

NEWS

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INTERNATIONAL
CHILD ART
FOUNDATION



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5th World Children's Festival to Open June 30th at The Ellipse (President's Park next to The White House)

WASHINGTON DC, June 8, 2015 – The International Child Art Foundation (ICAF) announced today that the world's most precious resource (its creative children) will convene at the most prestigious public park on earth (The Ellipse) on June 30th to July 2nd of 2015.

Children from nearly 20 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, and almost 50 countries will celebrate "Creativity, Diversity, and Unity" at their 5th World Children's Festival (WCF).

Launched in 1999 as the "Olympics" of children's imagination and co-creation, the WCF has grown into the world's premier children's celebration and a permanent quadrennial event in our nation's capital. The WCF advances a grassroots movement for children's creative and empathic development initiated by the International Child Art Foundation some 20 years ago to propel prosperity, build peace, and repair the world.

International educators and experts from U.S. universities and organizations and those in 13 other countries will host scores of educational workshops and activities each day based on *STEAMS Education*—the ICAF's pioneering approach to integrate STEM disciplines with *art and culture* (signified by the "A") and *sport and play* (the "S") for children's holistic development. For a program schedule, please visit www.WorldChildrensFestival.org.

The WCF objective is to enhance children's creativity and imbue it with empathy through the following research-based sequencing of the WCF learning outcomes:

- June 30th is **Health & Environment Day**—focusing on concerns readily shared by every child to find a common ground.
- July 1st is **Creativity & Imagination Day**—affirming the inner world of the child to enhance his or her creative potential.
- July 2nd is **Peace & Leadership Day**—developing empathy through collaborative mural making and workshops on empathy as a key attribute of successful learners and leaders in the 21st century.

In a setting of global community, the workshops by artists and educators, the production and displays of children's amazing works, the electrifying performances by young musicians and dancers, and the coproduction of peace murals by professional artists and child artists will collectively create a synesthetic experience—a total work of art at The Ellipse.

Open and free to the public, the WCF is an important U.S. cultural diplomacy initiative. To support the children and their world festival, please visit <http://icaf.org/>.

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