

Fact Sheet

The International Child Art Foundation (ICAF), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, has served as the leading art and creativity organization for our children and their international counterparts since 1997.

Mission: To employ the power of the arts for the development of creativity and empathy—key attributes of successful learners and leaders.

Programs: Global programs to cultivate children’s imagination (the Arts Olympiad), reduce violence (Peace through Art Programs), and remediate suffering (Healing Arts Programs).

ChildArt magazine: A full-color, advertisement-free quarterly published since 1998 to enhance children’s understanding of themselves, their position in the world, and their place in the universe.

Pedagogy: Introduce children to the *Artist-Athlete Ideal*SM of the creative mind and healthy body and introduce educators to *STEAMS Education*SM which integrates **Arts** and **Sport** with STEM disciplines (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) for children’s holistic development.

Advocacy: Every contemporary art museum must dedicate a single room to art by children, that corporate offices should devote one wall to display children’s art, and that every child’s right to be creative and empathic be respected and honored.

Events: After hosting the very-first national children’s art festival in U.S. history (held on the National Mall in Washington in September 1998), the ICAF has successfully produced the World Children’s Festival every four years since 1999 as the “Olympics” of children’s imagination and co-creation. A world leader in children’s art exhibitions, the ICAF has arranged exhibitions at a White House event, the United Nations Headquarters, and in scores of countries and at several major conferences including the IMF/World Bank Annual Meetings. In 2006, the ICAF organized the first European Children’s Festival at the Olympia Park in Munich.

Impact: Already, approximately five million children worldwide have participated in and directly benefitted from the ICAF’s innovative programs and nearly 150,000 individuals have benefitted from their participation in the festivals, exhibitions and other events organized by the ICAF. Reports and articles on the ICAF’s impact have been published in the *Artist’s Magazine*, *Arts & Activities*, *Canvas*, *Children’s Voice*, *Cyber Therapy Magazine*, *Finance & Development*, the *Journal of Urban Cultural Research*, *SchoolArts*, *START magazine*, the *State Education Standard*, the *UNESCO e-Journal on Multi-Disciplinary Research on Arts Education*, *Vogue Bambini*, and the UK’s leading medical journal *The Lancet*.

Partners: The ICAF’s Education Partners for the 5th Arts Olympiad (2013-2016) include Americans for the Arts, the Association of Childhood Education International, the International Center for Studies on Creativity, and the United States Society for Education Through the Arts. The U.S. Olympic Committee has granted the ICAF an exclusive license to use “Arts Olympiad” and related marks. The ICAF has country partners in nearly 100 countries.

Funding: Some of the world’s most creative companies (Adidas, Disney, Faber-Castel, Hilton, WACOM, and Yahoo!) have supported the ICAF in the past. The ICAF relies on donations from creative and empathic individuals to sustain its operations and work.

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