



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mary Grace McCarter
Executive Director
Bus. 248-601-9474
Cell. 248-563-2192
621 W. University, Rochester, MI 48307
Email: mgmccarter@rainbowwishconnection.org

The Stars Shine for Kaitlin in LA

During her long stays at Children's Hospital, 16 year old Kaitlin from Walled Lake made sure that she never missed an episode of The Ellen Show. "It was the one thing that made her smile", her mother explained. Kaitlin's wish to see the show up close and personal came true when The Rainbow Connection flew Kaitlin and her family out to LA for the trip of a lifetime. She and her family received VIP treatment from everyone at The Warner Brothers Studios including a special behind-the-scenes tour where she was able to see how previous shows and films were made. Next they enjoyed a special lunch at an exclusive restaurant that all the celebrities dine at while they are filming. In true "star style" Kaitlin had the New York Strip and red velvet cake for dessert! The last stop of the day was to check out the studio where the filming of The Ellen Show as taking place. She was then escorted to her reserved seating where she sat on the end and hung out as Ellen merrily danced by her during the show. One of the special guests that day was Ryan Seacrest which turned out to be a really big treat for Kaitlin. She is a huge American Idol fan!

When Kaitlin was first diagnosed with Leukemia and was informed that she would be eligible for a wish, it did not take but a moment to decide what that wish would be. From that moment on, it is what she had to look forward to. Thinking of her wish got her through some of her darkest days, and those memories will now stay with her forever.

The Rainbow Connection is a local organization that focuses its efforts exclusively on Michigan children and their families. Founded in 1985 by L. Brooks Patterson in memory of his best friend and two children who died in a plane crash, The Rainbow Connection is a Michigan-based 501(c)(3) charity dedicated to granting wishes for children who are literally fighting for their lives. To date, The Rainbow Connection has granted over 2000 wishes to children across Michigan suffering from life-threatening or terminal illnesses.

From something as simple as a new computer to meeting the President of the United States at the White House, to the most requested wish of all, a trip to Disney World, The rainbow Connection grants wishes throughout the year. The Rainbow Connection also offers support services, information and referral, special holiday get-togethers and picnics, and college scholarships for wish children. The Rainbow Connection receives no federal

