

# “Only Hearts” Visions of a Peaceful World



Dear Educator,

Welcome to the “Only Hearts” Art/Peace Project. Our project, features the visions and creations of over thirty-five hundred Sarasota, FL students sharing their view of peace/conciliation in the world. Debuted on the millinnium, it gave students the opportunity to creatively paint and draw their vision of a world in peace and harmony, and on the back to write about how they would make their dream real. “Only Hearts” can be downloaded from the Internet and is being used by schools and educators around the world. Visit our students online gallery at: [https://dwij.org/forum/only\\_hearts/artists.html](https://dwij.org/forum/only_hearts/artists.html).

Discover the many ways to present this project in schools, and in community events.

Good life,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Gittens', with a stylized flourish at the end.



# "Only Hearts". Sharing a Vision of Peace

## An Art Project for Teachers and Parents



Peace is loving with a reason; Peace is living with care; Peace is surrounding us with an open heart, and Peace ends the violence and wars in our society. —Nikky Welsh, Sarasota, FL

**Dear Educator and Parent:**

As the coordinator of the "Only Hearts" peace project, I introduce you to this educational, empowering, and fun-filled creative score that can be downloaded from the Internet for use in classrooms, after-school programs, and in homes. Over three thousand students, ages six to sixteen, participated in its debut at the millennium celebration in Sarasota, Florida.

"Only Hearts" is used by teachers around the world, is on the recommended arts-projects-listing for teachers and educators at the Smithsonian's Lemelson Center, has gained the support of the Hawaii State Department of Education, and the Harmony Institute of St. Petersburg, Russia as a creative exercise that fosters personal goal setting, peace-making, conciliation, and cross-cultural awareness.

The heart shape template that you can download from our website (link below) will print out on 8.5x11 paper. Within the confines of the heart outline participants are asked to illustrate their vision of "What a Peaceful World Looks Like to Me" using crayons, craypaws, paints, or another chosen medium. On the reverse side participants are asked to write a sentence or two articulating "How I Will Make Peace a Reality in the World."

Once the art and writing is completed it is time to creatively discover the many ways the art and words of wisdom can be displayed and featured in informative and educational ways.

In Sarasota, Florida fifteen hundred hearts were used to outline a large enclosure where children and adults shared their peace poems, lectures were held, music was featured, the Dances of Universal Peace were performed, and meditations and prayers for peace were presented. The children's art has been featured at many civic and cultural events since then.



**Warmly, Linda Maree: Project Coordinator • E-mail: [lindamaree@dwij.org](mailto:lindamaree@dwij.org)**

**Download "Only Hearts" at: <http://studio.dwij.org/only-hearts>**

**Assist us by introducing "Only Hearts" to educators, parents, and colleagues. Forward the above link to others and join in the growth of a unique expressive arts/peace project that crosses all borders. Check our website for information about the annual "Hearts Around the World" exhibit.**

**"Only Hearts" A vision of peace from those who will inherit the future . . . Our Children.**