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Contact: Maya Barnes Dholakia media@icaf.org | +1 202 530 1000

"ART for HEALTH" – Special ChildArt Magazine issue now available free of charge

WASHINGTON DC, July 8, 2020 – The International Child Art Foundation (ICAF) announced today that it is offering free downloads of *ChildArt* Magazine's July-Sept 2020 issue on "Art for Health" to help families and children cope with Covid-19.

As of today, the confirmed cases of Covid-19 in the United States exceed 2.6 million, with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reporting an astounding 130,000 American deaths due to this pandemic. Confirmed cases worldwide have topped 10.5 million, with 512,000 fatalities. The weight and scale of this suffering and loss in such a short period can be traumatic, especially for young children. *ChildArt* Magazine shows that creating art can help the young process their emotions and bring feelings that are repressed or difficult to express out in the open. Art can heal a person and improve mental and physical health.

Mary Anne Carter, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, has written for *ChildArt* an essay on the importance of the arts for students' cognitive development and academic performance. Other contributors include Dr. Gayathri Dowling and Dr. Katia Delrahim Howlett of the National Institute on Drug Abuse at the National Institutes of Health.

"We are delighted to make this special issue of *ChildArt* available free to millions of families and kids to help them cope with the pandemic and its terrible consequences," said Dr. Ashfaq Ishaq, publisher and editor of *ChildArt*. The magazine can be downloaded, shared, and printed at https://ICAF.org/ArtforHealth.

ChildArt is an ad-free magazine published quarterly since 1998 by ICAF, a nonprofit that serves American children as their national arts organization, to foster their creativity and develop mutual empathy between them and with their peers worldwide through the universal language of art.

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