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The Magazine of the International Child Art Foundation

ChildArt



ChildArt

Editor's Corner

In a city divided into a checkerboard of special interest groups, the World Children's Festival somehow brought the community together around a shared concern for the children and their future. People from all walks of life joined in the celebration. Children from private schools in rich suburbs comingled with kids from public schools in poor neighborhoods. Artists talked with scientists, teachers with parents, toddlers with seniors. And when they did not share a common verbal language, the universal language of art became the basis of communication.

At the International Child Art Foundation we are indebted to all the good-hearted people who helped make the festival possible. ICAF staff and volunteers who toiled at it for nearly two years. ICAF's supporters – notably the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Forest Service, Yoursphere, Ambassador Yousef Al Otaiba of United Arab Emirates, the ambassador to Oman, the Battle Creek Community Foundation, the William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund, and the Japan Foundation.

We thank our many partners for bringing innovative content and training to the festival. The distinguished speakers who addressed the children. The professors, professionals and schoolteachers who conducted workshops. Melody Street of Los Angeles for filming the festival and I LIKE MEDIA of Vienna, Austria, for social media. Attendees have uploaded more than 6,000 festival photos. To upload and share festival photos, go to <http://photos.worldchildrensfestival.org>.

But most of all we are grateful to the children. Just their smiles and the twinkles of hope in their eyes made all the hard work worthwhile.

Ashfaq Ishaq, Ph.D.



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INTERNATIONAL CHILD ART FOUNDATION

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The International Child Art Foundation (ICAF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that employs the power of the arts to develop creativity and empathy. Since 1997 the ICAF has served as the national art and creativity organization for American children and their international counterparts.

Published since 1998, ChildArt is a commercial-free arts learning, self-discovery, and global education periodical expressly written for 8- to 12-year-olds, but useful as a teaching tool for early educators and inspirational for creative individuals of all ages. Subscribe to ChildArt online at www.icafe.org.

When a child's creativity is ignored, it could be lost forever. Tax-deductible donations support children's creative and empathic development. You can donate online at www.icafe.org or make your check to ICAF and mail it to: ICAF, P. O. Box 58133, Washington, DC 20037.

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Next Issue: The 4th Arts Olympiad



Children United

The World Children's Festival is an inspiration to protect the planet and shape the future. Every four years, this "Olympics" of imagination and co-creation brings together talented children and young people, the creative and empathic leaders of tomorrow.

The 4th WCF was held June 17-19, 2011, in Washington, D.C., on the National Mall, a huge park surrounded by museums and monuments. More than 1,500 delegates from 30 U.S. states and 45 countries participated.

One purpose of the festival was to honor winners of the Arts Olympiads and to display their artworks. The program started in classrooms worldwide, with free ICAF lesson plans that encouraged children aged 8 to 12 to be both artists and athletes. This led to art competitions on the theme My Favorite Sport.

The festival also showcased the best amateur performing artists, who entertained audiences from a "World Stage" set up across from the U.S. Capitol.

Finally, the festival gave children, teachers and other arts supporters a chance to learn from some of the most respected educators and experts in their fields. The workshops and activities not only focused on arts and sports, but also included science, technology, engineering and mathematics. These four subjects together are known as STEM. Many leaders think it is critical to the world's future for more young people to pursue STEM careers.

Arts and sports teach people to solve problems in inventive ways. Adding these subjects to STEM creates a new model for education: STEAMS. The festival demonstrated that creativity and co-creation are building blocks for innovation and positive social change.

Above: The festival opened with a group of local children singing the national anthem, while 13-year-old Lucas Stratmann of New York played the violin.

Below and right: Delegates and members of the public could choose from many free activities and attend workshops hosted by Arts Olympiad winners.



Music & Performance on World Stage



Cymia Telleria, the 12-year-old sensation from Atlanta, Georgia, is famous for her song "Kid Nation."



Great Wall Youth Orchestra (Oakland , California.)



Lemira Elementary School Band (Lemira, South Carolina)



The Change Makers (Abuja, Nigeria)

Amazing Talents displayed on the World Stage



Pacha Mama, Ballet al Barrio
(Cali, Colombia)



The Culkin Irish Dancers
(Silver Spring, Maryland)



Corrinne Calhoun
(Woodbridge, Virginia)



The Tree Theater Group
(Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)



South Korea's mask dance ()

Hundreds of Activities

Prominent educators from the United States and many countries around the world hosted workshops and interactive activities for the children, their families and teachers. These activities supported the festival's educational programming, which is based on ICAF's Peace through Art approach. The festival's aim is to inspire children to embrace lifelong creativity and to develop empathy in a global community setting. The approach is different each day, building upon what is learned the day before

■ Health + Environment Day (June 17th)

Instruction is informational, spotlighting common concerns shared by children.

■ Creativity + Imagination Day (June 18th)

Learning is participatory, invoking children's inherent talents and potential.

■ Peace + Leadership Day (June 19th)

Training is inspirational, encouraging children to build creative and healthy communities.



Dr. Kristina Denisova, Department of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, Columbia University, transported a life-size Ames room to the National Mall to train children to better understand their perceptions of the physical world. An optical illusion makes viewers of the room perceive objects or people bigger or smaller than they really are.



The Megaphone Project put 20 different megaphones on the National Mall for children and adults to communicate with each other. The transportation of the megaphones and travel of a team of four from Australia was supported by Art Victoria.



The World Organization for Early Childhood Education (known as OMEP for its initials in French and Spanish) hosted an art workshop for 2½- to 6-year-old children on the theme Create Your Own World. Top left photo, from left to right: Martha Llanos, OMEP-Peru; Dr. Edna Ranck, past president of OMEP-USA; Dr. Jean Simpson, OMEP-USA representative and project officer for Head Start at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



German artist and teacher Antje Tesche-Mentzen's workshop on "What Children Believe."



Playing chess and receiving instructions from Washington-area experts.



Sergey Gagauzov from Children's Art School in Vorkuta, Russia, conducting a workshop on painting on silk and cotton.



Fabio Melo of the International Capoeira Angola Foundation teaching capoeira, an Afro-Brazilian martial art, to young enthusiasts.



Plenty of physical activities were available, including exercises by the U.S. Coast Guard, which brought a TRX training station to the National Mall.



The U.S. Coast Guard played an important role in the festival by providing water-safety and life-saving training. Coastie the Tugboat and Sammy the Sea Otter were popular with children and adults alike.



The U.S. Forest Service organized conservation training at the festival. Two beloved American icons, Woodsey Owl and Smokey Bear, interacted with festival attendees.



The workshop by artist and children's book illustrator Daniel Minter is one example of creative education training provided by nearly 100 professional artists, scientists, architects, and technologists.



Sana Nadkarni, co-winner Massachusetts Arts Olympiad, taking part in one of the mural projects under the guidance of art educators and muralists.



Traci Fields of BeDazzle-Do from College Park, Georgia, making whimsical hair art.



The 4th Arts Olympiad Exhibition near the National Gallery of Art.



Members of WizArt discussing how they formed a youth art club in Keller, Texas, inspired by ICAF's example. Several Arts Olympiad winners and ICAF Youth Board members hosted workshops, including Dominic Nedzelskyi. A workshop on saving the manatees was hosted by Annie Weithman and her sister, Meggie.





Rear Admiral Ronald Hewitt of the U.S. Coast Guard, addressing the world's children and their parents and teachers.



U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell, U.S. ambassador to Oman Richard Schmierer, Dr. Jagadish Shukla (president, Institute of Global Environment and Society), Larry Soler (president of Partnership for a Healthier America) and Robert Breech (producer of The Practice and other hit TV shows) addressing the children.



Artist Fato Wheremongar, ICAF representative in Liberia since 1998, gave a captivating speech. "When I heard Fato speak, I exhausted all of my resources to meet him and when I finally did, I was in awe by his passion and dedication," says Bryan Hill, art teacher at Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School in Washington, D.C. "I will bring back his mission to my students to not only do the arts, but to embrace them in their self-expression, to take nothing for granted and to be grateful for the opportunities that have been afforded to them by living in America. The students in Liberia have struggles and conflicts that my students could never fathom."

Top row, left to right: Mai Lai Breech (Children's Art Village, Los Angeles), Antje Tesche-Mentzen (Munich, Germany), Professor Vali Nasr (Tufts University), and Nkem Oselloka-Orakwue (Nigeria). Bottom row, left to right: Helenita Noble (Christina Noble Children's Foundation), Professor Aziz Rana (Cornell Law School), Kit Hughes (ICAF Advisory Board member), and Marcia Minter (creative director, L.L. Bean).



ICAF Youth Board member Kaung Myat Zaw reminisced about the very first World Children's Festival he attended in 1999 as the Myanmar Arts Olympiad winner: "Traveling halfway across the globe from Burma to Washington, D.C., was a life-changing experience and the greatest influence over my life and dream."

A festival story in photos

The start-to-finish experience of Andreea Bogde, 11, a co-winner from Romania



Entering U.S. airspace



Here we are



My host mom



My artwork on the Mall



Lincoln and me



Origami for earthquake victims



Feeding squirrels



My first workshop



Taller than Capitol



What next?



Omani ceramics workshop



Omani ceramic I made



American friend



Chinese panda



American buffalo



The White House



My Arts Olympiad Award



National Air & Space Museum



Picasso



My art



All dressed up



Goodbye!

The Living City: Children Work Together to Design a Sustainable Community

The World Children's Festival had one aim: to celebrate humanity through the common bond of creativity. The National Mall was alive with singing, dancing, art, music, and spoken word, a hub of creativity and beauty, a pathway to mutual understanding.

I was invited by the U.S. Green Building Council to design and facilitate a project for this event. I flew to Washington from my home in Tucson, Ariz., carrying materials with me: plastic water bottles and plastic packaging, found objects, wire, metal tape, and other odds and ends.

The project: to envision and design a "green" city, built entirely out of repurposed materials. The goal: to engage children in the process of innovation in solving some of our most pressing problems. The result: an afternoon of fun, wonder and inspiration, as children worked side by side to construct their small city.

As an artist and visual arts instructor I well understand the transformational power of the creative process. Offering children the time and space to create and share their visions and voices with the world opens the door to greater worlds and ideas. Offering children a place

to innovate, experiment, find success in failure, explore and collaborate opens pathways to futures yet imagined. Giving children of different backgrounds and experiences a chance to work creatively together builds lasting bridges of peace, respect, and understanding.

I am constantly amazed and inspired by the ability of children to offer truly innovative and elegant solutions to large problems. This project was no different. As soon as we arranged the materials on the tables, our first group of young artists appeared. From then on, it was build, build, build. Among the designs were several water collection towers, each as original as the next, recycling centers, apartment buildings

with roofs that could come off on beautiful days, parks and other green spaces, community gardens, bike paths, schools, and wind vanes. Each model was attached to a board, and the city began to grow. Additional features included rooftop gardens, lakes, and sacred spaces. The artists did not hesitate to create what was most important to them.

The nontraditional materials became a common language. Each child spoke through his or her creation, pointing the way to a sustainable future that is possible for all people through cooperation, collaboration, and creativity. Differences in vision and approach were honored, as everyone's work was added to the final piece. What a wonderful blueprint for children to carry with them as they grow and become leaders of the world!

LINDA CATO is a visual art/sustainability specialist Tucson, Arizona.





BUILDING CHARACTER

Audiences at the World Children's Festival hopped and grooved to the original music of Ant Hill Live! Our crew from Atlanta gave four electrifying and entertaining performances, while also teaching important life lessons.

Ant Hill Live! features The Proverb Ants, three larger-than-life costumed characters with distinct personalities. There's lovable Sofi, playful Max and charming Riley. Together, with a cast of multicultural children, they explore the world and tackle everyday challenges with wholesome principles: discipline, obedience, teamwork, consistency, practice, giving, and sharing.



One of the greatest achievements of our year-old company was being invited to perform at the 4th World Children's Festival. The cast was very excited because most of them live in the Atlanta area and had never been to our nation's capital. The cast was very determined to put on a great show and began rehearsing a couple of times a week to perfect our program.

The ProverbAnts not only demonstrated common problems, but they also illustrated how to apply ant-like principles to solve them. The lessons were rhythmically enforced with uplifting songs like "What's Up D.O.C. (Discipline, Obedience, Consistency)" and "Teamwork." The children

were engaged and participated in every aspect of the program, which provided an awesome experience for all!

It was so wonderful to see the children, and adults as well, engage in our skit "P.R.A.C.T.I.C.E." The letters stand for "practice righteous actions consistently till it comes easily." In other words, practice means to do something over and over again until you get it just right! Another skit showed that team players can help others to be better at dance, exercise and to be more creative. Sometimes all it takes is one person wanting to help another. "That's teamwork," which can make all the difference in the world! It was wonderful to look out into the audience and observe parents with their children doing "the grapevine" exercise. Lessons such as these are so important for children and adults as well.

"I really loved all of the people," said 5-year-old Justin W., one of our youngest performers. "I liked the dancing and music, it was cool! I had a lot of fun with the Ants and learned how to dance with everybody and I love the whole world!"

Another young cast member, 8-year-old Destiny K., said, "It was so much fun to travel and see Washington, D.C. I loved the look on the audience faces when we were on stage. I could tell we made everyone happy. I also loved watching the other performers. It was an experience I will never forget and hope to go back again!"

We are truly grateful to the ICAF Team and will always remember this wonderful experience.

JANE HARRIS HILL *is founder and creator of Ant Hill Inc. (anthill-inc.com).* MICHELLE BLAND *is events coordinator events for Ant Hill Live!*

Draw to Music

When I close my eyes and listen to music, I often see shapes and colors in my imagination. So I developed a workshop where anyone could draw to music.

When I arrived at the festival I was surprised to see hundreds of children dressed in their national costumes, chattering in languages I had never heard. They lined up to present songs and dances celebrating the culture of their countries. The air rang with music. The sunny day seemed brighter with the brilliant colors and the children's excited laughter. They seemed to be having so much fun that I wished that I could be a child again.

To set up my workshop I piled many pieces of art chalk on the center of a table with a bright yellow cover. Around this colorful mountain I laid out large sheets of white paper. I had brought music from all over the world to inspire the artists at my table. I quickly realized, however, that the music from the stage where children were performing dances and songs was much louder than the music I was going to play. So I decided that the artists could draw the pictures that came into their minds while listening to the stage music. Eager children formed a line to listen to my instructions and asked, "Can I please draw anything I want?"

Within minutes the sheets were covered with bright colors. The artists enjoyed playing with the colors and mixing them. Their hands and clothes were soon covered in chalk in every color of the rainbow. Art can be messy, but no one cared. One girl suddenly realized that all her fingers were covered with dark chalk and she had run out of clean fingers to blend some yellow chalk. She was thoughtful for a minute and then came up with a great idea – use her elbows to blend in the yellow color!



When I invited children to draw, the younger ones were always first to say yes. Older brothers and sisters seemed curious but didn't want to try right away. A teenager refused to draw because he said he was only good at sports. I begged him to try and he finally agreed. In a few minutes he had made a drawing that surprised him. He realized he could be both – an artist and an athlete.

During the two days of our workshop I noticed that older children often wanted an adult to tell them what to draw. "What do I have to draw?" they asked. It seemed to me that the older children did not believe in their imagination and creativity as much as the younger ones did.

I returned home to Buffalo, N.Y., and shared stories with my children, who are 12 and 13. I asked, "Why are older children so afraid to use their creativity?" My 12-year-old said, "It's because of school." She is correct. **Research done by E. Paul Torrance, "the father of creativity," has shown that children's creativity starts to diminish by fourth grade.** That's because schools use teaching and learning methods that do not encourage or involve creativity and imagination.

Why is it so important that you develop lots of creativity and imagination? You use your creativity and imagination to make the impossible possible. You find answers to questions, and are not afraid to explore and discover. When you are creative, you believe in yourself and can find a way to make your dreams come true.

ISMET MAMNOON *is a professional facilitator in creative problem solving. She is pursuing a master's degree at the International Center for Studies in Creativity.*

Olympic art

I looked up at the sun in the sky, and the piercing light scorched my eyes. The warmth had finally come back. Dark shadows followed every visitor at the National Mall, and projected upon the green grass. Behind me, a large blank canvas was staffed on a chair, just waiting to have an artist pour ideas on it. My own shadow cast upon the canvas, and I found that funny. "At least the canvas was not blank anymore," I thought. But Dr. Liston Bochette III thought differently when he saw my shadow on that canvas. He said with excitement, "Don't move! I have an idea!"

An Olympian and a professional artist, Dr. Bochette asked me to paint with him. I was surprised, but really excited! I mean, how often is it that you would get the chance to say that you painted a picture with an Olympian? And he is no ordinary Olympian: Dr. Bochette competed four times for Puerto Rico in bobsled and once in decathlon, was secretary general of the World Olympians Association, earned a Ph.D., and now helps oversee Art of the Olympians, a nonprofit group in Florida.

He picked up a pencil on a table nearby, and started to sketch on the canvas. Then I knew what he was doing. He was outlining my shadow. I stood still, not uttering a word. The sun felt hot against the back of my neck, but I didn't care. When Dr. Bochette completed the outline, the shadow was an abstract silhouette of a girl. Me!

It was my turn. I began to sketch the outline of Dr. Bochette's shadow. When I was finished, I noticed that his right hand was closer to the canvas, so the shadow of his hand appeared bigger. He explained how the two shadows formed a triangular shape, and it attracted the viewer's eyes towards the top of the painting.

Wow! There's psychology involved in creating art!

We picked up our paint brushes and began painting the shadow outlines black. I painted his shadow, and he painted mine. Although the black and white scheme gave the painting a modern look, we knew something was missing. We felt that adding color would be a good idea. Dr. Bochette gave one shadow green highlights, and I gave the other shadow blue highlights. It was the greatest honor to work with Dr. Bochette. The final painting was remarkable.

The two very different shadows formed the masterpiece, representing both artists' collaboration. Dr. Liston Bochette, a five-time competitor in the Olympic Games, and me, a participant of the Arts Olympiad, represented a unity of both generations. *On that sunny day, the breeze that blew carried a sense of accomplishment. On that day the shadows that connected the children with the arts and sports were immortalized.*

SORA NITHIKASEM is ICAF Youth Board member from New Jersey.



Creating both movement and art comes naturally to us when we are young, so it's not surprising that children take naturally to yoga. This ancient discipline unifies the energy of the body and the mind and teaches you to trust your senses. By cultivating this power, you increase the amount of wisdom, confidence and happiness that radiates into the world.

My objective at the festival was to take a group of children on a creative and colorful journey to Yoga Mountain. Here we explored the kingdom of the natural world, the inspiration for yoga.

Thousands of years ago, people in India known as yogis lived close to the earth and had an intimate relationship with the world around them. They felt the dynamic strength of trees, the graceful flight of birds, and the swiftness in the movement of fish. The yogis developed poses, or positions, for their bodies based on nature. They found that practicing these poses helped unify the energy in their bodies and minds, leading to inner peace and wisdom. The word yoga comes from an ancient term meaning union.

Practicing yoga and mastering some of the more difficult poses requires you to be more aware of all the parts of your body. So our Yoga Mountain explorers made colorful decorative puppets with moveable joints. The puppet-making project helped children understand their bodies and created a greater sense of awareness and self.

Both art and yoga balance the active with the quiet. Bodies are moved into a yoga position, and then stay still for seconds or minutes. Artists imagine their work, and then move a brush or a pencil. The brain's right and left hemispheres quite literally start to come into equal use. With this balance in the brain, you can develop imagination and critical thinking skills.

In a culture that encourages more and faster, both art and yoga help you to relax, slow down, and uncover the wisdom of your intuition. Intuition is the ability to sense or know something is correct or true. In slowing down you become more focused, develop greater mental and physical flexibility, and have more energy.

All movement everywhere – the movement within the atom, the movement of thought – is caused by cosmic energy known as prana. Electricity is prana, and so is your breath. The rush of energy from breath, or

prana, is felt as an awakening of the cells of our being. Breathing creates movement that helps you to be more at peace and healthier. Yoga teaches you to be more aware of your breath.

The festival was an amazing opportunity to nurture the important values of yoga, the yamas (how to treat others) and the niyamas (how to treat yourself). These values deepen your sense of self-respect, as well as your ability to respect and appreciate other viewpoints and different cultures and traditions.

One of the great aims of education is to make it possible to be engaged in the process of creating ourselves, or as one might say, coming into yoga (union). Not everyone spoke the same verbal language at the festival, but we were able to communicate beautifully through the language of art and yoga, opening us to all the possibilities of a greater unity (yoga) throughout the world.

WENDY COHEN IS A BALTIMORE ARTIST WHO HAS BEEN PRACTICING RAJA YOGA AND HATHA YOGA SINCE 1977.



World Children's Award



The World Children's Award was established in 2007 to uniquely empower children and young people. The ICAF Youth Board members, who are past winners of Arts Olympiads, presented the World Children's Award 2011 on June 17.

"There are many great companies and organizations to choose from, and many noble people in the world. At the 3rd World Children's Festival we presented the World Children's Award 2007 to LEGO for nurturing our creativity. So to whom do we give the 2011 World Children's Award?" asked Marifer Aguirre-Broca, ICAF Youth Board member from Aruba.

"To the W. K. Kellogg Foundation!" announced Attila Kovacs, ICAF Youth Board member from Hungary.

"In 1930 Mr. W.K. Kellogg created the W. K. Kellogg Foundation to help children face the future with confidence, with health, and with a strong-rooted security in the trust of this country and its institutions," explained Sora Nithikasem, ICAF Youth Board member from New Jersey. "A breakfast cereal pioneer, Mr. Kellogg was one of the wealthiest men in the world during his times. But he thought of himself as a steward of the wealth which he intended to use in ways to be helpful to others."

"The foundation's initial focus was on Mr. Kellogg's hometown of Battle Creek, Michigan. Today it supports and initiates programs throughout the United States, In Latin America and the Caribbean, and southern Africa. It helps communities stand up for the children," said Rune Kondo, ICAF Youth Board member from Japan.

"Building on over 90 years of experience, the Kellogg Foundation focuses on children's education and learning, food, health and well-being, and family economic security. In the United States alone there are nearly 30 million vulnerable children. We present the World Children's Award as a tribute to the empathic vision of Mr. Kellogg," stated Stanislav Nedzelskyi, ICAF Youth Board member from Texas.

"The 2007 Award was designed and made by Tiffany & Co. The 2011 Award was designed by Karim Rashid, New York City's leading designer. It was produced by Freedom of Creation, a cutting-edge production company in Amsterdam, the Netherlands," said Kaung Myat Zaw, ICAF Youth Board member from Myanmar.

Creating Comics

My first encounter with art that truly excited my imagination was in the pages of the comic books my brother brought into the house. Long before I could read, I hungrily devoured the adventures of The Amazing Spider-Man, The Fantastic Four, Batman, The Hulk, and so many others. I became aware that the colorful, exciting panel boxes told a story. The nature of the medium captivated me. I spent long, wonderful hours as a boy seated at the family dining table, creating pages and pages of my own superhero comic books. Now I work as a graphic designer, but my captivation with comic book remains the same. I have found that today's era of spectacular computer graphics in games and movies has done little to dampen the magic found in hand-drawn creations. With just the scratch of a pencil anyone can tell stories of incredible imagination that no multi-million dollar film epic can match.

Some of the questions we asked the workshop participants were:

"What should the character be called?"

"Which logo [the comic book title] works best with the character colors?"

"Where should we place the word balloons and the blurb?"

"How do we make it so everything is evenly spaced and easy to read?"

The participants were guided through the process of placement, balance, white space and color.

They used their own imaginations to decide everything from the dialogue in the character's word balloon to the price of the comic book.

Mike, Larry and I were impressed by the enthusiasm of the children. Their ideas and imagination were limitless. We placed them in charge of the entire process, as if they were both art directors and artists. They eagerly discussed and decided on ideas, their eyes riveted to the screen that displayed the results of their efforts.

It brought me back to those summer days when I sat in the cool, dark dining room of my parents' house, absorbed in drawing and writing the adventures of my own superhero characters. The children who attended our workshop were delighted by the chance to decide what would go on a professionally-created superhero comic book cover, and to see the results of their ideas immediately presented before them on the monitor. Once their cover was completed and personalized (the names of the children served as the publishing company), they left behind e-mail addresses so they could be sent a computer image copy of their work.

JOHN E WILLIAMS is a Washington, D.C. based graphic designer.

Upon arriving at the Festival I was absolutely amazed by the variety of talent and creativity on display. The children's work ran the gamut from painting to sculpture to dance and vocals. This included the youngest blues guitarist I have ever seen! Properly inspired by a creatively-charged atmosphere, I started the setup with my two colleagues: Mike Pacheco, an instructor at the Corcoran College of Art and Design, and Larry Rodman, a fine artist and comic book expert. We opened our laptops with a large monitor and were ready for the workshop based on Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator.



Creating Puppets to Express Yourself

Along with my students at the Universidad del Desarrollo in Chile, I developed a workshop titled "My Character, My Message to the World." In this workshop, each child received a white origami puppet to paint and decorate with his or her own character. The puppets had speech bubbles for children to write the messages they wanted to send to the world.

The speech bubbles gave the children an opportunity to express themselves and the adults an opportunity to listen.

I brought our workshop to the World Children's Festival. I could not imagine a better setting for celebrating creativity and imagination. In an instant, I had a dozen participants around the table.

The children watched me as I unfolded a plain white puppet and made it speak. I only moved the mouth of the undecorated puppet, and the children imagined the rest.

The older kids began asking questions. "How do I start?" and, "What should I do first?" In contrast, the younger children were not afraid to make mistakes. They saw the puppet and immediately began to paint, without fear or limitation.

The children wrote all types of messages: "I love my family!" "Happy father's day!" "I love pie!" Older children wrote: "Happy Earth Day!" "World Peace!" "Love Each Other!"



Workshop:
MY CHARACTER.
MY MESSAGE TO
THE WORLD!

In preparation for my trip to Washington D.C., 140 children and 45 design students participated in sharing a significant experience of cocreation and learning in schools in Coliumo and Talcahuano. These cities were most devastated by the earthquake and tsunami that hit Chile on February 27, 2010.

Some of the children wrote letters with drawings and messages of support for Japanese children affected by the March 11, 2011, earthquake and tsunami. I handed the letters at the WCF to ICAF's representative in Japan as a symbolic act of empathy and support for the tragedy that unites us.

Now ICAF Japan and Universidad del Desarrollo will work together on a future project. In October 2011 a Chile Poster Contest will be held where children and designers will cocreate posters with the theme of Overcoming Tragedy. Selected works will be exhibited in Chile in November 2011 before they are sent to Japan to be displayed at ICAF's exhibition in March 2012 at the 21st Century Museum in Kanazawa.

By Paulina Contreras Correa, Chile
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Everyone, from the tiniest toddler to the most brilliant genius, gets stuck in search of an idea. Fortunately, there are ways to get unstuck and quickly generate a great deal of possibilities. Let's take a technique that dates back to Leonardo da Vinci's notebooks. The idea box is all about putting things together in new ways to get unique ideas. Here's how it works:

Need a Great Idea?

Why think outside the box when you can reach inside?

Step 1: Clearly define your problem. It is very difficult to find something if you do not know what you are looking for. For example, let's say you want to create a comic strip.

Step 2: List all the parts of your problem. A comic strip has a main character, supporting characters, setting, action, and dialogue.

Step 3: List some options under each part of your problem. Your main character could be a talking cat, an artist, a librarian, a robot, or a toy that has come to life. For the setting, you might list the beach, the jungle, a farm, a castle, or a circus tent. Continue to list options for each of the remaining categories.

Step 4: Choose one word from each category to arrive at a framework for your comic. Continue to try different combinations until you arrive at one that interests you.

See the following examples.

Comic Strip Ideas

Main character	Supporting charcter	Setting	Action	Dialogue
Talking cat	Teenager	Beach	Skydiving	Help!
Artist	Football coach	Jungle	Snorkeling	Don't move!
Librarian	Rock star	Farm	Surfing	What's that smell?
Robot	Plumber	Castle	Flying	They'll never know!
Toy	Giant goldfish	Circus tent	Spying	Who's snoring?

MELINDA WALKER is an arts educator in California, currently pursuing a Master of Science degree with the International Center for Studies in Creativity. The idea box is based on the morphological analysis technique developed by Dr. Fritz Zwicky.

Let's say you chose talking cat, plumber, farm, flying, and "Who's snoring?" That might give you the idea to create a comic strip about a talking cat living on a farm with a plumber who snores so loud the police knocked on the door shouting, "Who's snoring?"

Does this make an interesting comic or should we try something else? Let's return to the idea box. This time you chose artist, giant goldfish, circus tent, spying, and "They'll never know!" Your comic is about a superhero, disguised as an artist, who takes his giant goldfish everywhere to spy on evil villains, including the ones overheard saying, "They'll never know!" in a circus tent. Now you're on to something!

You can create more idea boxes to generate even more ideas. How about creating a separate idea box for your main character, an artist, to figure out what he might look like? This idea box might include the following categories:

Exercise

Here's another way to set up an idea box for picture or story ideas. Go ahead and fill in your ideas, choose one idea from each column, and put them all together to get a great picture or story. With four ideas in each column, the idea box will give you 4096 different ideas. With five options in each, you're looking at 15,625 different possibilities! Now this should keep you busy for quite a while!

Story or picture ideas

Who is in it	What they are doing	Why they are doing it	How they feel about it	When it takes place

head shape, eyes, nose, mouth, ears, hair, and body type.

You could draw various options instead of writing a descriptive word. Another variation is to use small slips of paper, a different color for each category, and draw one idea on each piece of paper. How about using white paper for head shapes, blue for eyes, orange for noses, pink for mouths, yellow for ears, green for hair, and purple for body type? Draw a different head shape on each white paper, a different style of eyes on each blue paper, a different type of nose on each orange paper, etc. Now you can choose one paper from each pile and put them together to form a character. Continue trying out combinations until you find one you love.

The next time you need to pull ideas out of thin air, just reach into an idea box and you'll have plenty of ideas to share.

ENCOURAGEMENT ART

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ChildArt Magazine



On March 11, 2011, the most powerful earthquake in Japan's history struck the Pacific coast of Tohoku. The 9.0-magnitude quake triggered tsunami waves that surged up to 133 feet high, and left 20,000 people dead or missing. At least 125,000 buildings were damaged or destroyed. Reconstruction may cost \$300 billion, making it the most expensive natural disaster on record.

On June 16, 2011, the Japanese delegation of 14 children and 12 adults arrived in Washington for the 4th World Children's Festival. The group included Sho Takahashi, 14, from Tohoku. The children had worked for several weeks on a recitation play on the theme Fearful Earthquakes and Tsunamis. They were tired but excited, and took part in several activities on the first day.

That evening Japan's Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki and his wife invited the delegation to their residence. The children were nervous. Mrs. Yoriko Fujisaki took them to the Tea Ceremony room and explained the meaning of serenity. Ambassador Fujisaki also encouraged the children, who realized that they had embarked upon a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

The following day, the children gave a memorable presentation on the National Mall under the guidance of Mrs. Nozomi Kondo, president of ICAF Japan. Many spoke English for the first time. The children were pleased that their hard work was greatly appreciated by audience members, who asked questions and showed empathy for the earthquake victims.

The next step was to host a workshop where festival attendees made "Encouragement Art" for the children of Tohoku. More than 100 children and adults participated. Some people made paintings that included Japanese flags or said, "We love you Japan" and "You are not alone." Japan ICAF staff presented the attendees with maccha cookies and Japanese chocolates, postcards and magnets.



Jul-Sep 2011 | Icaf.org



ICAF Youth Board Members organized a workshop for children to make cranes for the child victims of the earthquake. Children made and wrote messages on hundreds of white and blue origami cranes. The cranes were put together as a collage, which was later framed. Sora Nithikasem, ICAF Youth Board member from New Jersey, presented the artwork to Rune Kondo, Youth Board member from Japan, at the ICAF Awards Banquet.

The Japanese delegation wore kimonos and hakamas, which fascinated American and international guests; almost all of the 400 banquet guests wanted to take photos with the Japanese visitors.

When Sho Takahashi received his award from ICAF Chairman Dr. Ashfaq Ishaq and Vice Admiral John Currier of the U.S. Coast Guard, the entire ballroom stood up to cheer and give encouragement.

NOZOMI KONDO is president of ICAF Japan (japanICAF.org).

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Mother Nature

The blooming first days of summer were tinged with creativity and co-creation. Of a special type. It was the imagination of children who had come from around the world to learn and play, sing and perform, and come to know each other through the language of art. Where else could this be but at the World Children's Festival. And, where if not at the National Mall of America? So here I was. The 2011 festival promising to be as great as the 2007 festival, where I had provided a workshop as an art teacher.

What could leave more impressions than the first day of meeting new friends? We all gathered together in a big meeting room. Finalists from around the world made new acquaintances, came out to the stage and introduced themselves and the countries they represented. The teachers also had an opportunity to invite participants to their upcoming workshops. But this was only a first encounter. The Festival opened its tents the next day.

Finalists and teachers, embassies and guests, and the curious passer-by participated in the opening ceremony. Festival Program contained many great events and hands-on workshops. In my eyes, the greatest workshops were those held by the children themselves. It was great to see the older kids of the ICAF Youth Board come to the festival to host workshops and give their presentations for the younger kids and the public. Four young illustrators from Texas informed the children how to submit works of art and writing to *Stone Soup* magazine.

The performances were unbelievable as well. I saw colorful Irish dances from the Culkin School, rhythmic dances from Uganda, and folk dances of Tajikistan. In another corner of the festival, members of a youth volunteer organization, WizArt Club, urged the children to share their artistic creativity with their communities and demonstrated how the Club members engage their community in Texas.

My own workshop taught kids to use pastels and utilize pastel techniques to create a portrait. The kids left with pastel faces of happy clowns. Along with me, many other teachers presented their own countries and art schools, and their workshops grabbed my attention. I enjoyed listening to art teacher Shona Hammond Boys from New Zealand tell about the importance of children's art in public places and how such art could bring about social change. I learned about silk painting from Sergey Gaugazov, who represented an art school of Vorkuta, Russia.

However, I did miss some of the staples of the previous Festival. There was no Lego-building workshop, and no

giant map was created from the collaborative efforts of thousands of children over three days. Nor was the Mural project of 2007 to be repeated, for lack of support. I had really liked that project – it had been effective in uniting the artistic minds of the finalists of the Arts Olympiads. I decided that this was a key experience for the finalists, and asked the ICAF Youth Board Members to collaborate and WizArt agreed to support the project with the funds that its members had collected through the sale of greeting cards with their artworks on them.

In the morning of the Festival's last day, young artists from 20 countries began to paint five pieces of canvas on the theme 'Mother Nature'. It was pleasing to see how from nothing was born a composition through the collaborative strokes of imaginative minds. For three hours, bright splashes of color appeared on canvas and turned into creations connected by a language no other than art. During this time, many passer-bys, teachers, and parents, watched the children paint (one man even commented that he had 'never seen so many kids painting together'). The final result when the canvases were put together into a mural impressed everyone.

The day ended with the Awards Banquet – the closing of the festival. All the paint-covered finalists took quick trips to shower and sink to look clean for receiving their awards. The banquet hall was amazing. The kids' grandiose project decked the stage. The children wore national costumes. The shadow theater performance by a troupe from Malaysia was impressive. Soon after the awards ceremony it was time to part company. This was a sad time. New friends exchanged e-mail to keep in touch over land and water. But thanks to ICAF, this festival will remain in the hearts of the children for the rest of their lives.

LILIANA NEDZELSKA is an art teacher and owner of Art Wheel Studio in Keller, Texas



FFor several months parents and teachers had worked hard to pay for visas and airline tickets by saving money from their salaries and selling handicrafts. When the Ugandan delegation of 19 students – from three schools in the Kampala area – and seven teachers and chaperones finally arrived at Dulles International Airport, Dr. Valencia Campbell was waiting for them. She had arranged for their stay at Howard University, her alma mater. As president of the Prince George's County Drug Policy Coalition in Maryland, she also held a fundraising event to partially offset the housing charges.

The festival was a dream come. The children learned new approaches to art, sport, and creative education. Kibuuka Mark, 11, said, "I like the way children from other countries express their culture. It is an opportunity for me to learn more about their background."

Students from the Namilyango Junior Boys School changed into traditional attire before stepping on the World Stage to perform. They wore bark cloth adorned with cowrie shells, feathers and whistles. They carried African drums and shakers. They danced with their music.

They also danced away with the award for best

musical performance and a \$1,000 cash prize. The children jumped. Music director Isingoma Felix was ecstatic. ICAF and Melody Street, a multimedia entertainment company, organized the competition, and Melody Street provided the prize money.

"The judges couldn't imagine how drums and shakers could produce unbelievable music. Our music was original. From the heart of Africa unlike the rest," said Ssembiro Mike, the group leader and ICAF representative in Uganda.

Matovu Martin, 13, recited a short poem at the festival. Later he said, "I realize that Americans and Africans are equal, however different they might appear."

The delegation also met with Uganda's ambassador to the U.S., Perezi Kamunanwire, who told entertaining stories of his childhood and how he came to be an ambassador. When the group returned home, hundreds of parents, teachers and well-wishers greeted them at the Entebbe Airport.

SSEMBIRO MIKE is ICAF representative in Uganda

Uganda's schoolchildren



Brazil in DC



We arrived in Washington one day ahead of the festival. Our delegation included Brazil's two Arts Olympiad winners: Artur Bezerra Mota Souza, 13, from Tocantins state, and Luan da Silva Teixeira, 13, from Amazonas state. Not only had they won the grand prize of a free trip to Washington for the festival, but their parents were also invited to join the delegation. And so were their teachers and the directors of their schools. I represented Canal Futura (Futura Channel), the educational television channel that has been ICAF's exclusive partner in Brazil for more than a decade.

We were traveling to Washington for the first time, so it was a pleasure to be received at the airport by ICAF volunteers Renata and Flávio Melo, a Brazilian couple living in Virginia. They were extremely thoughtful about the well-being of our group and took care of us with the great kindness and attention.

Our days were intensive, full of activities, learning and contact with new cultures. Artur and Luan took part in numerous activities and workshops. Despite not speaking English, the pair still managed to communicate with the other children through gestures and drawings. They made lots of new friends, exchanged e-mail addresses and produced group artwork. This proved to be a unique experience that marked the lives of everyone involved. One day we visited the Rockledge Elementary

in Woodbridge, Virginia and our discussions led to a partnership between Rockledge and the two Fundacao Bradesco schools in the cities of Manaus (Amazonas) and Canuana (Tocantins). The second grade students will communicate with each other, resulting in enriching experiences in the content area of science and writing.

There was still the closing festival banquet, a meeting of all the delegations on a night dedicated to those who showed great creativity: the children. Rounding off the festival with an unforgettable event, the banquet paid homage to the budding artists by giving out certificates of participation to remind them of the whole experience.

During the trip home, we all began to miss the festival. The children sobbed when it was time to depart, but returned to Brazil with lots of tales to tell their schoolmates. One of the directors noted that his students had become more sociable and self-confident. The festival boosted the children's self-esteem and made them realize just how much they can contribute to the world.

LUDMILA FIGUEIREDO is an international relations analyst for Canal Futura (futura.org.br/international). The Embassy of Brazil posted a festival video on its website and on YouTube. You can see it under "ICAFestivals."

Tie-Dye Again

I participated in the very first World Children's Festival and again in the most recent one. I was an art teacher in Barbados when my student, 9-year-old Tobias Cummins, represented our island at the 1999 festival. I had the pleasure to accompany him. What an experience it was!

Since then, I have relocated to the United States and now teach at a school in Louisville, Kentucky. One of my students won the Arts Olympiad in Kentucky and I was invited to host a workshop at the festival.

When I arrived at the National Mall I was welcomed by the sounds and activity of the festival in full swing. The colorful activities under the white tents brought the Mall alive in a remarkable way. The blend of nationalities, cultural activities, youth, music, dance, and art were joys to experience again.

Where else could one see performers in ant costumes or traditional Japanese attire, while painting a mural, viewing art, or dyeing fabric? Where else would one hear a green leaf used as a musical instrument and watch energetic stompers who proclaimed the importance of being drug free? The presence of creativity was everywhere and, regardless of nationality, no one felt like a stranger in the crowd.

At my workshop I displayed my large tie-dye pieces and copies of instructions on the tie-dyeing process. Each participant received a smaller piece of fabric

and jute string. He or she tightly wrapped the jute around the fabric to create a pattern, and selected a dye color or combination of colors. A long string was attached to each bundle, and then the fabric went into the dye baths. The children held onto these long strings and waited for their pieces to change color. While they waited, they talked to each other and made friends.

Long after the scheduled time for the workshop to end, children were still coming to create tie-dye pieces. Children took home their samples along with washing instructions.

For the children who participated in the festival, it was a great opportunity to be part of a group that seeks to preserve the highest form of creativity – an asset that can easily erode during childhood if it is not protected. They were presented with opportunities to express themselves and to be the best they can be. Most important, they can recreate this excellence back at home and train future generations to use innovative ideas in music and art.

I hope to see ICAF representatives from EVERY country at the next World's Children Festival.

JUDY LAYNE-BANKS is a textile artist and teacher of art and music.



Leadership and Peace

– and so much more!

Here we all were, adults and children from around the world, coming together to celebrate each other, our cultures, talents and love for one another. More than once I sat watching the stage and saying to myself, "This is absolutely amazing; people would pay hundreds of dollars to see this kind of talent on stage." It was breathtaking to see the singing, dancing, and music being put forth by incredible troupes from one country after another. I know it takes a huge amount of money to make all this happen. Is there a better gift to give our children? I dare say, no.

"It takes a huge amount of money to make all this happen. Is there a better gift to give our children? I dare say, no."

I shared the podium with some very accomplished and wonderful people. The topic I was to address was leadership and peace. What an honor it was to be able to deliver this talk to such an outstanding group of world citizens! Because it

was Father's Day, I was quick to say thank you to all the fathers in the audience. Here are some of the points I tried to make in my comments:

- ▶ Believe in the dignity and worth of every human being regardless of abilities, class, race, culture or faith..
- ▶ Build cross-cultural friendships. Start right here, right now!
- ▶ Raise your understanding of people.
- ▶ Lower your ignorance of people's cultures and faiths.
- ▶ Don't look and stare. ... Engage and learn!
- ▶ Do in life what you love to do.

I ended my speech by quoting Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.:

"Cowardice asks the question is it safe? Expediency asks the question, is it politic? Vanity asks the question, is it popular? But conscience asks the question, is it right? And there comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must take it because his conscience tells him that it is the right thing to do."

As soon as I left the stage, artist and educator Shona Hammond Boys – a recipient of New Zealand's Queen's Service Medal – approached me. She wanted me to know how important my message was to the youth and especially to a young girl from New Zealand at the festival, who was struggling with some incredibly hard choices. "All leaders in New Zealand need to hear these words and learn to be more effective leaders for my country," she said. My workshop on "Creating a Shared Vision" was to begin soon. She told me she would come attend it. Sure enough, there she was with a woman from Greece. One of the many benefits of this festival is that you meet great people from around the world. My other workshop had educators from Poland and Spain.

That evening, I got on a plane back to Burlington, Vermont. Was my life richer for this experience? No doubt. Did the festival give me optimism about the future of this world? Absolutely! Do I recommend others come and participate in four years when the festival will happen again? Don't miss it!

Gary De Carolis, District Director of Family Services, Chittenden County, Vermont





Participants' Perspectives



"I always thought of the arts to be done by famous artists and found in books and museums. But after the festival I have come to appreciate the arts by everyone, especially students just like me who come from all over the world."

-Fabien Pineda, Washington, D.C., ambassador at the festival, Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School



"Everything was great. I had the feeling students enjoyed it very much and, as a teacher, I've had a beautiful and enriching experience giving a workshop for children from all over the world."

-Cecilia Caruso of Buenos Aires, Argentina, who hosted the Myths and Legends of the Americas workshop.



"The simple truth behind the World Children's Festival is clear - Art and creativity are tools for building a better future. Through art, dance, music and a lot of smiles and love, each group had a rare opportunity to act as peace and cultural ambassadors, and communicate their unique cultural excellence with similar groups of children from other parts of the world. Such extended capacity to celebrate each other's differences, is the most important trade we could hope for in these young human beings that are the world's next generation of leaders."

-Gilad Benamram and Guy Frenkel, co-founders and managing directors, Melody Street, Inc., Los Angeles, California



"Through the wonderful speakers, the different cultures, and fabulous performances it showed me that all these wonderful talents came together through art and children. Children can make a difference in the world, and this event gave me the power to stand up for what I believe in. We are the world."

-Stephanie Marie Hanvey, teen singer-songwriter from New Jersey (far right in photo, joining children to sing "We are the World")



"We can all learn from the children of the world and realize that our next generation has the passion, creativity and empathy to shape the future and build a better world."

-Vice Admiral John P. Currier, Deputy Commandant for Mission Support, United States Coast Guard



"The festival was very important to acquaint American people not only with the traditional Tajik dance, but also to show a variety of rich cultural traditions of Tajikistan ... inspiring the girls to continue doing creative work in their home country."

-Mumtoz Kamolzoda of Tajikistan, who hosted the Children's Art and Historiography workshop



"All the events and activities were excellent and testimony to very good planning and teamwork. Many connections and very valuable friendships have been made which will bring to fruition much long-term good for developing children's creative futures."

—Shona Hammond Boys of the New Zealand Children's Art House FoundationTrust



"We got to see some very extraordinary kids show off their talents. We saw some great dance performances as well as singers and instrumentalists."

—Tyler Thomas, 15, who captivated audiences with his pitch-perfect Mandarin as part of the Great Wall Youth Orchestra and Chorus of Laney College, Oakland, California



"We met people from other countries that had similar interests to ours. We felt more connected with the society... (It was) a lifetime opportunity that shaped our lives towards better understanding of this world."

—Karina Kharaneka, docent, Belarusian Academy of Arts (center in photo, with U.S. Coast Guard Rear Admiral Ronald Hewitt and Belarus Arts Olympiad co-winner Kristina Scimanskaaj)

Delegates to the World Children’s Festival 2011

U.S. delegates

Washington, DC.

Kennedy Adams, Daisha Keys, DeAndre Perkins and Ebony Perkins, Fabian Pineda, Kelly Miller, Kennedy Adams, Isaiah Coe, Nia Price, Martin Fleischer, Sophie Jane Danish, Sophie Strazella, Bria McGregor, Devon Lee, Aly Nguyen, Herbert Street, Khalil Warren, Jasmine Alarcon, Ayala Albert, Amanda Misaki Buker, Hannah Sakura Buker, Alyssa Dwyer, Lyndsey Dwyer, Carolyn Hane, Mo Hewitt, Erin Lovell, Anaïs Chie Meier, Dominique Naomi Meier, Genevieve Maki Meier, Jessa Nather, Mian Osumi, Rena Schwartzt-Shigihara, Risa Oshinsky, Ella Robinson and Shizumi Manale (Shizumi Kodomo Dance Troupe), Latin American Youth Center, Amazing Poderosas Dance Crew, Washington D.C. Dance Troupe), Young Women’s Drumming Empowerment Project, Nicole Howard- M.O.M.I.E’s, Joel Bergner, Chess Challenge, Fabio Melo, Rain Whitfield (Filmore Arts Center), Edna Ranck, Command Sergeant Major John O’Connell (St Johns College High School Honor Guard), Larry Soler (Partnership for a Healthier America), Tom Tidwell, Dr. Safiya Samman, Sue Cummings and Iris Velez (U.S. Forest Service), Dr. Amylia Barnett (Columbia Heights Educational Campus band), Rear Admiral Ronald T. Hewitt, Curtis Odom, Terri Dickerson, Donna Walker-Ross, Captain Catherine Haines, Dr. Mary Gibbons, Portia Davidson, Joel Casto, Luis Carmona, Marianne Lachance, Aaron Parker, Jocelyn Soriano, Tangela Hummons, Kendria Countee, LT Mike Russell, Isabel Castellanos and Kendria Countee (U.S. Coast Guard), Asya L. Griffin, Aycan L. Koca, Beliz F. Griffin, Eda A. Tercan, Eray O. Tulun, Ekin A. Atay, Gokce S. Necioglu, Gokhan T. Necioglu, Gokalp A. Necioglu, Jeyda Turker, Jeyhan Turker, Kaya L. Oyuz, Sara E. Dabak. Selin S. Boybeyi, and Asli Necioglu (Turkish Folk Dance Troupe)

Alabama

Hannah Walton and Mrs. Walton

Arizona

Lea Byrnes, Shohan Khan and Salam Khan, Linda Cato, James Levine

California

Tyler Thompson, Earla JonesAndrew Polonsky, Valerie Spektor, Wendy Milette (Be a Hero), Lakshmi Lambert (Dances of Universal Peace), Melody Street, Louise Valeur (Paintbrush Diplomacy), Mai Breech and Robert Breech (Children’s Art Village), Mary Kay Hoal, Tracy Epperson (Yoursphere.com), Kathy Leung, Sheryl Chew, Eric Chung, Raymond Huang, Brian Chow, Robin Fu, Wanying Fu, Amy Huang, Cameron Jang, Sherry Lin, Louisa Liu, Ryan Ma, Anthony Su, Silvia Tjang, Emily Zheng, Priscilla Chen, Sabrina Ham, Jasmine Hoang, Felix Huang, Eric Lau, Carol Lee, Tracy Tjang, Charmae Wang, Brian Zheng, Christy Cheung, Jessica Choy, Ricky Szeto, Tyler Thompson, Irene Pan, Ming Yan Ynag, Nicholas Chung, Barry Fong, Mona Wong, Jonathan Yang, Elizabeth Yiu, Taylor Yiu, Kenton Chick, Vanessa Chiu, David Dingyi Lao, Ansheng Li, Selina Pan, Billy Phannavong, Chris Wei, Nancy Zheng, Vivia Yan, Joanna Mei Qi Su, Kenna Chick, Vicky Kong, Angel Trach, Yu Qiao Zhen, Carrie Huang, Manyi Leung, Connie Lee, David Su, Yini Wang (Great Wall Youth Orchestra)

Connecticut

Tatayna Ishutkina and Muntoz Kamolzoda (Fermata Art Organization), Seth Bendfeldt (WCF photographer)

Florida

Dr. Liston Bochette and Elizabeth Ganzi (Art of the Olympians), Judy Shintani, Grace W. Yang

Georgia

Kaci Xie and Ada Qi, Kevin Leong, Jane Harris Hill, Michelle Bland, Janceata Rogers, Destiny Kluck, Justin Williams. Kelsey Kimball, McCall Kimball, Lorenzo Maddox, Lateefa Mosley, EJ Beckham, Dwayne Rogers, Janceata Rogers, Cathy McEvily, Shemeka Maddox, Debbie Kluck (Ant Hill Live!), Cymia Telleria (and Cymia’s band), Traci Fields and Tosha Mobley (Bedazzle-Do), Kit Hughes

Illinois

Kevin Ray, Sara Vljajcic, Dr. Paul Vljajcic (South Shore Drill Team), Professor Jon Daniel Davey (Southern Illinois University)

Indiana

Annie Weithman, Meggie Weithman, Dr. Paul Weithman, Dr. Maura Ryan

Kentucky

Judy Layne-Banks, Isaac Garr

Massachusetts

Sana Nadkarni, Sangeeta Nadkarni and Shirish Nadkarniand, Hannah Richards

Maine

Livia Ginchereau, Shanlee Ginchereau, and Deloris A. White (Berwick Academy), Daniel Minter and Marcia Minter (L.L. Bean)

Maryland

Leticia Candra, Courtney Tillman, Visions Performing Arts Company, Anna Bernanke

(Joe’s Movement Emporium Tutoring Center), (Ebony Sunshine Inc.), (Shizumi Kodomo Dance Troupe), (Culkin Irish Dancers), Isiah Lemons , Dr. Alan E. Guttmacher , Mary Ellen Beaty-O’Ferrall, Dr. Mike Dougherty, K. Michael Crawford, Wendy Cohen, Nil S. Navaie, Christina Kaputsos, Dr. Valencia Campbell, Chrissellene G. Petropoulos

Michigan

Jennifer Zhu, Irene Qi, Lei Ding, Yuan Zhu and Kristin Zhu, Dr. Gail Christopher (W.K. Kellogg Foundation)

Minnesota

Gabby Law, Sandy Law, Renee Sonka, Luke Sonka (Mounds Park Academy), C. Ray Frigard and Janet Frigard.

North Carolina

Eliza Flanagan, Leslie Flanagan and Mr. Flanagan

New Mexico

Sarah Pierro, Jessica Ernst and Dayna Griego

New Jersey

Stephanie Marie Hanvey, Lisa Brown and Claudia Jean Hill, Sora Nithikasem, Pam Nithikasem, Sacha Nithikasem and Paxton Nithikasem

New York

Obadiah McBride and James McNeil, Owen Om ozone, Tyrel Morris and Andrew Morris, (Foundation of Filipino Artists), Lucas Takeshi Stratmann, Professor Aziz Rana (Cornell University), Dr. Kristina Denisova, Dawn Quaker, and Grace Yang(Columbia University), Dr. Cyndi Burnett, Melinda Walker, and Jenna M. Smith (International Center for Studies in Creativity), Scott Barry Kaufman (NYU),Glenton Davis (Pop Soul U)

Ohio

Ziarah Gibbs, Q-Kidz Dance-Drill Team, Dan Landau and Mrs Landau

Oklahoma

Lilly Klontz, Dr. Kelly Klontz, Terrie Klontz and Morgan Klontz (Heritage Hall), Susannah and Robin Henson

Pennsylvania

Ruby Brown, Sarah Miller, Professor Wanda Knight (Pennsylvania State University and U.S. Society for Education through the Arts)

South Carolina

Amelia Riggs, Leah Todd, Carletha Anderson, Santarra Brown, Nykiria Chapman, Jamar Croskey, Omar Croskey, Shaniya Franklin, Justin Gallimore, Yolanda Jaimes, Jimmie Joe, Jamya June, Ronald McGee, Shanaira McKnight, Eddie Milledge, Aron Milledge, Tae Milledge, Desmond Mitchell, Nero Iyanna, Marcus Phillips, Khameron Plerson, Payton Reese, Christopher Robertson, Kierra Robertson, Jense Sabillon, Emmanuel Shaw, Comilla Smith, Michael Smith, Imanee Summerlin, Octavia Williams (Lemira Elementary Percussion Ensemble)

South Dakota

BlackHill Christian Academy

Tennessee

Leah Todd (Currey Ingram Academy)

Texas

Dominic Nedzelskyi, Stanislav Nedzelskyi and Liliana Nedzelskya(WizArt Club), Solomiya Bolyukh, Yuriy Bolyukh, Olena Bolyuk and Ostap Bolyuk, Viola Delgado, Elva Perez, Mary Campbell, Preston Green, Ryan Conover, Erin Ruszkowski, Melissa Ayr and Harris Warren, Paarth Koushik, Dr. Rahul Koushik and Dr. Manisha Koushik

Vermont

Gary De Carolis

Virginia

Abdullah Alsaigh, Beth Larkin, Natalie Gates, Carlton Tillman, Nicole Tillman, Delores Tillman, Elizabeth Herring, Doris Erkhart and Julia Engram, Bassfinger, Corrinne Calhoun, Studio Bleu Dance Center, David Cordova, Carlos Cordova, Jonathan Guevarra, Anahi Ovando, Betsy Tapia, Keisy Tapia and Marizabel Moya (Fraternidad Tinkus San Simon), Rhythm in Bleu, Serap & Robert Wiedemer, Matilda Koroma, Crystal Forson, Sophie Diene, Moustapha Diene, Aysis Nevels, Morgan Graves, Matthew Woodward, Aliyona Tekleberhan, Xenia Smith, Alima Kargbo, Dieunette Adusei-Peasah, Angela Lalwani, Toni Tucker, Anthony Tucker, Wache Taylor, Brianna McGhee, Immanuel Metaferia, Salome Metaferia, Morgan Graves (Alexandria City Community Theatre), Dr. Deatema L. Abdul-Latif, Ana Cano-Mirabel and Sean Duffy (Children Philanthropy Center), Pitaiyo, Becky Jaramillo, Sarah Sniffen, Shari k Bryan, Patrick Vennebush, Rina Zaidi (A+ Dropouts), Dr. Jagadish Shukla (George Mason University), Adam Caskey (ABC-7 News), Michelle Fraser (Waples Mill Elementary School Orchestra), Jean Campbell (World Peace Dream Project), John E Williams, Visions Performing Arts Company, Dance Institute of Washington, Minor Kings, Alexandra Kelly-Maartens, Rebecca Jamilla

International delegates

Argentina

Maria Ines Goldzycher, Maria Claudia Albini, Cecilia Beatriz Caruso, Romina Pundang, Maria Laura Siccardi

Aruba

Marifer Aguirre Broca

Australia

Madeleine Flynn and Tim Humphrey (Megaphone Project)

Azerbaijan

Narmin Ismayilzade, Jale Rizvanova, Narmin Abdullayeva, Nargiz Gurbanova, Ramin Abbasov, Iigara Talibova, Mustafayeva Zaza

Belarus

Filazapovich Nicolai, Hardzeichyk Volga, Katsiaryna Lazar, Karyna kharaneka, Hurynovich Valiantsina, Filazapovich Kolaj, Scimanskaaj Kristina

Bolivia

Fraternidad Tinkus San Simon

Brazil

Artur Bezzerá Mota Souza, Luan da Silva Teizeira, Ludmila Figueredo, and Lucia Regina (Canal Futura)

Cameroon

Nereus Patrick Cheo, Tobithe Moghomayie Jason William, and Moghomayie Serge Simplicé

Canada

Haley Oliver, Jane Neily Mallay (Rainbow Chain Project), Avy Loftus, Maya Alexandria D’Alessandro

Chile

Paulina Contreras Correa (Universidad del Desarrollo)

Colombia

Maritza Mora Hurtado, Luhayder Trujillo Perez, Xemiramix Trujillo Mora, Isabel Jaimes Salazar, Anderson Mora Hurtado, Pacha Mama

Ecuador

Isabella Crespo, Ramiro Crespo Mensaje

Egypt

Mennatalla Elgedawy, Mr and Mrs Amr Elgedawy, Rabab Nawar

Estonia

Jana Kondratjeva, Marina Popova

Germany

Felicia De Marco, Angelika de Marco and Friedhelm de Marco, Antie Tesche-Mentzen

Great Britain

Sonia Furlong, Helenita Noble and Kate Greer (Christina Nobel Foundation)

Hungary

Sarolta Simon and Sebestyén Simon, Gyöngyvér Szakál, Ambrus Nagy and Attila Nagy, Attila Kovacs, Katalin Boscsi

India

Arushi Agarwal, Shubhi Maheshwari, Aanchal Mathur, Harshita Chaudhari, Shreya P. Joshi, Antara Hebbar, Prama Mukherjee, Khushi Maheshwari, Saniya Chethan, Nayha Pochiraju, Lara Kulkarni, Antra Shah, Greeshma Bhat, Vani Arora, Leena Satpathy, Sahiti Inaganti, Ishan Saha, Shivani Singh, Rahul Vantair, Varun Reddy Vonteru, Isha Satapathy and Bratati Saha (Arpan Dance Academy)

Israel

Guy Frenkel and Gilad Benamram (Melody Street, Inc.)

Japan

Aiko Nishihara, Ayano Tanaka, Hikaru Ishiwata, Ryoka Yonezawa, Risako Mizuno, Teruhito Sekine, Kimindo Kosaka, Sho Takahashi, Dr. Hisara Kondo, Nozomi Kondo, Rune Kondo, Masafumi Zusho, Kachiru Horiuchi, Nozomi Takahashi, Daichi Takahashi, Keiki Sekine, Fumiko Nogawa, Yukari Nishihara, Taiju Nishihara, Riko Nishihara, Sauri Mizuno, Kaoruko Mizuno, Kimindo Kosaka, Hiroshi Tanaka, Mrs. Tatsuko Tanaka, Ayano Tanaka, Kenichi Yonezawa, Nanako Yonezawa, Ruka Yonezawa, Ryoka Yonezawa

Korea (South)

Dr. Jeremy Seligson (Wonkwang Buddhist University), Grace Hwang, Juhye Kang, Yuri Choi, Jiun Chung, Jonathan Kim, Justin Roh, Christine Y Lee, Victoria Seo, Erica Choi, Austin M Lee, Soo Hyun Moon, and Risa Park (Han Nori)

Kyrgyzstan

B’ART Contemporary, Kerezova Saltanat Kerezovna, Etekbaeva Yrysbekyzy, Kzaakbaeva Asel Auarbievna

Latvia

Amanda Baris, Rendijs Platacis, Elita Teilane (Balvi Art Schools), Ksenija Hmejoba , Nellija Teilane

Lebanon

Diana Abi Rached, Assafiri Douha, Raya Walid Sawaya

Liberia

Huyesin Fati Baba, Jade Brewer, Adolphus S. Carter, Esther N. Y. Fallah, Fato A. Wheremongar and Boo Brewer, Korpo M. Supuwood

Macedonia

Martin Jakimovski, Bojan Zvezdakovski, Ivan Trpkov

Malaysia

Kasih Leia Ixora Azhar, Sarah Batrisyia, Raja Noor Zamira, Jes Izman Izaidin (Tree Theatre Group)

Mexico

Emilio Diaz Vazquez, Mr. Alfonso Diaz, Angelica Diaz, Madeleine Gallardo Rojas, Madeleine Rojas, Liliana Bandin and Jacob Guerra (Casa Pacifica)

Myanmar

Kaung Myat Zaw

Netherlands

Marijn van Oosten

New Zealand

Ripeka Te Teira, Shona Hammond Boys and Melanie Budge (New Zealand Childrens Art House Foundation)

Northern Cyprus

Ceyda Uysal and Mrs Uysal, Selin Melike Sakan and Mr. and Mrs Sakan

Nigeria

Nkemdilim Oselloka-Orakwue

(The Change Makers, comprised of 26 performers with 16 children ages 6 to 16)

Oman

Majida bint Darwish Al-Jadidi, Yasmin bint Sulaiman bin Humood Al-Wadahi, Eman Said Rashid Al Balushi (High Committee for National Day Celebrations), Buthaina Said Saleh Alrawahi (Ministry of Education)

Peru

Martha Ilanos (Peace Ambassadors)

Poland

Julia Szreder, Paulina Kazirod

Romania

Andreea Bodge, Ioana Bodge, Liviu Sorin Bodge, Teodora Alexandra Lazar, Natalia Mihaela Lazar,Natalia Mihaela Lazar, Babuta Anca Delia, Professor Popescu Iordan Valeriu (Euro-Asia Cooperation Foundation)

Russia

Irina Fibih, Tatiana Fibih, Sergey Gagauzov

Spain

Professor M. Reyes Gonzalez Vida and Professor Carmen Gonzalez Castro (University of Grenada)

Sweden

Christer Edman, Moa Johansson, Ronja Emilsson, Niklas Nygård’s, Simon Eneroth-Winberg, Helen Karlsson, Carina Oscarsson, Shirin Allahyar, Arian Abedin

Tajikistan

Dilnoza Zoidova and Nodira Zoidova, Mardzhona Akhunova, Olim Kamalov, Sarvinoz Hojievá, Shakhzoda Khamidova, Mairam Osimi

Turkey

Erkut Atik, Sofia Cuddington, Zeynep Kurt, Defne Yaman, Dalya Kinsizer, Eda Bakkaloglu, Bade Kolcuoglu, Berk Turkkani, Serra Goker, Serra Amasya, Miray Celik, Su Degirmenci, Erkin Ates, Asli Kinsizer, Buse Dogrusoz, Serdar Sadik Dozrusoz, Buket Dogrusoz, Bulent Oz, Emre Oz, Delfin Basar, Dinara Basar, Figen Merdin, Selin Merdin, Alp Merdin, Inanc Merdin, Yelda Simsek, Lara Mitra Simsek, Mahur Dirin, Ceren Dirin, Kerem Dirin, Lale Cavus, Irem Cavus, Derya Turkkani, Berk Turkkani, Onder Turkkani, Dilek Yildirim, Aleyna Yildirim, Esmá Saeb Afendi, Lina Turhan, Sevgi Tuzun Madioglu, Candan Madioglu

Uganda

Baraza Vincent, Ssembiro Mike, Isingoma Felix, Ochieng Mathew, Rev Sr Bukirwa Correti, Lwamasaka Prosper, Musana Martin, Lubega Simon Peter, Luyombya Jordan, Wavamuno Patrick, Kavuma Arnold, Osuna Emmanuel, Kisuze Pius Mark, Kibuuka Jordan, Serunkuma, Musamba Mourice, Lwangwa, Mwesigwa Enoson, Kalema, Lwanga Benjamin, Mudhasi David, Zziwa Timothy Steven, Kiyaga Jessy, Ssonko John Bosco, Karumuna Ian, Ndiko Graham, Kibuuka Mark Braine, Kiyingi, Kamulegeya Justus, Ssewanyana Sarah

Ukraine

Andriy Bogolyubov, Klavdiya Bogolyubova, Anna Bogolyubova, Edgar Bogolyubova

Different groups come together



Bulletin Board



Members of the Namilyango Junior Boys School in Uganda received the WCF Performance Award from ICAF and Los Angeles-based Melody Street, Inc.



The ICAF Youth Board inducted new members: Solomiya Bolyukh, Dominic Nedzelskyi and Paarth Koushik (United States), Emilio Diaz (Mexico), Irina Fibih (Russia), Martin Jakimovski (Macedonia), Mairam Osimi and Dilnoza Zoidova (Tajikistan), Jale Rizanova (Azerbaijan), Teruhito Sekine (Japan), Julia Szreder (Poland), Ripeka Te Teira (New Zealand).



Professor Wanda Knight, president of the United States Society for Education through Art (USSEA), presented the 2011 Ziegfield Award to Dr. Ashfaq Ishaq for outstanding international leadership in arts education.



ICAF co-founder Katty Guerami and Dr. Ashfaq Ishaq received a medal from the Sultanate of Oman's Ministry of Education.



Vice Admiral John Currier of the U.S. Coast Guard presented Dr. Ishaq with the President's Volunteer Service Award.



Did you know that if a child's creativity is not nurtured, it could be lost forever?
Visit www.ICAF.org to see what you can do.

To view the festival program, visit www.WorldChildrensFestival.org.

You can view more than 6,000 festival photos the festival participants uploaded at
<http://photos.worldchildrensfestival.org>.