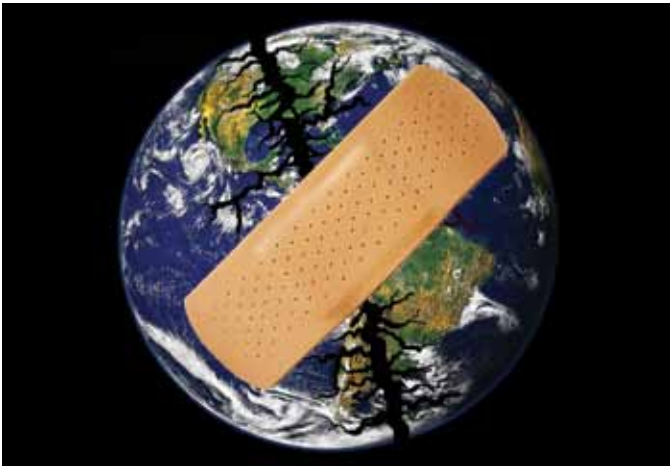


I Am Loved by Brian Johnson & Mont Willis
Salt Lake City, UT



*Many things can calm the heart.
Only kindness can heal it.*
- Scott Douglas, Age 11, Sarasota, FL

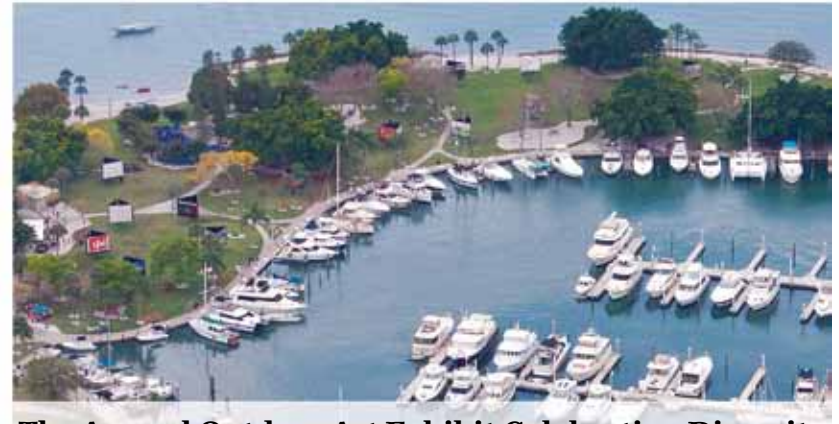


Broken World by Cory Gallagher, 11th Grade
New Gate School, Sarasota, FL
Teachers: Amy Kremer & Jeff Cornwell

2011 ANNUAL REPORT



We Are All Good Friends by Shen Hongying, 1st Grade
Siming District, Xiamen, China (Sarasota Sister City)
Egret River New Town Elementary School
Teacher: Huang Sefen



The Annual Outdoor Art Exhibit Celebrating Diversity

I never knew how much words hurt until they were aimed at me.
- Kathleen Hagan-Rogerson, 7th Grade, Sarasota, FL, Booker Middle School, Teachers: Joanna Fox & Lauren Johnson

As we begin preparing for our 9th *Embracing Our Differences*® display, we would like to reflect upon the successes of the past year. The mission of *Embracing Our Differences*® is to use art as a catalyst for creating awareness and promoting, throughout our community, the value of diversity, the benefits of inclusion and the significance of the active rejection of hatred and prejudice. The international outdoor art display features 39 billboard-sized images created by professional and amateur artists, art students and school children from Sarasota and around the world reflecting their interpretation of our message: “*enriching lives through diversity.*”

Since our first exhibit in 2004, **annual attendance has steadily grown from 95,000 to a record setting 277,000 in 2011** during which time the display was expanded to two months – April and May. To date, **more than 1,100,000 visitors have visited Island Park** on Sarasota’s bayfront to experience the varied interpretations of how diversity enriches our lives.

Our 2011 Exhibit drew a record setting number of submissions from 2,601 artists and 1,207 quotation authors. **Submissions were received from 48 different countries and 29 different states.** We also received student submissions from 55 different schools including submissions from children in China, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Malaysia, Romania and many other countries. **More than one-third of the art and one-half of the quotations selected for display were submitted by public and private school students.**

Of great importance to furthering our mission is our education program that we believe represents the most important aspect of our efforts – reaching and impacting the lives of our children. **Since 2004, more than 87,000 students have participated in our education program including 17,717 in 2011 alone.** This statistic becomes even more significant considering that for many schools and students, *Embracing Our Differences*® is the only out-of-school experience available all year. ***Embracing Our Differences*® continues to be one of the largest education programs in Sarasota County.**

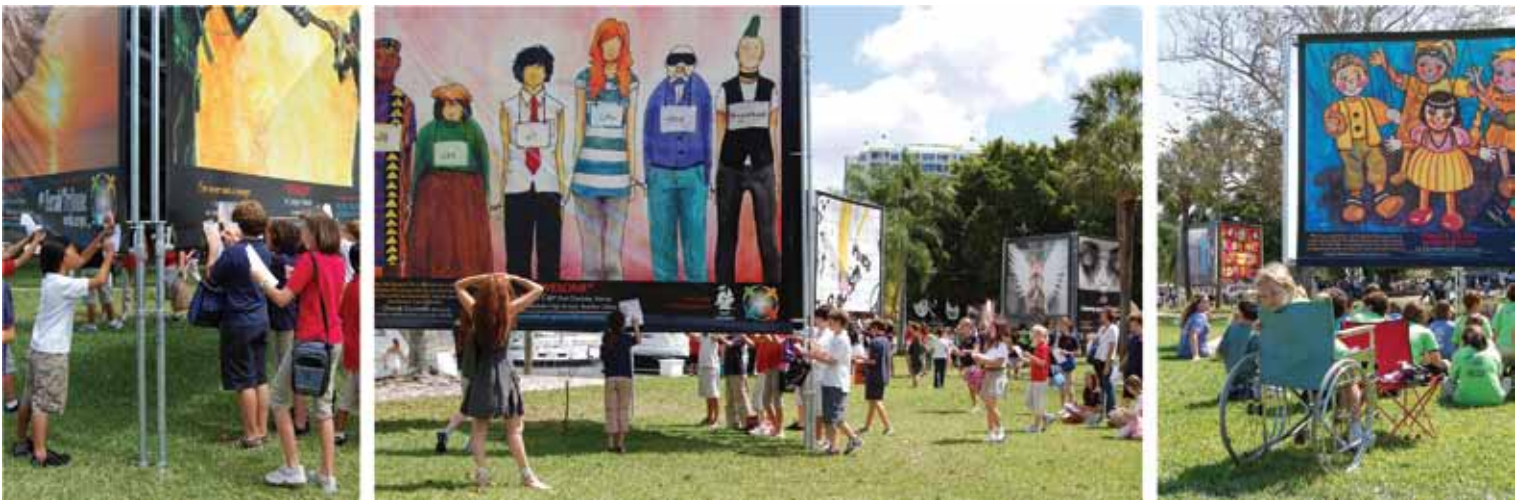
Providing free transportation for field trips to the Exhibit is the lynchpin of our education program. A total of \$65,205 was spent on

transportation costs in 2011. For less than the cost of a latte at Starbucks, each child we bussed to the Exhibit had the opportunity to gain not only valuable cultural awareness but also a deeper appreciation of the value of diversity and having respect for others as well as the importance of standing up against hatred and prejudice.

Another key component of our education program is a commitment to provide the necessary support for teachers to engage their students in a meaningful experience. **Age appropriate lesson plans and support materials are created each year and offered to teachers in various electronic formats.** Under the supervision of Sarasota County School District’s curriculum development department, lesson plans are written to Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and include materials for the ActivBoard (an interactive classroom-based technology tool), a visual inquiry guide, art detective/decode the message exercises, higher order thinking sample questions and sample FCAT questions. The lesson plans relate to social studies as well as art appreciation and are introduced to teachers through our best practices instructional methods workshops held throughout the year.

As a result of these efforts, we provide a great field trip for the students as well as a robust curriculum of diversity and character education that is presented before, during and after students visit the Exhibit.

Embracing Our Differences® continues its very successful partnership with Riverview High School’s International Baccalaureate Program. The IB program aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people, who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. Under the guidance of Dr. Paul Gallagher and Dena Sturm, 88 students (a 130% increase from 2010) acted as docents and mentors to other students participating in our education program. These wonderfully dynamic and thoughtful students continue to make us proud with their classroom and community achievements. **The Co-Existence Club continues to be one of the largest at Riverview High School.** 2012 will see the expansion of this type of partnership with other area high schools.



Embracing Our Differences[®] also expanded on its educational collaborations with *Florida Studio Theater*, *Sarasota Film Festival*, *Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall*, *GWiz*, *Ringling Museum*, *Selby Gardens* and our newest education partner, *Mote Marine Laboratory*. During this past year over 7,000 *Embracing Our Differences*[®] students participated in education programs specifically designed by these partnering organizations to coordinate with our mission.

The importance of our program in our local schools is demonstrated in many ways. For example, a survey of students in one Sarasota County school indicated 27% felt they were the victim of bullying. A similar study indicated that student bystanders are watching 85% of the time when one child bullies another. Manatee County students speak over 70 different languages.

National studies have consistently proven the value of comprehensive art education and its association with gains in math, reading, cognitive ability, critical thinking and verbal skills. Arts education has also been shown to improve motivation and confidence and “connect people more deeply to the world” creating a foundation for social bonds and community cohesion.

Our own evaluation, conducted annually by Shelley Robertson, Ed.D., continues to prove that our education program positively impacts learning outcomes relating both to art appreciation and character building by helping students: (1) learn to make sense of their world; (2) make healthy life choices while recognizing the importance and value of diversity; (3) improve self-esteem and motivation; and (4) experience new ways to learn and succeed. We are confident that the continuation of *Embracing Our Differences*[®] year after year, with new and

original artwork, will have a positive impact on our community for generations to come.

The *Embracing Our Differences*[®] Steering Committee is deeply committed to making the enhancement of our education program and the resources we provide to our teachers a top priority.

In addition to all of our continued growth, we have been able to control expenses while maintaining a relatively flat annual operating budget for the past six years.

Overall, 2011 was an exceptional year for *Embracing Our Differences*[®].

A project as large as *Embracing Our Differences*[®] requires the support of many people and organizations and we wish to acknowledge all of those who have played a role in supporting our efforts. These include you, our very generous donors, as well as our many volunteers. It also includes our Community Partners – *Gulf Coast Community Foundation*, *The Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manate*, *Ringling College of Art and Design*, *YEA Arts* and *Sarasota Sister Cities* – each of which plays an integral role in the overall effectiveness of our programs. As always, the *City of Sarasota* deserves our special thanks for allowing us to occupy our beautiful downtown bayfront park, which provides the perfect venue for our community to experience the Exhibit.

We are very proud of our accomplishments and look forward to 2012. It is a privilege to continue to provide this opportunity for our community to reflect upon and deepen its awareness that *Embracing Our Differences*[®], respecting the beliefs of others and standing up against hatred and prejudice will lead to a better world for everyone. Respecting others is not only a way of thinking and feeling – but most importantly, of acting. There are no innocent bystanders. ●



STUDENT ATTENDANCE

2004 1,200

2011 17,717

17,717 Number of Students attending in 2011.
A 1,476% INCREASE OVER 2004!

GENERAL ATTENDANCE

2004 95,000

2011 277,000

277,000 Estimated 2011 Attendance at Island Park.
A 291% INCREASE OVER 2004!

87,000 Number of Students participating in the program since 2004.

1,100,000 Estimated Attendance since 2004.

2,601 Total Art Submissions for 2011.

923 Total Student Art Submissions (K—12) for 2011.

76 Number of Schools making Submissions in 2011.

\$3.70 Average Cost of providing Free Bus Transportation for a Student to the *Embracing Our Differences®* exhibit.

48 Number of Countries from which 2011 art was submitted.

29 Number of U.S. States from which 2011 art was submitted.

1,207 Total Quotation Submissions for 2011 (a 248% increase over 2010).

1,000 *EOD* Art Books distributed to public & private school teachers free of charge.

80,000 Copies of *Newspaper in Education/EOD* educational supplements distributed to students in 2011.



Our **MISSION** is to use art as a catalyst for creating awareness and promoting, throughout our community, the value of diversity, the benefits of inclusion and the significance of the active rejection of hatred and prejudice.

Community Partners



EMBRACING OUR DIFFERENCES[®] 2012

Sponsorship Opportunities We invite you to participate in creating a society that is more inclusive for all. Please consider helping us bring a message of acceptance to our community. Your support of **Embracing Our Differences[®]** is vital to the continuation of this important work. There are numerous ways in which you, as an individual or business, can support our mission. Please consider sponsorship of an art panel, individual quotation or the education program for students. With your support, know that you are making a difference in the lives of many, especially those of our children.

“You must be the change you wish to see in the world.” – Mahatma Gandhi



\$50,000

LEAD SPONSOR

- Name/Logo prominently listed as “Lead Sponsor”
- Mention in all collateral materials, media and web site
- Participation in Special Event at Island Park Exhibit



\$25,000

EXHIBIT SPONSOR

- Name/Logo prominently listed as “Exhibit Sponsor”
- Mention in all collateral materials, media and web site
- Participation in Special Event at Island Park Exhibit



\$10,000

ASSOCIATE EXHIBIT SPONSOR

- Name/Logo prominently listed as “Associate Exhibit Sponsor”
- Mention in all collateral materials, media and web site



\$5,000

SCHOOL SPONSOR

- Name/Logo listed as “School Sponsor”
- Mention in most collateral materials, media and web site



\$3,000

ART PANEL SPONSOR

- Name/Logo listed as “Art Panel Sponsor”
- Mention in most collateral materials, media and web site

SCHOOL BUS SPONSOR

\$1,000

- Name listed as “School Bus Sponsor”
- Mention in some collateral materials, and web site

QUOTATION SPONSOR

\$500

- Name listed as “Quotation Sponsor”
- Mention in some collateral materials, and web site

Your gift to Coexistence, Inc. and its Embracing Our Differences[®] project, a qualified 501(c)(3) organization, is FULLY TAX DEDUCTIBLE to the extent allowable by law.



2012 Embracing Our Differences® Sponsorship Registration Form

Email this form to info@embracingourdifferences.org
or mail to EMBRACING OUR DIFFERENCES®
PO BOX 2559 • SARASOTA, FL 34230-2559

PLEASE PRINT

Name(s) _____

Company _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (include Area Code) _____

Email _____

Please list my/our name(s) [whether corporate or individual] as follows:

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lead Sponsor
\$50,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Associate Exhibit Sponsor
\$10,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Art Panel Sponsor
\$3,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit Sponsor
\$25,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> School Sponsor
\$5,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> School Bus Sponsor
\$1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Although I am unable to sponsor, please accept my enclosed contribution in the amount of \$ _____</i> | | <input type="checkbox"/> Quotation Sponsor
\$500 |

PAYMENT: American Express Master Card Visa Check encl.* Bill Me

Card # _____

3 or 4 Digit Security Code _____ Exp Date _____

Name on Card (please print) _____

Signature _____

*Please make checks payable to: Coexistence, Inc.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever does."
- MARGARET MEAD

COEXISTENCE, INC. MEETS ALL REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED BY THE FLORIDA SOLICITATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS ACT. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE 1-800-435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. REGISTRATION NO. CH19398.



STEERING COMMITTEE

Carol Buchanan
Graci & Dennis McGillicuddy
CO-CHAIRS

Michael J. Shelton **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**
Scott Anderson, Bernadette Bennett
Richard Bergman, Alice Cotman
Arlene Greene, Teri Hansen, Sherry Lawrence
Rebekah Leopold, Jeremy Lisitza
Barbara J. Lorry, Joan Lowery, Leslie Malkin
Gila Meriwether, Jared Muha, Nancy Roucher
Delia Smith-Orth Joni Steinberg
Tammy Walsh • Sally Yanowitz
Tim Cameresi **ART DIRECTOR**
Grace Carlson **PR & MARKETING**

2011 SPONSORS

EXHIBIT SPONSORS

Ann & Norbert Donnelly/Tervis
Dennis & Graci McGillicuddy
Herald Tribune Media-Group, The Zenith,
Gulf Coast Community Foundation
The City of Sarasota

ASSOCIATE EXHIBIT SPONSORS

Vern & Sandy Buchanan/Sarasota Ford
Bill & Christine Isaac/The Imaine Foundation
Bruce & Janet Udell/Udell Associates
Ringling College of Art and Design
Betty Schoenbaum • The Z Foundation
SNN Local News 6 • Sarasota County TDT
Tourist Development Tax Revenues

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

GULF COAST
THE FOUNDATION OF COMMUNITY



Register Online!
EmbracingOurDifferences.org
NEW WEB SITE COMING SOON!