

## Testimonials

*The Arts Olympiad was one of the most exceptional moments in Kate's life (and mine as well) .. she still loves to share the experience with anyone who will listen. She is continuing with art throughout high school and has chosen to pursue an education in architecture following high school using both her artistic and mathematical loves as her profession.*

-Monika McKean, mother of Arts Olympiad finalist, Canada (April 15, 2007)

*Thank you for the opportunity to review recent issues of Childart. I found the articles to be consistently well written, respectful of the young artists they profile, and illustrated with works of art that are memorable and stimulating. Not only is this professionally-produced magazine both visually and intellectually engaging in content and design, but in these days of steady cutbacks in U.S. arts education programs, it offers a cogent reminder of art's central role in linking world cultures, each to each. For its polycultural outlook and special focus, Childart is unique among magazines for children—but readers of any age will find it a rewarding way to broaden their cultural horizons.*

- John Peters, Supervising Librarian, Central Children's Room, The New York Public Library (January 6, 2006)

*Your magazine inspires me and gives me fresh ideas. For that, I am most grateful. Continue with your fine work and know that I am so appreciative of your generosity.*

-Karen McNamara, Art Teacher, North Providence, RI (September 20, 2005)

*I spoke about the ICAF and its mission as part of my D'var Torak, highlighting the connection between creativity and peace building. I am a very creative kid, and I really appreciate all that the ICAF does. I enjoyed discussing its mission and making it a part of my Bar Mitzvah. I explained to my friends and family how the ICAF encourages kids to create a better world through their own creativity and talked about how creative kids are more likely to become creative thinkers and leaders. I think this is what becoming Bar Mitzvah really means...*

-Matt Wilson, New Jersey (August 14, 2004)

*The Arts Olympiad, produced every four years by the International Child Art Foundation, presents each of us a unique opportunity to involve young artists from our Congressional Districts in an event with important national and international implications.*

-Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, Co-chair, Congressional Arts Caucus (January 7, 2003 letter to Members of the Arts Caucus and Arts Supporters)

*The ICAF exhibition "clearly shows us that when we allow children to explore their creativity through the arts, they shine."*

-US Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley, La Maison Francaise, Washington, DC April 19, 2000

*I will always remember everyone in ICAF. It was one of the best experiences I've ever had.*

-Carmen Cestero, Art teacher from Puerto Rico and ICAF 2003 summer intern

*For all of us, the beauty and thoughtfulness of these works offer powerful evidence of the breadth and depth of the global conversation that is cultivated and perpetuated through children's art. Thank you so much for sharing these images with us and for the important work you do.*

-Jessica Hoffmann Davis, Director, Arts in Education Program, Harvard University

*The positive message of peace and hope promised by the International Child Art Foundation (ICAF) is commendable and worthy of great recognition.*

-Lt. Gen. Joseph Cosumano, Jr., Commanding General, US Army Space and Missile Defense Command (November 2, 2003)

*ICAF can help us seek and develop ways in which we can address the issue of arts programs in our individual schools and countries. In this endeavor, ICAF has had a positive impact in the Marshall Islands: by allowing us to become involved, and giving us a head start in re-thinking how we can further the arts in the Marshall Islands.*

-Lady Mary Note, First Lady of the Marshall Islands (September 9, 2003)

*The Foundation clearly makes an outstanding contribution to international cultural understanding.*

-The Honorable Patricia S. Harrison, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State (March 7, 2002)

*I have always been a supporter of enhancing the creativity and imagination of all the world's children.*

-U.S. Senator Mary L. Landrieu (September 27, 2001)

*Hillary and I want to thank you for the role you played in making America's Millennium such an overwhelming success.*

-President Bill Clinton (February 4, 2000)

*May the New Year bring you joy in your important work on behalf of all children.*

-Elie Wiesel, Nobel Laureate (January 1, 2000)

*I am grateful to organizations like the International Child Art Foundation that gives us the opportunity to see the world through the eyes of our nation's young people. I encourage you to continue to support programs that help children to discover their talents and believe in themselves.*

-First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton (June 29, 1999)

*It gives me great pleasure to be a part of this celebration of children's art, creativity and imagination. I send my warmest welcome to all of you – artists, parents, teachers, First Ladies, and honored guests – gathered here in Washington, D.C. to commemorate the new millennium.*

-Former First Lady Betty Ford (June 29, 1999)

*Libby and I are extremely proud to serve as Honorary Committee members... Young people can gain a greater understanding of themselves and the world around them through their involvement in creative activities, and the efforts of ICAF to promote and celebrate children's art is truly commendable.*

-Governor George E. Pataki, New York (June 29, 1999)

*I am honored to be a part of the International Child Art Foundation's celebration of children's art, creativity and imagination. I have always felt that through the arts, people gain a special knowledge of themselves, as well as others. You are to be commended for your contribution to this historical international event.*

-First Lady of Louisiana Alice Foster (June 21, 1999)

*I thought I could be with icaf all my life, like being a volunteer*

-Giada Kuka (age 13) Albania's delegate to ICAF's 2003 Festival

*The atmosphere created by ICAF at the festival with workshops held by famous artists and the making of new friends influenced me to continue drawing and painting.*

-Tamara Mamedova (age 16) Azerbaijan's delegate to ICAF's 1999 Festival.

*ICAF is bringing children together from all corners of the world regardless of race, ethnicity or religion in the name of art and bright future ahead of us. During the last few years I have succeeded a lot both in art and science, thanks to the support and encouragement from your organization.*

-Anguel Alexiev (age 14) California delegate to ICAF 2003 Festival

*I feel that ICAF is not just art. It has become a learning process for Philbert.*

-Yong Heng Foo, parent of Malaysian delegate to ICAF's 2003 Festival

*It was an experience I will never forget! Amazing, colorful, wonderful and life-changing event for me.*

-Carmen Ortiz (age 12), Louisiana's delegate to ICAF's 2003 Festival

*The festival was truly a "once-in-a-lifetime" experience... The awards ceremony was clearly the highlight of the week, and of Dianna's life, probably only to be rivaled in the future by her prom night and wedding day!*

-Deborah T. Mazzone, parent of New York's delegate to ICAF's 2003 Festival

*I really enjoyed working on the U.S. Mural. It was one of the best experiences of my life!*

-Jenna Skophammer (age 16) Iowa's delegate to ICAF's ChildArtUSA Festival in 1998

*On behalf of the congressional Member Organization for the Arts, we applaud your efforts to promote child art globally... We have seen firsthand the benefits that arts competitions can have for young people... Certainly, the ICAF art contests will similarly encourage artistic skills, imagination and confidence among young people.*

- Rep. Louise M. Slaughter and Rep. Stephen Horn (January 5, 1998)