



Wednesday's Child
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Freddie Mac Foundation's
Wednesday's Child



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The World Figure Skating Championships are in Los Angeles for the first time ever. For our artistic and athletic little girl, she was introduced to a new form of athleticism and artistry. Michelle was born in 1997 and we met up at Pickwick Gardens in Burbank, California to meet with veteran skating star Randy Gardner and members of the Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.

Michelle is a kind-hearted twelve year old girl in her first year of middle school. She is bright, articulate and sociable. Michelle likes to play soccer, ride her bike, and skate. She also enjoys drawing and helping her foster mother cook. This young lady often proves to be a good friend to those around her even though she can take a little while to warm up until she knows she can trust someone. Some might be apprehensive about her shyness but when you think about being shy initially, it actually speaks to Michelle's strengths in that she has healthy and appropriate boundaries.

Wednesday's Child provides a lot of "firsts" for kids. Michelle has skated before, but never on ice. That's why she appreciated veteran pro skater Randy Gardner's help with lacing up before taking to the ice for the first time.





There are many influences – such as siblings and the community at large -- that help shape and develop an individual and who stand behind that individual with support. Being in foster care sometimes makes it hard to develop and maintain those support systems.



One support that can make a huge difference is the unconditional love of a parent or a pair of parents. Michelle is in need of someone to teach her life's lessons and to catch her when she falls along the way to learning to skate on her own at times. With a family to call her own, Michelle can feel confident and stable to skate her own program someday and stand on her own in the community.

Michelle will be going to the World Figure Skating Championships next week to watch those who supported her during her time on the ice as they perform in the upcoming competition. When she was given tickets to the sold out event, she became overwhelmed with tears. Why? She tells us that she didn't think that anyone would come through with tickets for her, even though she was told of the possibility.



The Wednesday's Child Team provided Michelle with her first time on ice, tickets to her first skating competition and aspirations to become a figure skater. Perhaps there's a family out there who will be the first to be her ever-present support as she skates through the rest of life.



To learn more about adopting, please call the Wednesday's Child hotline at 1-866-921-ADOPT (2367)

Information prepared by LA County Placement & Recruitment Unit

Wednesday's Child is sponsored by the

