

The 2006 Activity Report of Japan Art Mile

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What is the Art Miles Mural Project

The Art Miles Mural Project is a global project with a mission of promoting the spirit of world peace by painting and exhibiting murals, which supports the UNESCO Decade for the Culture of Peace and Non Violence Among Children of the World, UNESCO World Cultural Heritage, and the UN Convention for the Rights of the Child.

Japan Art Mile is a Japan center of the AMMP and carrying out the project in her own way of connecting children in the world through ART and ICT.

JAM's Goals

1. To raise children independent and responsible for their thoughts and behaviors through JAM's activity, by encouraging the participants to learn positively about the issues they have decided, deepen their thinking by discussing them in the group, and create a mural in cooperation.

2. To promote children's understanding and respect for the diverse cultures in the world by means of ART and ICT, by working with partner schools from abroad and by exhibiting their paintings in the rest of the world.

JAM's Projects

1. Single-handed Work

Activity within one school or one class

2. Collaborating Work with Domestic Schools

Activity of two or more schools including exchange-learning using ICT and painting in cooperation

3. Collaborating Work with Overseas Schools

Activity of working with partner schools from abroad including exchange-learning using ICT and painting in cooperation

JAM's Activity in 2006

In 2006 16 schools from Japan and 8 from abroad participated and 18 murals were completed.

No	Domestic School	Region	Age	Title
1	Nagano Sanyo Junior High	Nagano	15	Asia - Our Future
2	Ako Takao Elementary	Hyogo	10	What We Can Do for You
3	Ako Takao Elementary	Hyogo	11	Our Home Town
4	Kamikawa Ochidani Elementary	Hyogo	10	Folk Tales in Ochidani
5	Kumamoto Kasuga Elementary	Kumamoto	12	Our Future in Asia
6	Kumamoto Keitoku Elementary	Kumamoto	9	Asia – Our Future

7	Kumamoto Jozan Elementary	Kumamoto	10,11,12	Asia – Our Future
8	Kumamoto Harutake Elementary & Honjo Elementary	Kumamoto	11	Our Peaceful Future with Green, without Wars
9	Saga Fuyo Elementary Junior High	Saga	12	Our Home - Treasure in Asia
10	ECC Junior BS Tsukunodai English	Osaka	9,10	Asia – Our Future
11	Kobe Kobe Engineering High	Hyogo	16	Graves in Uzbekistan
12	Japan Welfare University	Aichi	19,20	Future We Hope for
	Domestic School Overseas School	Country	Age	Title
13	Sherry’s Kids English Al-malkiah/Mansura (in Palestine Camps)	JP. Hyogo Syria	13,14,15 13,14,15	A Festival of Japanese & Palestinians
14	Takatsuki Diichi Junior High Al-Karmel (in Palestine Camps)	JP. Osaka Syria	13,14,15 13,14,15	A World Map with Many Faces
15	Kanazawa Ohgidai Elementary 6-1 Falwja (in Palestine Camps)	JP. Ishikawa Syria	12 13,14,15	Traditional Design
16	Kanazawa Ohgidai Elementary 6-2 Kafer-Sabit (in Palestine Camps)	JP. Ishikawa Syria	12, 8,10,11,12	Traditional Life
17	Kanazawa Ohgidai Elementary 6-3 Osdood (in Palestine Camps)	JP. Ishikawa Syria	12 10,11,12	Traditional Play
18	Kanazawa Mima Elementary Nisshin Elementary	JP. Ishikawa Taiwan	12 10,11,12	We Are a Family Living Together on the Earth
19	Okayama Tsushima Elementary Hafez Ibrahim Experimental	JP. Okayama Egypt	10 10	Traditional Food # Ongoing in 2007

1) Single-handed Work



NO2

After learning about problems in Asia; poverty, conflicts and natural disasters, the children thought of what they could do for people in Asia. Then they found a way to do what they could do. It was to show and express their wishes for a better future. They composed an original song including their message and sang it in front of the whole students and local people, and created a mural titled “PEACE” pouring their wishes on a big canvas.



No4

The children gathered folk tales from the old people in the region and produced an original play from the stories to perform it in front of the local people. They wanted to show traditional good things in the village to them. Then they expressed what they wanted to convey by means of painting. This is the mural.

2) Collaborating Work with Domestic Schools



NO8

Children from two elementary schools in the same city worked together. They made an Art Mile Committee consisting of several students from both schools. The members regularly had meetings to decide a theme, make a schedule, bring each school's ideas about the theme and get them together, draw a rough sketch out of every class's idea. Then all the students camped together for painting, and finally a colorful, dreamful and peaceful mural was born. They wish for Peaceful Asian World like their hometown.

3) Collaborating Work with Overseas Schools

A Japan & Syrian Art Mile is a good example of International Exchange Learning.

This project received "ASAHI NEWS PAPER AWARD" in the ICT Education Contest hosted by MINISTRY of EDUCATION on March 16th 2007.



NO13

In this case the Japanese students and the Palestinian ones learned about the other culture from the other, using

ICT such as internet videoconferences and a web BBS, before creating one mural in collaboration. The ICT connected the students from the opposite side of Asia and the students learned lots of things vividly from the other and could understand the very different culture and values. To make how deeply they understood visible, the Palestinians drew the Japanese world and the Japanese drew the Palestinian world, based on what they had learned from the other. This resulted into highly motivating the students to learn. Also it proved to be a very effective way to understand the other and to unite the two.

<The other murals by Japanese and Palestinian students>



NO14



NO15



NO16



NO17

<Collaboration with Taiwan>



NO18



The Schools from Japan and Taiwan thought of the future of Asia. In the process of exchanging respective thoughts, both children discovered much more similarities than differences. A teacher in Taiwan said, "It was not easy to let my students think about Peace because they are too accustomed to being in peace. At first I was afraid the children's view might be very narrow since they live in these small islands with no experience of touching other countries. This project was a great opportunity for them to know another country and widen their view open to the world" A Japanese teacher said, "It was valuable to learn to understand another country and share the same wishes for peace and future with each other."