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**MAKE·A·WISH®**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 18, 2009

## **Make-A-Wish Foundation® to Grant Anchorage Teen's Wish**

*Jewelers for Children to help grant girl's wish to have a Sweet 16 Birthday Party*

### **Who & What:**

Fifteen-year-old wish kid Kayla is about to live the dream; that is, her own personal dream to have an extraordinary Sweet 16 Birthday Bash compliments of the Make-A-Wish Foundation and their partnership with Jewelers for Children (JFC) who is sponsoring her wish. JFC, a national sponsor of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of America, has pledged to grant a child's wish in every state, including Alaska.

Kayla has had more than her fair amount of struggles given her battle with Acute Lymphatic Leukemia so a party to celebrate her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday was just what the doctor ordered. And the community has come to her aid to pitch in for her Bollywood themed b-day bash. The event will kick off with a grand entrance with belly dancers leading the way. Kayla and her guests will then enjoy an evening of food, friends, family and fun (karaoke and DJ services provided by APE Productions). She'll truly be the belle of the ball as she dons a gorgeous gown donated by Anderson's Bride.

Media are invited to attend. A special presentation by Connor Hlavinka, store manager of Ben Bridge, a JFC member jeweler, will be attending the party to present Kayla and her family with gifts on behalf of the jewelry industry.

### **Where & When:**

Kayla's family and friends will join her at the Westmark Hotel (located at 720 W 5<sup>th</sup> Ave in Anchorage) for this grand celebration on none other than her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6 to 10 p.m.

**To schedule an interview, please contact Nicole Sheldon, Make-A-Wish Regional Director, at (907) 258-9474 or [nicole@nwwishes.org](mailto:nicole@nwwishes.org).**

### **About the Make-A-Wish Foundation:**

*The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Alaska, Montana, Northern Idaho & Washington grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. Since its inception in 1986, the chapter has granted nearly 4,000 wishes to children in the Pacific Northwest and will grant 291 wishes this year along. For more information about the Foundation, call 800.304.WISH or visit our website at [www.northwestwishes.org](http://www.northwestwishes.org).*

### **About Jewelers for Children:**

*Jewelers for Children was founded in 1999 by the U.S. jewelry industry with the mission of helping children in need. Since its inception, JFC has donated more than \$30 million to programs benefiting children whose lives have been affected by illness, abuse, or neglect through charity partners St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS*

*Foundation and the National CASA Association, among others. This nationwide success is due to the continuing generosity of jewelry trade organizations, jewelry and watch manufacturing companies, jewelry retail stores, individual jewelry professionals, and jewelry consumers. JFC has raised over \$6.9 million for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of America, helping to grant a total of 1,053 wishes in the U.S. since its inception.*

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