

# NEWS



INTERNATIONAL  
CHILD ART  
FOUNDATION

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## **POSTPONED: 6<sup>th</sup> World Children's Festival scheduled for this July 31<sup>st</sup> – August 2<sup>nd</sup>**

WASHINGTON DC, May 25, 2020 – Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the International Child Art Foundation must postpone the 2020 World Children Festival till July 30<sup>th</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup> of the 2021 school year.

Held quadrennially at the National Mall as the “Olympics” of children’s imagination, the WCF cultivates children’s creativity and grows mutual empathy through educational workshops, hands-on activities, and training. School troupes and ensembles, young musicians, singers, and dancers gain a historic opportunity to showcase their talents on the “World Stage” set up at the Mall. More than 20,000 Greater Washington Area attendees were expected to join this celebration of “Creativity, Diversity, and Unity” which is free and open to the public.

“We look forward to once again seeing the happy faces of children sharing several days together at the National Mall discovering the joys and benefits of the arts,” said ICAF chairman Dr. Ashfaq Ishaq. “We will reframe the 2021 WCF for the post-coronavirus world with more emphasis on children’s health.”

The summer 2020 issue of ICAF’s ChildArt magazine is devoted to “Art for Health.” In the magazine’s lead article, Mary Anne Carter, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, writes, “the COVID-19 pandemic has shown many of us how in a time of protracted social isolation, anxiety, and uncertainty, people often can make the deepest connections with each other through art, music, and storytelling.”

This fall, a special issue of ChildArt quarterly will introduce the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development<sup>SM</sup> Study, a seminal research program supported by the National Institutes of Health and other federal partners involving approximately 12,000 children across the United States. The magazine about this Study will inform teachers, students, and their families how the environment, social interactions, genetics, and biology affect brain and childhood development.

“We will make ChildArt’s summer (July–Sept. 2020) and fall (Oct.–Dec. 2020) issues freely available online to the public to create new hope for the future,” said Katty Guerami, ICAF Director of Community Relations.

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