

# NEWS

## ★ Sixty children's drawings are in your office by art lease! " Citigroup Service Limited Japan "

Citigroup Service Japan Ltd. has displayed 60 children's drawings in Tennozu building since May 2007. You can see colorful drawings collected from all over the world on the entire floor. The international employees, who handle a busy work schedule, also enjoy them when they are on a quick break.

This collaboration stands for Art Lease Program provided by KIDS EARTH FUND. We receive donations from entities such as Citigroup Service Limited Japan and other corporations and cafes by leasing the drawings for a certain period.



### What is the art lease program ?

KIDS EARTH FUND lends selected children's drawings for a certain period of time and lets the public view them. This unique program is available for corporations, research institutions, schools, hospitals, government, restaurants, stores, and individuals.

#### 1. How to take part in this art lease program

Kindly select your favorite drawing/s from the lease collection. Please visit the KEF Gallery in Ebisu to look at the list and view the art collection.

#### 2. Donation ( \* all lease funds are donations )

Small size from 3,000 yen / month

Large size from 5,000 yen / month

\* Handling fee is at your own expense

#### 3. Lease period: 6 months+



## Exhibition



THE HAKONE OPEN-AIR MUSEUM

#### ● Hokkaido • Sapporo-shi

Sat, 6/9 - Mon, 6/11  
Moerenuma Park

#### ● Kyoto • Sakyo-ku

Mon, 4/16 - Sun, 4/22  
Le cafe 338

#### ● Tokyo • Chiyoda-ku

Sat, 3/10 - Thu, 4/12  
Marunouchi Nakado-ri  
KIDS EARTH STREET

#### ● Tokyo • Chiyoda-ku

Sun, 6/10  
A charity concert by SMBC at  
Nihon University Casals Hall

#### ● Kanagawa • Ashigarashimo-gun

Sat, 5/26 - Sun, 5/27  
The Hakone Open-Air Museum



# KIDS EARTH Report

No.055 Summer 2007



私のお気に入りの所 / My Favorite Place  
リャングオ フー / Liang Guo Fu  
中国 / China  
3才 / Age3

©子供地球基金 / KIDS EARTH FUND



Special  
Feature

KIDS EARTH FUND helps  
children of migrant  
workers in Beijin, China

Ms. Harumi Torii, President of KIDS EARTH FUND (KEF), Ms. Lorraine Reinbold, Vice President, and Ms. Makiko Nagata, Secretariat, Professor Sasanuma and other volunteers visited Beijing, China from March 20th through 23rd to support children who live in poverty in the region. 1.5 million, out of the total Beijing population of 15 million, are said to be migrant workers. Many of their children cannot go to schools or, in worse cases, become orphaned. The objectives of KEF's visit to Beijing this time were to conduct art workshops and to make donations for less unfortunate children. These children enjoyed their time letting their imaginations flow as children through the workshop. In the region that KEF visited, it is a rarity for children to be able to go to high schools or universities. Many of them are forced to work right after finishing their elementary school studies, or if lucky, junior high school studies. The head of an institute which 500 children attend said that he started from scratch to establish as many as 5 schools for the children of migrant workers. In these schools, however, only basic subjects such as national language, social studies, science, and arithmetic are taught and there is no music or art class. It was, therefore, very meaningful for KEF to conduct art workshops where children were able to draw pictures on many canvases that were as large as two square meters. There was speed and power in their drawings as if their inner energy exploded. With their eyes sparkling and their cheeks flushed, kids were absorbed in drawing. Exchanging their brushes, they laughed at each other covered in paint from head to toe. It was such a precious moment when they brought out their overwhelming power and feelings deep in their hearts.



KEF first visited Paulo Level, an institute where children who became orphaned due to poverty lived. The operation of the institute has been seriously challenged by financial difficulties.



These pictures drawn by children will be put together to create a big tapestry, with plans to exhibit it at the Beijing Olympics.

〈Art workshop〉 Kaisei School (Minkoh Elementary School) 74 participants / Kouai School (Minkoh Elementary School) 140 participants / Paul Level (Foster Home) 100 participants  
〈In-kind gifts (noncash)〉 Kaisei School (Minkoh Elementary School) / Paul Level (Foster Home) / Philip Hyden Children's Village (Orphanage)

We have received in-kind gifts from many companies for this donation. We appreciate your tremendous support.



Donations exceed 300kg

Message from volunteers who attended this trip

"This color painted jeans is my treasure. Every time I wear these jeans, it reminds me of the joyful time with children and their sweet smiles. Takashi Sakamoto"  
"It was my first time joining this activity. I learned a lot and enjoyed it fully. Especially, while looking at children's drawing and smiles, I wanted to support them by giving my best. This workshop gave me precious time with children and I would like to share this message worldwide. Koh Kikuchi"  
"I was very happy to spend quality time with sweet children. I wished I had been able to speak Chinese though. Ryoko Nozawa"  
"Interacting with children is definitely a different experience from just seeing pictures or hearing about them, and it influences one's life. I strongly recommend you to join the workshops. You will enjoy it. Keisuke Iwano"  
"Though I joined to give lots of love to children, who suffer in their lives, I was surprised how happy and pure they were and they made me happy instead. Saori Kamata"



KIDS EARTH  
HOME Project  
KIDS EARTH HOME

From 9th to 16th May, representative Harumi Torii went to Croatia and checked the management and facilities of KIDS EARTH HOME (KEH) No.1, and conducted art workshops with children.

KEHNo.1 Croatia

Status of KEH No.1, now and going forward

Currently, with the cooperation of Suncokret, a local NGO, locally rooted activities are being conducted in the two adjacent cities of Topsco and Gvozdo. It has been more than 10 years since the end of the war; yet approximately 60-70% of the townspeople are unemployed. In addition, addiction to alcohol and drugs, parents prone to domestic violence, and parents who are indifferent to the education of their children is common. Though the children of today did not have to live through the war years, they have become secondary victims of the same war. It is important to build an environment of hope where trauma in one's heart will be lessened. Activities of the project will continue going forward to give hope to these people so that they can have a better society.



● What is the reason and why haven't they reconstructed their nation even though more than 10 years have passed since the war ended?  
⇒ They don't have either knowledge or skills to live their lives by themselves now, even when they have changed after having experienced the war, as well as the period of socialism before the war. They don't have mental strength or financial resources to try to challenge something new. Even though the government lends money for new businesses, most people fail and cannot afford even loan payments. Also, there is nobody who can be a wonderful leader. People cannot have hope because there is no role model.

● Some problems of the children  
⇒ Affected by the adults who cannot have any dream, children cannot have any dream either, and they begin using alcohol and cigarettes in childhood.

● Importance of art workshops  
⇒ There are no movie theaters, rental-video shops, or museums in the city, so one fun event for children is to draw pictures in KEH.

\* The above information is based on Harumi Torii's resend.



Keep the earth beautiful! Painting & Planting Project  
We planted three trees and drew pictures with children. Last winter, it didn't snow and rained little in this area due to global warming.



KIDS EARTH  
CAR Project  
Traveling Workshop

Jikei University Hospital

Spring has come at the hospital in April. There are children, unfortunately, who cannot go out for picnics. They enjoyed the springtime in the hospital at a picnic event. This time, volunteer workers brought hand-made lunches for the children, and they joined the hospital picnic. They painted pictures with spring themes and took photos of lunch! A child skipped on his artwork because of excitement. Everyone spent a happy picnic time in the hospital.



Bees and flowers are painted by children



How joyful the picnic is!

@The Hakone Open Air Museum  
~ Let's draw on the tent ~

"The North Face Endurance Run OSJ Hakone 50k", organized by an outdoor brand, The North Face, was held in Hakone. The Hakone Open Air Museum was the goal area for the run, and KIDS EARTH FUND organized an art workshop as a collaboration event. The canvas was a "Tent". The children that came were so excited to be able to draw on a very unusual large canvas and were satisfied to see their colorful art work on a tent. The drawings sent to KEF from children around the world were also displayed in the museum. We believe it was also a good day for those who participated to know what other children are doing in the world.



NEW MEMBERS

There are KIDS EARTH FUND's new members since 1 December until 28 February (in alphabet order)

[Individual Membership]

Ms. Akiko Yasuda  
Ms. Setsuko Hinoue

[Corporate Membership]

TOKYO BAY MAIHAMA HOTEL  
I・S・M



Column

DEAR KIDS,  
DEAR THE EARTH vol. 17

Now, with global warming and the destruction of the environment rapidly progresses, how the earth will become? We don't know what we should do at first because the problem is very complicated, therefore, we just live every day in unspeakable fear.

The problem is that we don't realize the problem. Do you know the story of a boiled frog? If a frog is put into a hot water, it jumps out because of the heat. However, if the water is gradually warmed, the frog doesn't move, and finally becomes boiled to death. Will we face the same result as the boiled frog?

This problem is severe even for us, but even more so for children who should live their lives on the earth 40 years later. Can we leave the beautiful earth and nature for them? I realize that I don't have much power, considering the weakness of myself, but I think that to do something is better than to do nothing.

I'm a fashion designer. The theme of the spring-summer collection of 2008 is LOVE PLANET. I get a little discouraged by such a big theme, but I hope to tell happily some messages. We have printed-dresses with a collage of children's drawings. Hoping for a bright future for the earth and children.

Of course, a portion of proceeds will be donated to KIDS EARTH FUND, especially to the Painting and Planting project. That is a wonderful project in which we teach children about the earth by planting trees and painting nature and the earth. Let's start to do with what we can do for the precious earth and children.

Our earth is not disposable. There is no alternative to our earth.

(\* Column "DEAR KIDS, DEAR EARTH" is written by directors and advisors of KIDS EARTH FUND)

RITSUKO SHIRAHAMA  
Advisor to KIDS EARTH FUND