



David Gittens

Enjoy your Only Hearts Art/Peace Project

Step One . . . For Teachers, Parents, and Participants

The Only Hearts Art/Peace Project, inspired by 3,500 Sarasota, FL students ages six to sixteen, is a powerful and fun-filled arts-educational score; all in our community are invited to participate in the following way:

A – Download your project template and print it out on 8.5" X 11" paper, or A4 size internationally. [Template Download](#)

B - Within the heart outline participants are instructed to illustrate their vision of "What A Peaceful World Looks Like To Me" using colored pencils, crayons, pastels, or paints.

C - On the reverse side participants are guided to write a short statement about their thoughts on peace, or about "How I Will Make Peace A Reality In The World."

D - Once the art and writing projects are completed it's time to creatively discover the many ways in which these creations and words can be displayed and featured in informative and educational ways. Examples are in skits, choral presentations, study/research circles, science/technology presentations, and in dance and shared poetry. Whether in classrooms, as after school projects or with family at home, the fun, discovery and endless learning possibilities are just beginning to open doorways of insight and understanding for participants.

Step Two . . . Presentation

There are many ways to take your "Only Hearts Art/Peace Project" to the next level in your school, community center, or home. For example: creating a play, a game, making a video, incorporating it in lesson plans, or as community service in your neighborhood.

Step Three . . . Exhibiting – Be Creative!

For our project we chose 1,500 hearts that were laminated by a local printer and with these created a large outdoor arena at Phillippi Estate Park in Sarasota, FL. Many events took place within this arena and everyone was surrounded by the "Peace" visions and ideas of our students. We rented the tallest, 40' high, heart balloon in North America as our centerpiece and featured a marathon reading of the children's writings. Music, poetry, dancing, meditation, and a prayer vigil also happened in this arena.



Step Four . . . Linking With Others

If you'd like to link-up with folks in different communities around the US, or abroad, who are using "Only Hearts" as an educational, service oriented arts presentation, eMail us for information at: info@onlyhearts.org. We envision an exhibit featuring students from many countries.

Step Five . . . Only Hearts Art/Peace Project is an enlightening and insightful experience for all ages!

A suggestion for educators, parents, and facilitators: use the downloaded template as a master. Make copies on white card stock as these will be more durable. We went a step further and laminated our hearts once the students had finished the art/writing segment. These were more durable and have been lent to others for their events.

Step Six . . . A guide for educators and facilitators.

Click on this link for your [ARTE+© guide by Kathleen Kildahl](#) / aka Kia Woods, MA , Expressive Arts and Expressive Arts Therapy. Email: kiamesha@aol.com

Step Seven . . . Let Us Know How Your Project Is Going!

We look forward to assisting you in creating a memorable experience for students – and older folks too – in your neighborhood of Spaceship Earth. We CAN ALL embrace the World with Heart!

Your ideas and suggestions on the ways we can improve our Only Heart Art/Peace Project, and contributing toward peacemaking and conciliation in an artistic, educational, and heartfelt way, is important to us all. Gratitude, dwij / David info@onlyhearts.org

Life's Aspirations come in the guise of children. —Tagore