Wish Kid Jack Sheridan, who spoke about the community coming together to make his wish a reality in spring 2016.

We extend our gratitude to our sponsors who made the event possible, including title sponsor Sugarman Law Firm, and corporate sponsors Anaren, Inc., Berkshire Bank, Bowers & Company, Brown & Brown Empire State, Carrier Corporation, Carrols Corporation, Dellas Graphics, Dunkin’ Donuts, Excellus BlueCross BlueShield, KeyBank, Pinckney Hugo Group and Visual Technologies.

Thank you all for making wishes come true!
We celebrated a milestone in October - 25 years of the Ms. Orange Fan® Luncheon. This year, the very special ladies-only event drew nearly 800 attendees. During the luncheon, we honored Syracuse University Men’s Basketball Head Coach Jim Boeheim for getting the event started in 1992 and for supporting it for so many years. Since inception, the Ms. Orange Fan Luncheon has generated more than $1.5 million and helped fund more than 165 wishes.

“When we first joined with the Make-A-Wish® Foundation to create the Ms. Orange Fan Luncheon, none of us would have imagined how much it would grow,” said S.U. Men’s Basketball Head Coach Jim Boeheim. “The Make-A-Wish staff added a really nice touch this time. They invited families who have been funded by this event to come and parade through the Oncenter. It was almost overwhelming. Our team looks forward to this event every year. The support from the community makes it one of the best things we participate in. This year’s was the best of them all.”
Madison, 13 – Tompkins County
Cystic Fibrosis
Wish Granters: Rosemarie Laun & Jacqueline Durling
“I wish to go on a Walt Disney World® Cruise.”

Broderick, 11 – Tioga County
Medulloblastoma
Wish Granters: Jacqueline Durling, Connie Jacobs & Penny Boland
“I wish to go on a Percy Jackson & the Olympians-themed trip to Europe.”

Meadow, 9 – Madison County
Cystic Fibrosis
Wish Granters: Rhonda Hummer and Penny Poling
“I wish to go on a Walt Disney World® Cruise.”

Rachel, 11 – St. Lawrence County
Autoimmune Disorder
Wish Granters: Kimberly Scott & Jan Murphy
“I wish to have a swimming pool.”

Brooklyn, 5 – Tompkins County
Cystic Fibrosis
Wish Granters: Heather Chappell & Kimberly Nicholson
“I wish to go to Walt Disney World®.”

Eyan, 4 – Oswego County
Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia
Wish Granters: Bill Ruggio & Terry Baum
“I wish to have a new playroom.”

John, 11 – Broom County
Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy
Wish Granters: Trish O’Neill & Breanna Horton
“I wish to go to Walt Disney World®.”

Trevor, 5 – Oswego County
Cystic Fibrosis
Wish Granters: Roberta Wilber & Rachelle Luckette
“I wish to go to Walt Disney World®.”
Make-A-Wish® Central New York grants the wishes of children living with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. The following wishes were granted during our last business quarter. Not all wishes granted in this time frame are represented here.

Hannah, 16 – Madison County
Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia
Wish Granters: Amy Doran & Donna Maxwell
“I wish to go to Walt Disney World®.”

Dale, 7 – Oswego County
Congenital Cardiac Condition
Wish Granters: Terry Baum & Bill Ruggio
“I wish to have a camper.”

Media, 12 – Oneida County
Histocytosis
Wish Granters: Josh Appley & Linda Flynn
“I wish to go to Walt Disney World®.”

Hannah, 8 – Oneida County
End-stage Kidney Disease
Wish Granters: Cheryllyn Tallman & Dena Gorea
“I wish to go to Walt Disney World®.”

Dylan, 11 – Onondaga County
Cystic Fibrosis
Wish Granters: Sandy Joslyn & Betsy Carbonaro
“I wish to meet the Chicago Bears.”

Media, 12 – Oneida County
Histocytosis
Wish Granters: Josh Appley & Linda Flynn
“I wish to go to Walt Disney World®.”

Hunter, 7 – Broome County
Genetic Disorder
Wish Granters: Toni Markuz & Dena Gorea
“I wish to have a new playset.”

Mariana, 6 – Onondaga County
Histocytosis
Wish Granters: Amy Doran & Donna Maxwell
“I wish to go to Walt Disney World®.”

Hunter, 12 – Herkimer County
Gastrointestinal Disorder
Wish Granters: Cheryllyn Tallman & Lynn Moretz
“I wish to go to Legoland®.”

Jaiden, 5 – Onondaga County
Cardiac Condition
Wish Granters: Morgan Striggles & Rachelle Luckette
“I wish to go to Walt Disney World®.”
Avid foodie Lola Munoz is a huge fan of the television show “Chopped.” When it came time to ask for a wish, Lola knew exactly what she wanted: To be a judge in her very own food competition. On Sunday, Nov. 13th the 12-year-old Fort Drum girl experienced a community coming together to make that wish come true.

Lola and her family were delivered to Savory Downtown in Watertown via limousine and police escort. Well-wishers lined the streets and cheered as Lola stepped out of the vehicle and into Savory, which was set up in advance as Lola’s World Class Food Festival.

Four local chefs were called in to compete for Lola’s seal of approval, including Christian Ives (executive chef and general manager of the Jacques Cartier Room Restaurant at Riveredge Resort in Alexandria Bay), Clayton Moody (sous chef for the Jacques Cartier Room Restaurant at Riveredge Resort in Alexandria Bay), Patrick Ryan (Wish Dad and former chef of Stella in New Orleans) and Robbie Myers (executive chef of the Thousand Islands Club in Wellesley Island and winner of the 2013 “Chopped: Military Salute” competition, season 15, episode 8).

Donned in a custom-made, monogrammed purple chef coat, Lola read the surprise ingredients the chefs would have to incorporate: cow tongue, barbecue Pringles, honey, and horned “spikey” melon for the appetizers, and cream cheese, bacon, pork rinds, and jalapenos for their dessert dishes. The chefs competed in an appetizer and dessert round and were given 30 minutes for each. In the end, Chef Patrick Ryan was declared the winner!

As part of the event, Lola was also presented with gifts and personal notes from “Cake Boss” Buddy Valastro, and chef, author and media personality Christina Tosi.

Thanks to all who participated in Lola’s wish and thank you to those who followed along online. It was truly a day Lola and her family will never forget!
We extend our sincere gratitude to the businesses and individuals who donated time, services and products to make Lola’s wish a reality, including:

- 1025 Ruyi Japanese Steak House,
- Advanced Business Systems,
- Balloon Artist John Wolfson,
- Black River Elementary,
- Blue Mountain Spring Water,
- Chi Omega, Cold Stone Creamery,
- Crooked Brook, Edible Arrangements,
- Fort Drum, Interstate Limousine Service,
- NNY Photobooths, Party Rentals,
- Photographer Moriah Ratner, R&H Creations,
- Sally Ploof Hunter Memorial Library,
- Sam’s Club, Savory Downtown, Steve Baytos
- Steve Weed Productions,
- Victory Promotions, and
- Watertown Mayor Joseph Butler, Jr.

Special thanks to the volunteers who helped plan and implement Lola’s Wish Day including Kelli Bell, Courtney Belloff, Vickie Devlin, Dina Kelly, Laura Oram, Brenda Schultes, and the Chi Omega sisters from St. Lawrence University. Your special touches and commitment made the day amazing and unforgettable!
Shining a Light on Volunteer Dorothy Beylo

A special event during the annual Sugarman Law Firm Wish Ball is the presentation of The Cindy Award – an annual recognition of a volunteer who demonstrates outstanding service and commitment to the organization. Named in honor of past Make-A-Wish volunteer Cindy Merriam, who exhibited an exceptional commitment to volunteer service, The Cindy Award recognizes volunteers who continually rise above and beyond.

This year’s honoree is long-serving Southern Tier volunteer Dorothy Beylo.

Over the past 12 years of volunteer service, Dorothy has demonstrated outstanding volunteer service and commitment to Make-A-Wish, and is respected and admired among family, friends and the community at large. Dorothy is employed as a physical therapy assistant for the Johnson City School District. In addition to volunteering for Make-A-Wish, she also raises and trains puppies for Canine Companions, decorates rooms for A Room to Heal, volunteers for Special Olympics, serves as a disaster relief volunteer for the American Red Cross, and sends letters and care packages to those in the armed forces via Soldiers’ Angels.

We are proud of you, Dorothy! Thank you for your continued service and for being such an integral part of our team!

Want to volunteer?

To learn more about the volunteer opportunities available at Make-A-Wish Central New York, visit www.cny.wish.org or contact Volunteer and Community Outreach Manager Mackenzie Delph, (315) 475-WISH (9474) or mdelph@makeawishcny.org.
We honored our corporate partners CXtec & TERACAI during our 2016 Sugarman Law Firm Wish Ball. The reason why is clear: Their employees work hard to make wishes come true.

Since 2007, the CXtec & TERACAI employees have been raising funds through their annual holiday basket raffle. After months of collecting donations, the employees begin planning special, tailor-made wish announcement parties for Wish Kids. On celebration day, a special room in the building is decked out with wish-specific decorations, lunch is provided, and a table is filled with wish-related goodies.

Since the beginning of the partnership, more than $55,000 has been donated by CXtec & TERACAI employees who have supported the special wishes of nine children, from Lexi’s wish to go on a Disney cruise, to Ethan’s wish to meet Spiderman, to Marianna’s wish to meet Princess Elsa at Walt Disney World®. Through it all, the employees have made each holiday raffle a success and each wish announcement unique and special.

At an average cost of $12,000, wishes need donor support to come to life. We are humbled and grateful for all that CXtec & TERACAI employees do to make wishes come true!
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

KIDS FOR WISH KIDS & WISHMAKERS ON CAMPUS:
MAKING WISHES COME TRUE!

Kids for Wish Kids® and Wishmakers on Campus® are programs for students in grades K through 12 and college, respectively. Students raise awareness about and funds for wishes, while learning about the importance of philanthropy and service.

A special thank you to the following schools and students for working this past quarter to make wishes come true:

KIDS FOR WISH KIDS
1. Cazenovia High School Sports & Entertainment Marketing Class
2. East Syracuse-Minoa DECA
3. Jamesville-DeWitt KFWK Club
4. Massena High School National Honor Society – Harvest Festival
5. Nottingham High School Boys Soccer and Coach & Wish Dad Andy Hazeltine
6. Parents of Northern Community Pop Warner
7. Section III Boys Volleyball (Baldwinsville, Central Square, Cicero-North Syracuse, Jamesville-DeWitt, Fayetteville-Manlius, Liverpool, Living Word Academy, Oswego & Syracuse City high schools)
8. Skaneateles Middle School Student Council – Holiday Shopping Spree
9. Southern Cayuga High School National Honor Society – Harvest Festival
10. Union Springs High School National Honor Society

WISHMAKERS ON CAMPUS
1. Binghamton University Wishmakers on Campus Club
2. Colgate University Wishmakers on Campus Club
3. Cornell University Wishmakers on Campus Club
4. SUNY Cortland Wishmakers on Campus Club
5. SUNY Oswego Alpha Phi Omega – Epsilon Nu Chapter
6. SUNY Oswego Student Association - Miss-A-Meal
7. SUNY Poly Wildcats Care – Car Show
8. Syracuse University Wishmakers on Campus Club
9. Utica College Men’s Hockey
A deferred gift can help simultaneously balance your financial goals and your charitable interests, and possibly achieve significant tax benefits. A planned gift, such as a bequest in your will or trust, life insurance designations, or stock donation ensures your support for the children we serve well into the future. You’ll do more than help grant wishes, you’ll create a legacy that will impact our Wish Kids for years to come.

Find out more at cny.wish.org/ways-to-help/giving/planning-giving

ANNUAL SHORT FAT GUYS RUN

All jokes aside, the annual Short Fat Guys Run has been making wishes come true for 34 years. These big-hearted guys and gals raised just over $20,000 this year alone. Thank you Bob Davidson, Bob Fiesinger and crew for your ongoing support and for inspiring lots of smiles!

MAIN STREET AMERICA GROUP

The Main Street America Group and NGM Charitable Foundation donated to Make-A-Wish Central New York as part of their “2016 Holiday Honorarium Tour.” Special thanks to David Medvidofsky, VP/Head of Human Resources MSG (center), Tom Van Berkel, CEO (right), and Wish Kids Mackenzie and McKayla Goers (front) for serving as our Wish Ambassadors!

Make a difference through planned giving!

A deferred gift can help simultaneously balance your financial goals and your charitable interests, and possibly achieve significant tax benefits. A planned gift, such as a bequest in your will or trust, life insurance designations, or stock donation ensures your support for the children we serve well into the future. You’ll do more than help grant wishes, you’ll create a legacy that will impact our Wish Kids for years to come.

Find out more at cny.wish.org/ways-to-help/giving/planning-giving
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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.”

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Help make wishes come true!
For a $10 donation, get your copy of our 2017 Wish Kid Calendar!
(315) 475-WISH or info@makeawishcny.org

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Special thanks to Kaelyn Dessena for the design and layout of our Winter 2017 newsletter | kaelyndessena.com

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