

Kids' Voice – Messages from children around the world – will be published

63 countries and 457 children drew pictures as a message to the future adults. This book is being published as a 20th anniversary for KEF. The first chapter is travel, the second chapter friends, the third chapter play, the fourth chapter questions and the last chapter has no specific theme. It will be on sale from early December in book stores in Japan. We will also sell it in on KEF website. (It will start delivery from mid December.)

Issue: Bijyutu Shuppan Planning / supervised: Kids Earth Fund
 Art Direction: Issen Okamoto (Okamoto Issen Graphic Design Company) Preface written by: Hiroshi Senju
 Size: 225mm x 185mm Soft cover 240 pages (Full Color) Price: 2500yen (Without tax)



We are also holding an exhibition of Kids' Voice – Messages from children around the world – at Tamagawa Takashimaya Shopping Center ground floor, at the ground Patio and displaying a few original pictures from the book. (Inside White Angel Project)

The Italian Chamber of Commerce in Japan hosted a Charity Gala Party.

The Italian Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ICJ) hosted the annual Gala dinner and concert 2008 on November 20th at the Grand Hyatt Tokyo. With the cooperation of International schools in Tokyo, 22 artworks of the children were put on auction and the proceeds were donated to the KEF. The event was held as both children and adults enjoyed the evening.

We thank all of you who have made this event possible.



Takashimaya Shopping Center White Angel Project 2008

This year celebrates the 7th anniversary of the White Angel Project, which is a joint project with Takashimaya S. C. and KEF, sending a Christmas message of peace to the children around the world. White Angel Charity Gallery exhibits children's paintings, reports the results of the previous year's charitable activities and sets up donation boxes. There is also a Christmas tree that people can help decorate by making a donation for the ornaments. There are many other Christmas events, so please come and enjoy them.

Date: November 12 (Thur.) to December 25 (Thur.)
 Venue: Tamagawa Takashimaya Shopping Center, Ground Floor, Grand Patio
 3-17-1 Tamagawa, Setagaya-ku
 Access: Tokyu Denentoshi Line or Tokyu Oimachi Line at Futagotamagawa Station West Exit (toward Route 246) 2-minute walk.



Mujirushi Ryohin Charity Sales

Since October, Mujirushi Ryohin (Muji) has been offering cute KEF bags with five designs drawn by children from around the world. Everyone loves these bags; children use them as school bags, women use them as shopping bags, and so forth. Now we are taking three of those cute designs and making them available to you as jigsaw puzzles. These designs will warm everyone's heart, and the large pieces are safe for kids to play with.

Besides the jigsaw puzzles, Muji also is offering other charity Christmas gifts which include bath goods, felt ornaments, cotton t-shirts for men and women. Muji will donate all the proceeds received from the sales of these charity products to support children all over the world. When you are thinking about Christmas gifts for your family and friends, please consider Muji's charity products with the KEF tag. Also, please visit KEF Exhibition held by Muji Shinjuku after Muji Yurakucho.



"Kodomo no e" Jigsaw Puzzle:
 each 525 yen (tax included)



Felt ornaments: 1 set with 3 items
 (Tree, Snowman, and Sock)
 Large set 368 yen (tax included)
 Small set 263 yen (tax included)

Charity Auction!

On December 14th, Auger Auction will hold a charity auction at Bunkamura Gallery in Shibuya. There will be numerous wonderful items for auction provided by many famous guests. This auction is supported by countless generous people, and all the money collected from it will be donated to KEF. Please bring your family and friends to join us for this event.

Event details Date: December 14, 2008 Time: 4:45 pm – Venue: Bunkamura Gallery, Shibuya Address: Dogenzaka 2-24-1, Shibuya Ku, Tokyo 150-8507
 We will also hold a preview exhibition for this auction. December 11-13 from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm December 14 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

*The auctioneer will set initial bidding prices for all the items before the auction.

*No auction fee will be incurred.

*In principal, the items will be delivered to the buyer at the site immediately after receiving cash payments from the buyer.

Please visit <http://www.augur.jp> for more information.

The annual report of the 2007 fiscal year

The 2007 ordinary general meeting has held at the KEF office on November 10th. We would like to inform you that all of following bills had been approved.
The First bill: An activity report and settlement of accounts of 2007 **The second bill: An activity plan and budget of 2008**
(The income and expenditure settlement of accounts of 2007 [2007.09.01-2008.08.31])

1.Income
 Membership fees / 2,963,081 Donations / 72,044,634 Others / 15,297 **Total / 75,023,012**
 2.Expenditure
 Home project / 30,038,086 Exhibitions / 11,086,376 Publicity / 6,055,691 Support events / 12,475,035 Operation & management / 16,261,978
Total / 75,917,166

NEW MEMBER

There are KIDS EARTH FUND's new members since September 1, 2008 until October 31, 2008. (alphabetical order)
 (Individual Membership) Ms. Akiko Morimasa Mr. Fumiaki Nakatani Ms. Hiroko Nakama Ms. Kumi Naruse Mr. Makoto Yamamura
 Mr. Masaichi Miki Ms. Reiko Shimizu Mr. Takao Iwama Ms. Takeshi Nobehara Mr. Yoichi Kimura
 Ms. Yoriko Ogata Mr. Yoshikazu Miyamoto Ms. Yukari Sakai 2anonymous
 (Corporate Membership) TOKYO ART Co.,LTD PRONTO Corporation Right-on



ベガサス / Pegasus
 コバー・クラッセ / Kober Klasse
 ドイツ / Germany
 男 / Boy

Special Topic

KIDS EARTH HOME Project Reconstruction of the first KIDS EARTH HOME in Croatia



The new KIDS EARTH HOME (KEH) was completed in the city of Gvozd that is two hours away from the capital city Zagreb. The area still has a serious problem of a 70% unemployment rate. On the other hand Zagreb and Dubrovnik are getting wealthy because of the tourist business. After the declaration of independence in 1991, the conflict escalated between Croatia and the federation of Yugoslavia. There were also a number of victims in this area. KIDS EARTH FUND (KEF) has done advocacy work under a combined effort of NGO, shortly after the end of conflict.

Now, it has been 13 years after the end of the conflict. Although children who come to KEH have no experience of the conflict, they have several issues such as domestic violence due to the low unemployment rate, no interest in education, and widespread drug, cigarette and alcohol use.

Compared with the environment of 13 years ago, advocacy works done by foreign organizations has been decreased and few activities remain. KEH opened on September 6th, and is



the precious space for children to play freely in this area.

We researched many places since last year, and decided to buy this land with a small old house with a roof. We had repaired the property with nearby volunteers and children.

Before the opening, children planted a lot of flowers and trees and many artworks were decorated on the white-repainted wall. At the opening party, almost 100 people



including the city mayor and volunteer workers attended and children started to read a poem.



For the opening party, the city rented tables and chairs; volunteers sent in stew; roast goat and cake and played the guitar. Children enjoyed the party so much. Children who prepared the party and cleaned up

heartily said, "This is our home," showing the door they painted and flowers and trees which they planted. They also talked about what they wanted to do at KEH for the future.

The KEF Croatian branch has opened officially this year.

We will continue to do advocacy work for children, creating spiritually rich countries and peace.



"Exhibition of Paintings by Children" at MIMARA Museum

The exhibition was held at the MIRAMA museum in the capital city Zagreb. This exhibition celebrated the 20th anniversary of KEF, opening the Croatian branch and reconstruction of the KEH.

The MIMARA museum is the most famous and oldest building in Zagreb. The Japanese ambassador Mr. Tetsuhisa Shirakawa, director of the MIMARA museum, Mr. Tugomir Luksic, representative of KEF Ms. Harumi Torii, and representative of KEF Croatian branch Ms. Maja Turniski attended the opening ceremony on September 8th. The ceremony started with the musical performance of classical instruments of Croatia.

Tapestries by children from all over the world and paintings by Japanese, Indian and other countries' children were displayed at the beautiful museum. So many people stopped to look at those colorful paintings.

Many people enjoyed the exhibition during the 2 weeks it was held and we could let them know messages from children from all over the world.



KIDS EARTH CAR Project

Jikei Hospital -Signs of Autumn-



Yummy autumn!

As the air got crisp and cold, and leaves started turning red and yellow, we could feel the tingle of autumn more deeply every day. The children of Jikei Hospital painted pictures to express "Signs of Autumn" in October. Prior to this event, a pre-art workshop was held with volunteers. Colored leaves, chestnuts and dragonflies were made with colored paper. At the art workshop, the children placed these things on drawing paper and then painted their own "autumn." Each painting was as original as the signs of autumn in the open air.



Fallen leaves are so pretty.

Miyagi Children's Hospital -Let's draw freely!

On October 17th KIDS EARTH CAR drove from Ebisu, Tokyo to Miyagi Children's Hospital in Sendai, Miyagi.

The art workshop was done in three wards at the same time with the donating activity in the hospital, and many children and volunteers in the hospital participated.

For most of the infant participants, it was the first time to paint by hand. They drew a line and a circle on a canvas hesitatingly at first, but gradually became at ease and began to draw with bold colors. There were few smiles at first, but finally they drew big pictures with pleasant voices. Three works which children made are exhibited in the hospital and seem to have become one of the sources of the spirit of children.



It was drawn in a vivid color.

Futaba Gakuen -Halloween-

On October 25th, the first art workshop was held at Futaba Gakuen. The theme was Halloween. At first we introduced the children to paintings from around the world which featured the theme of Halloween. Children connected with other children in unknown countries through the paintings. They then decided the size of canvas, which was provided by Turner Color Works co., Ltd., they

wanted to use and began to paint with the paint brushes provided. However... the children soon found so much pleasure using paint expressing themselves that they put paints all over their bodies, and started to express what was felt for the moment by using their whole bodies. From the completed work, we felt the energy of the children and their limitless strength. KEF will keep energetically hosting activities that lead to smiles for many children both internationally as well as domestically.



Hmm.... What was theme? Painting with hands is really

Kanagawa Children's Medical Center -Christmas-



Drawing Christmas is very fun!

Although it was a little bit early, we held an art workshop with a theme of Christmas. Following a child who took an initiative to draw a Christmas tree, other children drew snowmen and wreaths, and in no time the white canvas was covered in colorful pictures of Christmas, and the happy picture, which made us excited just looking at it, was completed. At the end the children said to the nurse, "We want this picture to be displayed in the ward during the Christmas party." The work of children would make the Christmas party more exciting and it would fill the party with smiles. When the picture was moved to another room after the workshop ended, that children's eyes all followed it as if they regretted the temporary separation. It was a memorable scene.



I am looking forward to the party!

Column DEAR KIDS, DEAR THE EARTH vol.22
Auditor, Certified Tax Accountant: **Kazumi Shimizu**

About two and a half years ago, I had the opportunity to meet the founder of KIDS EARTH FUND. That was the first time for me to learn about KEF and its amazing worldwide activities. When my oldest son was in kindergarten over ten years ago, he had a cold which developed into infant rheumatism. He was constantly in and out of the hospital and he had to spend winters in a school for handicapped children attached to a children's hospital and return to a local elementary school in springs. This condition continued for several years throughout his childhood.

The hospital was full of children like my son, and there were children who were hospitalized for a long time with recurring illnesses. Probably, even if they wished, they could not return home. Also they often had to take a lot of medicine unwillingly. It seemed to me that the only option in their hospital life was to live with fear and stress. During such difficult times, drawing pictures in art workshops could console the children and make them see hope for the future and reduce the stress in their lives.

Whenever I travel in Asia, children around 6 or 7 immediately come up to me trying to sell things. Seeing their sparkling but serious eyes, I sometimes think it maybe a misunderstanding to believe that children in poverty are unhappy and pathetic, as all they know is poor life.

Nevertheless, in reality their parents have a very hard life filled with fear and anxiety about their children's future. They cannot provide enough education for their children nor get away from poverty. The sad reality is that children cannot choose their parents and have to accept their life. I feel that we all need to reach out to these children because it is society that raises children, and it is children that grow up and contribute to society in return. It is true that supporting children requires a lot of funding, and it is sad that individual awareness and understanding for charitable support of volunteer organizations is still low in Japan. Unless your own child is sent to the hospital or a close friend's family is somehow underprivileged, it is difficult to understand the situation.

Advertising this harsh reality, and asking for support from those who had such experiences first could be one option to increase our supporters.

Exhibition

- Tokyo-Setagaya-ku
Wed, 11/12 - Thu 12/25
Tamagawa Takashimaya S-C
- Tokyo-Shinjuku-ku
Thu, 11/13 - Thu, 12/25
MUJI Shinjuku ATELIER
- Tokyo-Meguro-ku
Sat, 11/1 - Fri, 12/12
Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography
- Tokyo-Setagaya-ku
Sat, 11/22 - End of Dec.
Nissan Tamagawa Hospital
- Tokyo-Taito-ku
Sat, 1/10 - Fri, 3/8
Gallery Arcangeli
- Nagoya-Nakamura-ku
Tue, 7/1 -
Toyota Tsusho Corporation
- Tokyo-Chiyoda-ku
Tue, 9/23 - Mon, 10/27
Mujirush-Rohin Yurakucho AELIER MUJI