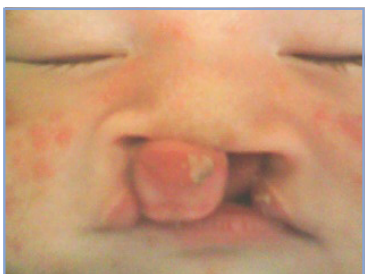


**Featured Children
 YOU CAN HELP**



YULIA SHYRKO

YULIA is 14 years old and currently lives in an orphanage in the Ukraine. She was born with a massive hemangioma on the left side of her face and neck. The hemangioma was removed when she was a small child. However the resulting massive scarring from that surgery created the disfiguring facial defect which will no doubt prevent her from ever leading a normal life outside the orphanage.



GAVYN TESORO

Baby GAVYN lives with his Mom in the Philippines. He was born in August, 2010 with a cleft lip and palate. Children with cleft lip and palate do much better when surgery is performed when they are infants. He is nearly at 10 pounds, so that his surgery can be scheduled soon. His Mom is in the process of obtaining his passport and visa.

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BELIEVE IN MIRACLES VIII
*Annual Fundraising Gala Celebrates
 the Foundation's Accomplishments*

Nearly 300 guests joined in celebrating the Little Baby Face Foundation's achievements at our eighth annual gala benefit, **Believe in Miracles VIII** on November 18th at Bridgewaters at the South Street Seaport.

The event—which included cocktails and a sumptuous buffet, dancing, raffle drawing, and live and silent auctions—**raised more than \$165,000** to support our efforts to treat children from across the U.S. and around the world suffering with cleft lip/palates, missing or malformed ears and other disfiguring facial deformities. Heartfelt thanks go to our *Gold Believer Sponsors*, **Michael and Lynda Gardner** and **USB Financial Services**, and *Silver Believer Sponsors*, **Sara Tecchia** and MAB member, **Dr. Joseph Wolf** as well as all those who attended and bid on our fantastic auction prizes.

During the evening, guests enjoyed an emotional and uplifting video **"The Power of Yes"** which highlighted the transforming journey of recent patients and their families. Introduced by **Rob Morrison**, WCBS-TV news anchor, the video also included testimonials from volunteers, donors and our medical team all of whom participated in making this a most rewarding year for the Foundation. The video can be viewed on www.littlebabyface.org.

Our auctioneer, **Dr. Max Gomez**, Emmy-Award winning medical journalist for CBS, motivated guests to enthusiastically bid on the highlight of this year's live auction—a "walk-on" in the HBO hit-show **Entourage!** Special thanks to **Robin Fox** and **Paula Bayes** of **Pisa Brothers Travel** for providing the many exciting and exotic trips for the live and silent auctions and raffle.



Auctioneer, Dr. Max Gomez, CBS



Diane Romo, Wes Oliver, LBFF Board member Patricia Ardigo



Dr. Thomas Romo, III with MSNBC-TV Anchor and Correspondent Alex Witt



Gala Committee Member Robin Fox, Diane Romo, Dr. Martin Fox

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The mission of the Little Baby Face Foundation (LBFF) is to transform the lives and faces of children born with facial deformities through corrective surgery. LBFF provides travel to and from New York City and covers all related costs so that these children can undergo needed corrective surgical procedures.

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Message from the President

THOMAS ROMO III, M.D., F.A.C.S.



Dear Friends of Little Baby Face Foundation,

This has been a very gratifying year for the Little Baby Face Foundation. Our tireless and dedicated team of surgeons and physicians have successfully performed 48 separate procedures on 22 children from across the U.S. and around the world. We continue to add specialists to our Medical Advisory Board and have expanded our capabilities to treat children with a wide range of facial deformities. We continue to transform the lives and faces of so many children suffering with microtia (missing or malformed ears), atresia (malformed ear canals), cleft lip and cleft palate, nasal clefts, hemifacial microsomia (malformed face and jaws) and other disfigurements.

Needless to say, none of our work would be possible without the expertise provided by our volunteer Medical Advisory Board and the donations and resources provided by our many generous friends like you. We are grateful to all those who have contributed this year. From the thousands of pennies collected on behalf of LBFF through the NYC public schools' Penny Harvest campaign, to the many supporters who generously participated in our Eighth Annual Gala, to the foundation support from the New York Merchantile Charitable Foundation (NYMEX) and the Sara Chait Memorial Foundation, to those who volunteer their time to spend a few hours with our patients while they are in NYC for treatment. A heartfelt thank you to you all!

We currently have more than 50 children in the queue waiting for treatment. Some are too young to undergo surgery, some are waiting for visas and others need to provide additional medical records before they can be evaluated and treated by our medical team. Our doctors provide their services free of charge, but all other expenses including travel, housing, hospital costs, diagnostic procedures, prescriptions and more, are all funded entirely by LBFF and that's where your help is needed! Please consider making a donation, volunteering your time, or organizing an event. However you contribute, know that you will be making a difference in the lives and faces of so many in need!

On behalf of the children and families we serve and the entire LBFF community, I wish you and your family a very Happy and Healthy New Year!

With best wishes,

Thomas Romo III, M.D., F.A.C.S.

HOST AN EVENT TO SUPPORT LBFF



Maryland College students raise funds for LBFF.

As part of a service learning project, students at Montgomery College in Germantown, MD organized a fundraising project entitled "Little Kids, BIG Futures". The class selected the Little Baby Face Foundation as a recipient and donated nearly \$300 in support of our kids.



THE MIRACLE OF YOU
National Art & Mixed Media Auction & Show

East Coast Art Retreat hosted a National Art Auction & Show, "Art is...the Miracle of You" to benefit LBFF.

Held on October 9, 2010 in Danbury, CT, this event raised \$3,500 to support our children. Many thanks go out to LBFF volunteer Sallianne McClelland for organizing the event to benefit the Little Baby Face Foundation.

DID YOU KNOW:

Facts about Cleft Lip and Cleft Palate



What is Cleft Lip/Cleft Palate?

Cleft lip and palate comprise the most common congenital defect in the United States; about 1 in every 600 newborns is affected. A cleft lip is separation of the two sides of the lip and may include a separation of the gum and upper jaw. A cleft palate is a separation of the roof of the mouth. Cleft can occur on one

side i.e. unilateral cleft lip and/ or palate, or on both sides i.e. bilateral cleft lip and/ or palate. Because the lip and palate develop from different areas, it is possible for the child to have a cleft lip, a palate, or both cleft lip and palate together. Left sided clefts are more common and boys are affected more frequently than girls, 3:1.

Why Do Clefts Occur?

Most clefts occur very early in pregnancy and without an obvious cause. However, a combination of genetics and environmental factors is thought to be responsible. Once a family has a child with cleft however, risk if subsequent children born with cleft increases significantly and depends

on several factors, i.e. closeness of affected family members, number of members affected and the severity of the cleft. Specific drugs i.e. phenetoin (dilantin—anti-seizure) and Isotretinoin (Accutane—acne), alcohol abuse and smoking have been directly implicated.

What Type Of Care Do These Children Require?

Children afflicted with cleft lip and palate often require a comprehensive team approach to care. Integral parts of the team are dentist, orthodontist, oral surgeon, speech therapists, geneticist, pediatrician, psychologists and a pediatric plastic surgeon. While surgery focuses on correcting physical deformity, other specialties help with maintaining overall well being. Surgery takes place in different stages at different ages. Lip repair, cheiloplasty can be performed as early as 6 weeks of age even though the old 'rule of 10'—10 weeks, 10 lbs and hemoglobin of—may still apply and may prove critical in "Baby Face" kids since most travel from overseas to New York City for their surgery.

Palate repair, palatoplasty is performed between 12–18 months of age. Earlier intervention may interfere with growth

of mid-face while delay beyond 18 months may negatively affect speech. About 15% of children with cleft of the palate will develop some form of speech problem; hence, speech therapy by a trained therapist is immensely important for this group.

Some children with cleft palate, even after repair, can develop nasal speech (velopharyngeal dysfunction) and may require an additional surgery around 4 to 5 years of age. The last surgery deals with dento-skeletal deformity and should be addressed after the child has completed the growth spurts. One easy way to tell is 'no change' in shoe size for a whole year or two. In some children with cleft palate, the upper jaw, maxilla may not keep pace with growth of the lower jaw, mandible and results in an underbite. This is corrected with single or double jaw (orthognathic) surgery.

Is Cleft Preventable?

Avoiding the obvious i.e. smoking, drinking is essential. High dose folic acid (1-4 mg/day) for 'planned' pregnancies

may reduce the risk of children born with cleft.

SPOTLIGHT:

LBFF Medical Advisory Board Member
M. Zakir Sabry, M.D., P.C.

A Diplomate of the American Board of Plastic Surgery, Dr. Zakir Sabry is a fellowship-trained plastic surgeon now specializing in cosmetic and reconstructive surgery of face, breast and body. His commitment to excellence is derived from his extensive academic training, strong sense of patient care and a passion for restoring form and function. He is affiliated with North Shore LIJ/Lenox Hill Hospital, Metropolitan Hospital Center and New York Methodist Hospital, Brooklyn.

As a member of the LBFF Medical Advisory Board he performs surgeries to correct cleft and craniofacial deformities.



Featured Children YOU CAN HELP!



DANIELLA MARTINEZ

Nine-year old DANIELLA lives in Denver, Colorado. She was born with microtia of her right ear and will require two separate surgeries to correct her deformity.

Your generosity will provide transportation, housing, food, hospital, and anesthesia fees for children in need of your help!

Help make our children's dreams come true with the gift of air travel miles. Airlines offer numerous programs that allow frequent travelers to buy or share travel reward miles with others. Please contact your preferred air carrier to get details and contribute your miles to help our children travel to New York City for treatment.



— The Little Baby Face Foundation

Email Address Wanted

In an effort to keep our printing costs at a minimum and save some trees, we are asking that you send us your email address so that we can communicate more efficiently with you electronically rather than in print.

E-mail addresses sent to us will be kept confidential and not be shared with any other individuals or organizations.

Please send a message with "add me to your email list" in the subject line to: info@littlebabyface.org. Thank You!



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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