

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS: 2008

JAPAN

Koriyama Elementary School
Suzuka City, Mie Ken, Japan
Ms. Otani – 2nd grade (7/8)

SRI LANKA

President's Girls' College
Kurunegala, Sri Lanka
Mrs. Milanti – 2nd grade (7/8)

SENEGAL

Dounguel School
Dounguel, Senegal
Mr. Mamadou Paye--8-11 year olds

UNITED STATES

Contact: Amanda Comstock
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Figure 1: In Japan, kids inspect Sri Lankan art

ART PAL COORDINATORS

Ms. Amanda Comstock

Born in Columbus, OH and residing in Dover, OH, Amanda has a B.A. in Cultural Studies from McGill University. She has worked with children in a diversity of hands-on learning environments, including outdoor education and extra-curricular art. She is fluent in French and has lived abroad most of her adult life.

Ms. Alexandra Gellin

Born in NYC, Alexandra has been living in Japan since 2003. She taught English to children and adults for several years, and is now currently pursuing a Master's Degree in International Society at Suzuka International University. She has worked extensively with children, in both school and camp settings, and has led many cultural exchange activities. Her thesis focuses on Intercultural Exchange and Sustainable Development, focusing on foreign-funded NGOs in Sri Lanka.

Mr. Demba Ndiaye

A native of Senegal, Demba has an Associate's degree in Sociology from Université Cheick Anta Diop, in Dakar. He has taught French and English, as well as children's art classes at the School Ecole de la Rue Toldiec in Dakar. He currently works for the American NGO 'Counterpart International', where he assists in the distribution of food and medication.



An International
Children's
Art Exchange

2008

THE PROJECT: WHAT WE DO

Children have a universal and at the same time personal way of expression, that is culturally influenced.

The Project enables children from four different nations, of different languages and backgrounds, to engage in a cross-cultural dialogue through the medium of art.

We hope the children will learn about other cultures, discover different styles of expression, and develop a satisfying way of expressing themselves.



Figure 2: Sri Lankan girl shows her original art



Figure 3: Senegalese kids display originals

HOW IT WORKS

Our team of coordinators work directly with art teachers in 4 different nations: Japan, Sri Lanka, Senegal (West Africa), and the United States.

Children create original art pieces, which are then sent on a multi-country trip to visit other children, who in turn create visual responses.

'Cultural information packets' compiled by our local coordinators, accompany originals and are used to supplement the interpretation of originals and guide responses.

THE TIMELINE

June 2008

Japanese Kids create and send original work to Sri Lanka.

Sri Lankan kids create originals and responses to Japanese art

July 2008

Senegalese Kids create originals.

Japanese Kids respond to Sri Lankan art

August 2008

Sri Lankan kids create responses to Senegal art.

Senegal kids create responses to Japanese art.

Japanese Kids create responses to Senegal art.

September 2008

U.S. kids create originals and send to Senegal.

Senegalese kids create responses to American art and Sri Lankan art.

October 2008

U.S. kids create responses to Japanese Art, Sri Lankan art, and Senegalese art

Art Shows:

Nov 15th: Japanese Art Show

December: American Art Show