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2020 World Children's Festival to take place at The National Mall from July 31st to August 2nd

WASHINGTON DC, September 6, 2019 –The International Child Art Foundation (ICAF) has confirmed that the 6th World Children's Festival (WCF) will take place at The National Mall on July 31 - August 2, 2020 at 10th to 13th Streets, across from the Smithsonian Castle.

ICAF's mission is to inspire students to be "creative-empaths"—the inventors, change-makers and collaborative innovators of tomorrow who have an abiding sensitivity towards others. For students' creative development, ICAF organizes the Arts Olympiad—a free-of-charge school art program that empowers students ages 8 to 12 to overcome the well-documented "4th-grade slump" in their creativity. Schools interested in participating can download the lesson plan at https://ICAF.org/ArtsOlympiad and mail to ICAF their school entries before December 20, 2019. The Arts Olympiad school art contests will lead to the selection in January 2020 of the official WCF delegates from the participating U.S. school districts and nearly one hundred countries.

A three-day celebration in our nation's capital of "Creativity, Diversity, and Unity," the WCF begins with "Health & Environment Day," followed by "Creativity & Imagination Day," and culminates with "Peace & Leadership Day." ICAF's educational objective is to infuse schoolchildren's creativity with mutual empathy and enhance their global consciousness and competencies. For more, please peruse this <u>brief</u> on the WCF.

Special activities planned for the WCF include:

- 1) "Children of the World's Earth Flag." Children will design and collaboratively produce this flag for NASA's first human mission to Mars.
- 2) "Children's Heavens." Children will co-imagine heaven and render their perspectives in murals for an immersive virtual reality experience "VR Heaven".
- **3)** "Peace Everyone!" Performing artists will fuse their music and performances for the grand finale. As example, please see this <u>4-minute</u> music clip.

"In 2020, while Tokyo hosts the Olympics and Dubai the World Expo, our nation's capital will be home to the World Children's Festival," said ICAF Chairman Dr. Ashfaq Ishaq.

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