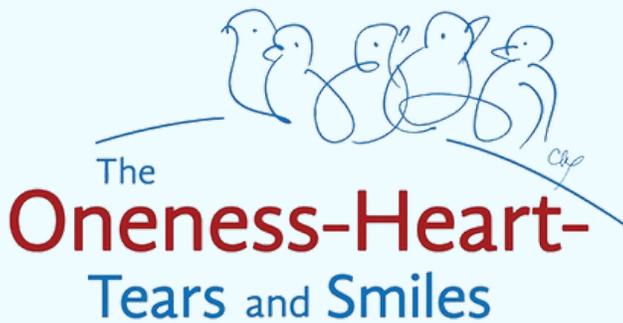
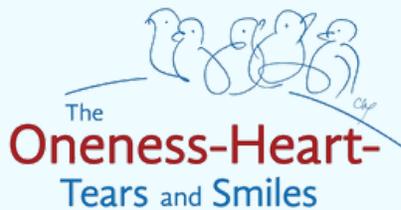


The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles
WORLDWIDE HUMANITARIAN SERVICE

The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles
in Support of the United Nations
Sustainable Development Goals

Introduction by Professor Simone Auf der Maur (Ph.D.)





**"The greatest mistake in life
Is to remain indifferent
To the world-situation."**

Sri Chinmoy

Introduction

by Professor Simone Auf der Maur (Ph.D.)

University of Porto/Portugal

**Professor in the field of initial teacher training
for foreign language teachers**

In the 21st century, teachers all across the globe need to develop new skills and competencies that go far beyond the passing on of received knowledge. They now face many new challenges, caused by a newly interdependent planet, which includes societies with differing values, and which also takes account of the rapid pace of new technological developments. In addition to helping students to acquire critical thinking, problem-solving and digital skills, teachers must be able to prepare their students to become aware of, and empathetic with, people in cultures different from their own. They must become capable of understanding and valuing a wide range of cultures and ecosystems, and of interacting with the people in them knowledgeably, in order to prepare them for life in a more peaceful, just and sustainable world (UNESCO, 2014).

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes the key role of education in enabling member countries to achieve the goals stated, encouraging members of the United Nations "to ensure, by 2030, that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development" (Target 4.7, Education 2030, Incheon Declaration and Framework for Action, p. 20).

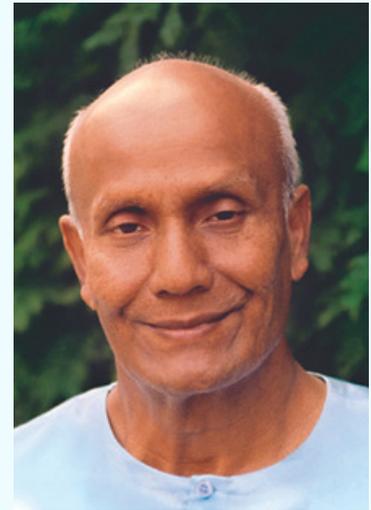


The attached booklet presents several examples of projects aligned with this global call to action, and implemented in countries in different parts of the world. These examples effectively illustrate how teachers can expand their range by helping their students to develop an awareness of issues related to the 2030 Agenda, and even provide assistance to their fellow world-citizens. By doing so, teachers can not only promote global awareness among their students, but also align themselves with the core UN principles of sustainability and global citizenship. The projects described have all been executed through the initiative of The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles Humanitarian Service — an international, non-profit organization, staffed entirely by volunteers, and founded by international harmony leader, Sri Chinmoy.

The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles works collaboratively with other aid agencies, governments, local NGO's, national leaders, community groups and corporations, obtaining and distributing medical, pharmaceutical, domestic and educational supplies in projects that respond to disaster relief requests, health and educational needs and regional development projects. Thus, the work of The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles not only resonates with, but also exemplifies, the goals of the United Nations in its pursuit of health, education, and sustainable development through collaborative efforts and meaningful partnerships.

More information about The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles can be found at:
www.onenessheart.org

Teachers' comments:
<https://bit.ly/42SEfb5>



Sri Chinmoy

The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles Humanitarian Service

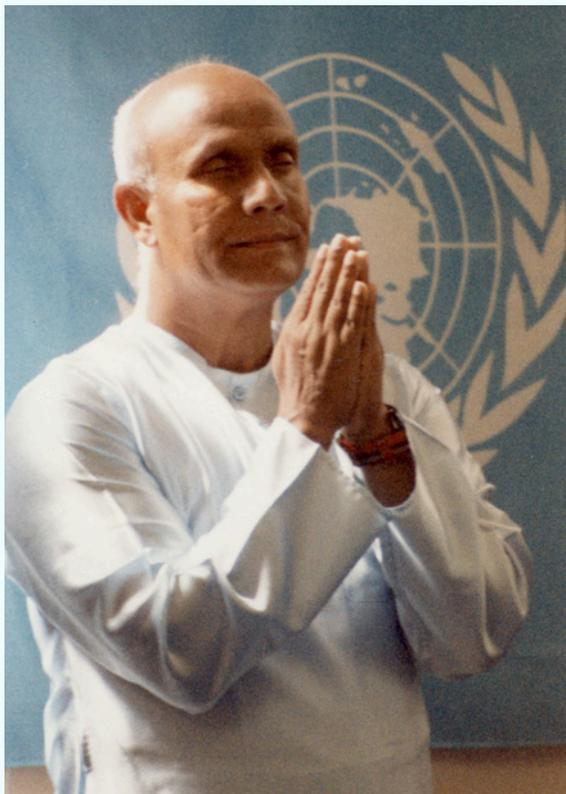
Founded by visionary humanitarian and international harmony leader, Sri Chinmoy, The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles is a network of dedicated volunteers in the medical and educational fields, of many different nationalities and faiths, with a mission to serve communities in health care, education, sports and development, economic recovery and leadership training, often through unique methodologies involving international partnership and cross-cultural dialogue, with an eye to sustainability and community ownership of projects.



Inspired by the philosophy of Sri Chinmoy, each project has built into it an aspect of oneness among peoples, irrespective of race, socioeconomic conditions, creed or nationality. A goal of each project is to experience with the population served a sense of mutual inspiration, joy and gratitude in the spirit of true global sustainability—based on the inherent equality of every inhabitant of this planet.

The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles Humanitarian Service

The organization is politically neutral in the purest sense; it is not affiliated with any government nor does it accept funding from any government, NGO or foundation. In fact, all of the members of The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles are volunteers who provide their service in the spirit of self-giving. No one receives any form of salary.



In 1970, UN Secretary-General U Thant invited Sri Chinmoy to lead twice-weekly peace meditations for delegates and staff at UN Headquarters in New York. For nearly four decades, Sri Chinmoy offered his multifaceted inspiration to the UN community through these meditations, lectures, concerts, art exhibits and other programmes for peace, and these meditations and activities continue to this day. Through this avenue, Sri Chinmoy developed friendships with numerous UN diplomats, many of whom requested his support during periods of disaster in their countries.



How the Kids to Kids Global Initiative Began

Kids to Kids is a main programme of The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles humanitarian service, founded by Sri Chinmoy in 1991.



Sri Chinmoy receiving the
"Friends of the Children of Angola" Award

with Professor Ibrahim Gambari and Maria Abrantes,
the Founder of the Friends of the Children of Angola

In 2002, Sri Chinmoy, received an urgent request from United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Special Advisor to the Secretary-General on Africa, Professor Ibrahim Gambari, to send food, medical supplies and educational materials to the children of Angola. A peace accord had just been signed there, after almost three decades of civil war, and the plight of countless children facing starvation and disease was on the news daily. Because of this, children in many countries became aware of the crisis.

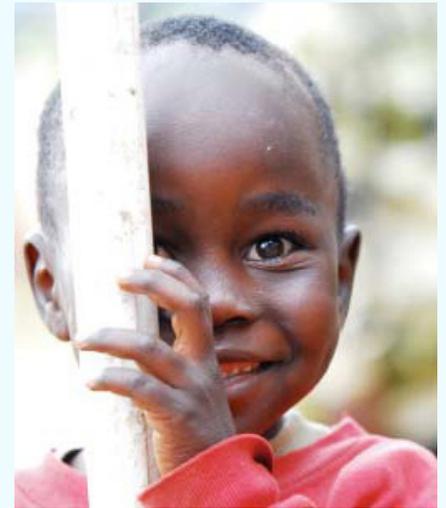


As Sri Chinmoy wanted to respond to Professor Gambari's request on a very large scale, he asked his students in 14 countries to visit children in schools, and invite them to participate in a very direct way, by creating their own Kids to Kids gift kits for the Angolan children. Many children in these countries embraced the project with great enthusiasm, and it was an immediate success in over 50 schools throughout Europe and in North America. The donor children created thousands of gift packages, which contained items needed for school and hygiene, as well as personal notes and encouraging drawings created by the children themselves. These kits were shipped to Angola in 21 sea containers which also contained desperately needed food and medical supplies. Professor Gambari guided our efforts by arranging for the humanitarian organization "Feed the Children" to receive the gifts.



Through this simple Kids to Kids project, we all learned that individually and collectively, we can do so much to relieve suffering in the world – we need only to feel that for a friend we can do anything, and to realize that every human being is a friend currently unseen.

We learned that most children are naturally inclined towards this universal feeling.



The Kids to Kids Service Programme has given many students worldwide the opportunity to experience United Nations ideals, firsthand, by inviting them to participate in one of the many different projects sponsored by the programme, which began in 2002.

We have learned that through this avenue, children can relate to several of the Sustainable Development Goals and are eager to participate in “making things better.”

The brief case studies will show a selection of these projects, which have been mainly within the categories of the first four sustainable development goals, as well as environmental protection, as follows:

- SDG 1. No Poverty**
- SDG 2. Zero Hunger**
- SDG 3. Good Health and Wellbeing**
- SDG 4. Quality Education**
- SDG 13. Climate Action**



At this time in history, when we are all thinking of the Agenda 2030, we wish to offer teachers our manual, which includes descriptions of selected projects, comments from teachers, and a blueprint of how this educational module, called Kids to Kids, has been introduced to schools over the past 22 years.



Dr. Charles Mercieca, the President of the International Association of Educators for World Peace, wrote,

“The programme called Kids to Kids was developed in response to a request to Sri Chinmoy [an international peace dreamer, and founder of several initiatives dedicated to world peace] in 2004 by United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Special Advisor to Africa, Professor Ibrahim Gambari to send educational materials to the children of Angola... Rather than give a lecture on equality, respect for self and others and environmental protection, the program has developed a series of projects where children participate in service programs for children in disadvantaged countries. These projects or activities foster the development of skills which will enable students to develop friendship, empathy and cooperation with children in developing countries. They create attitudes of self-respect and respect for others as well as social justice and equality.”

**Charles Mercieca,
Ph.D., President,**

International Association of Educators for World Peace, NGO, United Nations – ECOSOC





Other Results of Participation for Donor Students

As a result of their participation in Kids to Kids projects, teachers say that children can become global friends at a very young age, for their own happiness and the betterment of the world; the program widens our children's understanding of the larger world family and how one child can make a difference.

Teachers also say the projects help create a sense of community; serve as a powerful vehicle for dialogue between children from diverse backgrounds; help to teach such qualities as compassion, self-giving, tolerance and forgiveness, which, in turn, lead to happiness; give donor children the opportunity to expand their hearts and bring their own good qualities forward; and teach children that we all belong to one world family.

Participation in these projects may serve the immediate self-interest of students in the donor schools, as well, since many of the best Western universities ask applicants if they have ever engaged in projects for world service.





Drawings of Love project

Following the devastating tsunami of December 26, 2004, the First Lady of Indonesia, Kristiani Herawati, called on the children of the international community to offer messages of hope for the 8,000 children orphaned by the tsunami.

This request led to the Drawings of Love project, which was initiated by The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles Kids to Kids global team, through which 22,000 children from 30 countries sent drawings and messages of love and affection for distribution to the thousands of orphaned children in Banda Aceh. This became a truly global undertaking, with artwork coming from Europe, North America, South America, New Zealand and Australia and Asia.



BENEFITS TO DONOR CHILDREN

Teachers often state that the students participating in Kids to Kids, are happier, more engaged in school and have higher academic outcomes.

Drawings of Love project videos

<https://icedrive.net/s/7CZjzDaGbk5W1469vZkwr3Vxk9X>

<https://icedrive.net/s/4XWuyG88i4833igWagGZR23vabA7>

<https://icedrive.net/s/zDRabAWDaT7hV55hgbig9ut9SGRh>

UNICEF

Drawings of Love Exhibition

Florence, Italy, 2007

UNICEF invited young children in Florence to Innocenti Research Centre to create drawings to be delivered to the children orphaned by the 2004 tsunami.



Dr. Artanto Wargadinata
(on the right)
Minister of Culture,
Embassy of the
Indonesian Republic in Rome

Dr. Saudamini Siegrist
Sr. Advisor for Child
Protection in Emergencies
UNICEF



Exhibition in Florence Video

<https://icedrive.net/s/DtkjuWjY6f3CP5631X2686V7vZbT>

“The Kids to Kids project is an educational module that facilitates children in helping other children across borders throughout the world. This programme inspires educators, and their students to participate by offering their encouragement, artwork, school supplies and toys to children in developing countries.”

Dr. Saudamini Siegrist,

Sr. Advisor for Child Protection in Emergencies UNICEF

“The Kids to Kids “Drawings of Love” initiative was inspired by the first lady of Indonesia, Madam Kristiani Herawati Yudhoyono who called on the children of the international community to send messages to the 8,000 orphans of the tsunami. The initiative was created by The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles Humanitarian Organization, founded by Sri Chinmoy. Approximately 22,000 children in 30 countries contributed their artwork.

The Kids to Kids project has created an emotional bridge between these children, inviting the children themselves to offer their less fortunate peers an affectionate thought expressed through a creative gesture, made using their own hands.“

UNICEF booklet



In America, our pioneer school was the Oneness-Family Montessori School in Chevy Chase, Maryland. This school was exceptionally eager to embrace the Kids to Kids project, and its students created hundreds and hundreds of gift kits.



Visit with the Ambassador of Angola, Josefina Pitra Diakite and the Chairperson for the Friends of the Children of Angola, Ms. Maria Abrantes
January 13, 2003



The school was founded in 1988, by Atmatyagi Andrew Kutt, who is a student of Sri Chinmoy, and it has been dedicated to the principles and vision of the United Nations since its inception. The curriculum includes a focus on the mission of the United Nations, and the school has celebrated United Nations Day with colorful festivals every year since it was founded.

“Dear Sri Chinmoy

On behalf of all of our students, teachers and parents, I am writing to tell you what an inspiring opportunity the Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles Program has been for our students over the past two years. World service is a major part of our school’s mission. Your program, which helps so many people in areas of dire need around the world, has been a perfect way for our students to serve the world. I can think of no better way to inform our students about the world situation and to involve them directly in world service projects. Through the Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles Program, our students have gathered 80 boxes of educational and medical supplies for the children of Angola. They have also raised impressive sums of money through various activities, such as the operation of their school store. Then they have donated the money to various areas of need around the globe identified by your program. Such activities have made our students much more knowledgeable about the world. Moreover, these activities have enabled our students to “open up their hearts” to other people, especially children who are less fortunate than they are.”

Atmatyagi Andrew Kutt

Executive Director

Oneness-Family Montessori School

Excerpt from a letter to Sri Chinmoy, dated 15 December 2003

The Oneness-Family Montessori School also has a global citizenship program for children, called Peacekeepers. This program focuses on 20 different areas of skill development necessary for students to become young diplomats, and it is very popular among the students.

Over the years since students in the school first participated in 2003, its students have responded in a powerful way to requests from Kids to Kids projects to support children in many different disaster-struck countries. Many of the participating students have said that creating the Kids to Kids Kits made them feel that they were personally doing something important to help children in less fortunate parts of the world.

“Because of the Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles Program, I was inspired two years ago to begin our Peacekeepers Club.

The Peacekeepers Club is a voluntary after-school education program which teaches students the twenty different skill areas they need in order to become global citizens. We have designed many activities to enable the students to learn these global skills in interesting and exciting ways. Students who participate in Peacekeepers are very enthusiastic, sincere and hardworking. Yet at the same time, we have lots of fun. The club is very successful and quite a number of schools around the nation have now been starting Peacekeepers Clubs as well.

Our Peacekeepers students feel a great sense of accomplishment that they are learning such important skills and that they are doing so many good things for the world. None of this would have happened if it were not for your inspiration. I believe that this new children’s movement is due to the opportunities provided by the Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles Program.

I look forward to our school’s continued participation in the efforts of the Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles Program. I am sure we have only begun this journey of world-service, and I am confident that with our students’ help we can accomplish great things in the future. ”

**Atmatyagi Andrew Kutt
Executive Director**

**The Oneness-Family Montessori School
*Excerpt from a letter to Sri Chinmoy, dated 15 December 2003***



Educating Children in World Service

In 2011, a representative of our humanitarian service organization, Kids to Kids, was invited to an official United Nations Infopoverty Conference at UN headquarters in New York. One of the main speakers Mr. Jimmy Sherlock included our organization in his presentation, and we were asked to share Sri Chinmoy's sayings about initiating and participating in world service. In our experience, these sayings do, in fact, work to motivate children to participate.

The United Nations was looking for new ways to inspire humanity to get involved in world service to eradicate extreme poverty. Making Sri Chinmoy's thoughts available to students, schools, and service clubs, and introducing some of our Kids to Kids projects in schools, have been significant avenues to the introduction of the philosophy of universal oneness to the children of the world.

QUOTES ON THE THEME OF WORLD SERVICE

from the writings of Sri Chinmoy

"The greatest mistake in life is to remain indifferent to the world situation."

"Widen your heart to include the four corners of the globe in your own life."

"If you want to leave the world better than you found it, then use your heart of compassion and your life of concern."

"Every day you must prepare yourself to be a better citizen of the world."

"To serve and never be tired is love."

"Every self-giving effort of every human being is needed to change the face of the world."

"To help others go in the right direction, we must go in that direction first."

"Only an explosion of self-giving activities from each individual can save this precarious world from destruction-night."

"The more the heart can do, the greater the life becomes."

"Be always fast, very fast, in consciously becoming one with the tears and smiles of this entire world."



Under-Secretary-General
Anwarul Chowdhury
and Sri Chinmoy



In early 2004, United Nations Under-Secretary-General Anwarul Chowdhury, as the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, entrusted to Sri Chinmoy’s humanitarian service organisation, ten of the most vulnerable developing countries under his jurisdiction for the collection and disbursement of humanitarian assistance.

Under-Secretary-General Chowdhury sent letters introducing Sri Chinmoy’s organization to Ministries of each of the countries, stating

“they are working together with us to serve the needs of the following African and South Pacific Island Countries - Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Guinea Bissau, Rwanda, Zambia, Burundi and Sao Tome. They seek to establish bridges from hospitals, schools, sports and service organisations in several developed nations to the above nations. I have met many times with Sri Chinmoy and the members of this group and I am deeply moved by their sincerity and eagerness to serve without accepting any money.”

Under-Secretary-General Anwarul Chowdhury



We in Sri Chinmoy's humanitarian organisation had the honor to be of service to the United Nations through this avenue for many years, far beyond the tenure of Ambassador Chowdhury as the Under-Secretary-General. The number of countries which received sea containers of medical technology and supplies, as well as educational materials, as a result of United Nations' requests, rose from 10 to 28, comprised mostly of developing African nations.

Many of the large shipments destined for the 28 countries included Kids to Kids education kits prepared by children. Ambassador Chowdhury commented to us that he was happy to note that we have developed a program to assist children in the least developed countries.

“This program is being introduced to schools to foster the ideals of the United Nations in the hearts and minds of children in various parts of the globe.”

Under-Secretary-General Anwarul Chowdhury





Children know no boundaries; nor does suffering. In observing how the global concerns of environment, development and economic stability can bring the peoples of the world together, we strongly feel that these challenges can enable, and even compel, us to overcome differences, and dissolve boundaries, in anticipation of the day when world oneness will be a reality. We are convinced that this goal will be reached by all of humanity one day. Large-scale assistance from more fortunate countries, communities, institutions and individuals determined to think and act globally is essential to bridge the enormous gap between developed countries and developing countries. At this point, charity is no longer the issue. We are one family.





Kids to Kids and Climate Change



The Golden Grove school is a small, private, Montessori primary school (grades 1-5) in Auckland, New Zealand. Mr. Jim Lawless, who has a background of 40 years in the science of renewable energy, also has been teaching geology and environmental science at the Golden Grove school on a part time basis.

In one approach, he taught the students how to calculate the amount of carbon emissions caused by various forms of transport. They then analysed their own family's carbon profile for transport, and discussed how they could improve it through activities such as cycling, walking, public transport, carpooling and electric vehicles. (Switching to electric vehicles is a particularly effective source of energy conservation in New Zealand, because 90% of our electricity generation comes from renewable sources.)

In another project, he trained the students to calculate how many kilometres of carbon emissions could be absorbed by planting trees of various sizes. Students then were shown how to raise tree seedlings. They planted some at the school and sold others to parents and staff at cost, so that they were able to absorb the carbon emissions caused by their travel.



Fast forward to 2023 when the climate emergency became very real to the people of New Zealand. In the summer of that year there was continuous rain for weeks, punctuated with some extreme weather events that caused widespread devastation. The devastation was most severe in February, when cyclone Gabrielle hit the northern half of the country. The East Cape/Hawkes Bay region suffered the most, although other parts of the north were also affected.

The combination of high winds and rainfall brought down thousands of trees and caused numerous landslides, cutting phone and power lines, wiping out roads and bridges and flooding large areas of farmland and houses. Up to 2 metres of silt were deposited in several parts of the region. Crops, which were just ready for harvesting, were totally destroyed. Many houses and some schools are, in 2025, still unusable, and many may never be re-built.

These events have certainly served as a wake-up call about the effects of climate change to the people of New Zealand. The community spirit, short-term response and generosity of many New Zealanders was splendid to see, and that was not only in the most severely affected area. The Sri Chinmoy Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles humanitarian service started recruiting schools in Auckland, including both the Golden Grove and Ficino, to make up “Kids to Kids” packs of school materials, hygiene supplies, toys and a message of support.

That was a totally voluntary initiative, carried out at the Auckland pupils' own cost. They eventually managed to assemble several hundred Kids to Kids packs. Some weeks after the disaster, when enough of the roads had re-opened, two members of the Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles drove from Auckland to Hawkes Bay and distributed the packs to students in schools in most need of assistance.



In the Golden Grove school, we discussed the connection between the Kids to Kids donations and our earlier work on carbon emissions due transport. We explained to the students that it would be good to offset the carbon emissions caused by driving from Auckland to East Cape/Hawkes Bay, by planting a tree at each school that received the Kids to Kids packs. The schools were receptive and each accepted a tree, with a certificate from Golden Grove to state how many kilometres of travel were offset by each one.



It was interesting that the kids at Golden Grove really understood what we were doing. One day, one of the 10-year-old students said:

“We are not just raising trees, we are raising awareness.”

QUOTES ON THE THEME OF NATURE from the writings of Sri Chinmoy



“Nature’s last message to mankind:

Do not mistreat me!

If you mistreat me,

You will be a deplorable loser

In the battlefield of life.”

“Listen to Nature—

She speaks

Only for your good.”

“We can have harmony

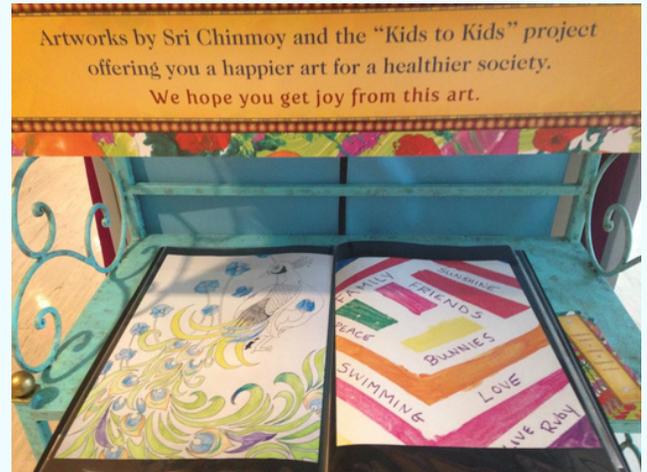
If we have

A deep reverence

For Mother Nature.”

Exhibition of Paintings for Happiness United Nations Headquarters

Commemorating
the International Day of Happiness, March 20,
a United Nations Initiative



As children are our most cherished resource, their happiness is the main goal of Kids to Kids. Inspired by Bhutan's visionary philosophy of Gross National Happiness (GNH) and the United Nations' subsequent proclamation of March 20th as the International Day of Happiness, Kids to Kids began the Happiness Art Project in 2017. In this project, we aim to inspire children around the globe by raising their awareness of the International Day of Happiness and Bhutan's pivotal role in its formation.

Children in 27 countries created over 2,000 happiness drawings for the children of Bhutan. Prof. Harashita Sunaoshi of Kyoto Seika University, Japan, and Prof. Utsahi Nérée St-Amand of the University of Ottawa, Canada, visited seven schools and three GNH-related institutions on successive trips to Bhutan, and delivered 300 of these happiness drawings, held art exhibitions at schools, and engaged in dialogue on the theme of happiness with students, educators, GNH policy makers and practitioners.



Kindly see the Slideshow

<https://icedrive.net/s/iu817t6X2YxfAbyR8uYY2vNCzVAR>

In March, 2018, Ranjana Ghose, curator of the Jharna-Kala Art Foundation, opened a stunning exhibit, sponsored by the Mission of the Kingdom of Bhutan to the United Nations, entitled “Paintings for Happiness”, at the UN Headquarters in New York City. Featured were 15 inspiring works by Sri Chinmoy, a renowned artist as well as a humanitarian. The exhibit also included a large number of the drawings created by children worldwide as part of the Happiness Art Project. The drawings were exhibited in art portfolios as well as on two video screens. Bookmarks on the theme of happiness were offered daily to hundreds of children touring the United Nations. The response was astounding and deeply inspiring.



Ranjana Ghose, Curator of the Jharna-Kala Artwork and Aye Aye Myint U, daughter of the UN's very esteemed third Secretary-General, U Thant



Painting for Happiness by Nora Amaya Palkon, great-granddaughter of UN Secretary-General U-Thant.

Painting kindly submitted by Aye Aye Myint U, daughter of the UN's very esteemed third Secretary-General.

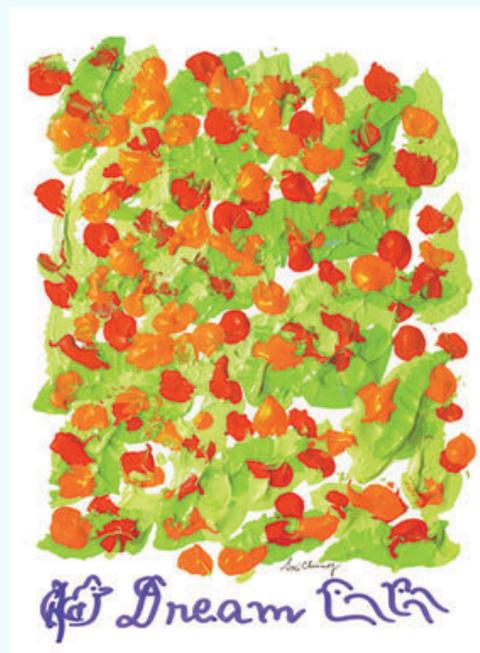
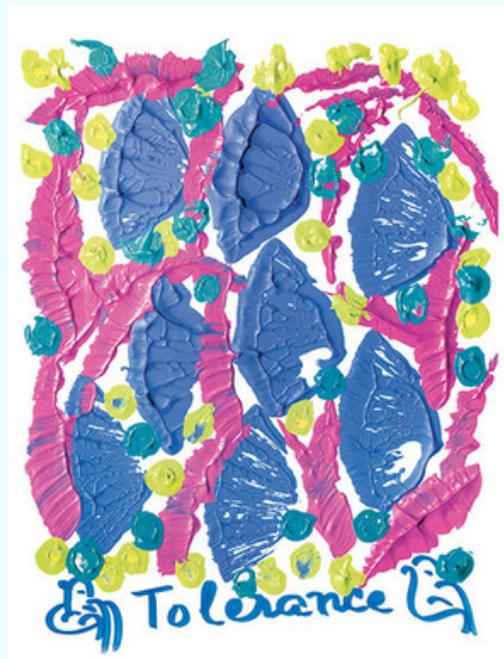
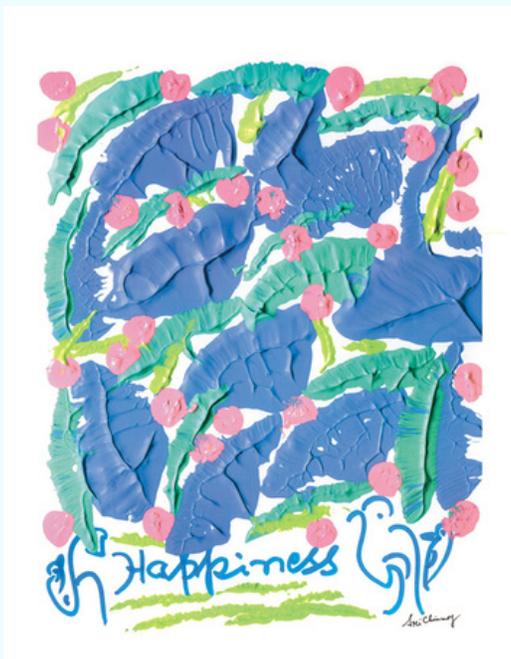
Kindly see the video

<https://icedrive.net/s/yBjX3ajit18hykQ75N7Wt38gZb1G>



Kids to Kids has, over many years, also offered some of Sri Chinmoy's artwork to schools in many different countries, in partnership with the Jharna-Kala Art Foundation.

We provide laminated reproductions of paintings that have uplifting titles, such as Compassion, Grace, Tolerance, Happiness, Perfection, Dream and World Harmony. Teachers have told us that this artwork, hung in the halls where students pass daily, has been more effective than words in creating positive changes in their students.



Russia

1

NO POVERTY

Sri Chinmoy's students in Germany, Austria and Switzerland began collecting food and clothing as part of The Oneness-Heart for Russia project in December 1990.

We filled nine trucks with 1,000 boxes of food and clothing weighing 22 tons.

The first convoy left Freiburg on 11 January 1991 and reached Moscow on 17 January.

A second convoy followed in August 1991.



In December 1991 Sri Chinmoy asked his students to send a third convoy of food and clothing to Moscow as soon as possible. Over the next 14 days, 16 tons of food was collected and purchased

Amongst the three convoys, 58 tons of food and clothing were delivered to Moscow and distributed throughout the capital and to other cities in Russia as well.

Russia

In 1992, the President Gorbachev was the first person to request Sri Chinmoy and his students to offer humanitarian assistance to his country.

The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles humanitarian service began in 1992 with the personal request of President Gorbachev to Sri Chinmoy for assistance in treating Russian children with leukemia.

With inspiration and guidance from Raisa Maximovna Gorbachev, the primary health project selected for the Gorbachev Foundation was the amelioration of the then desolate conditions for Russian children with leukemia and other blood diseases.



Russia

Between 1993 and 1996, we sent more than USD 2.5 million worth of chemotherapeutic drugs and other pharmaceuticals, plus support equipment, to treat children with leukemia at the Research Institute of Pediatric Hematology.

We also participated in training Russian doctors in the use of the most modern and effective treatments against leukemia.

By sending large quantities of chemotherapeutic drugs, as well as multi-million dollar diagnostic and treatment equipment, Sri Chinmoy and his students, through The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles, have assisted the Research Institute of Pediatric Hematology in increasing the recovery rate of the afflicted Russian children they treat from 7 per cent to 70 per cent, the same as in Western developed countries.



Russia

**Sri Chinmoy's
Humanitarian service
"The Oneness-Heart Tears and Smiles"**

**For the Raisa Gorbacheva
Memorial Institute of children's
oncology, hematology and
transplantation in St. Petersburg
opened in 2007**



**Sri Chinmoy student doctors/nurse
team who visited the hospital
and had the honor
of serving in some way**



**Clowns from Slovakia,
Canada and Austria**

Russia

PARTNERSHIP IN HAPPINESS: FRIENDSHIP ART BETWEEN CHILDREN'S HOSPITALS



We connected children from Raisa Maximovna's Hospital in Saint-Petersburg, Russia, who were being treated with chemotherapy

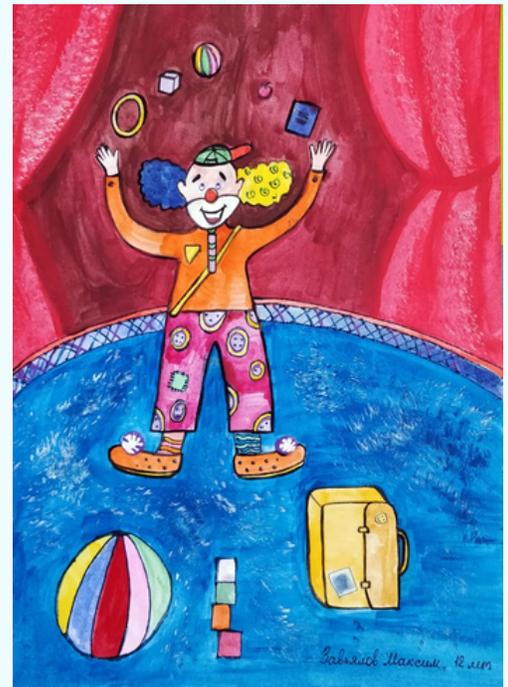
project coordinator: Alisa Georgievna Volkova
pediatrician, hematologist

with children in the Policlinico – Vittorio Emanuele, in Catania, Italy

project coordinator: Dr. Cinzia Favara Scacco,
Art Therapist, Psycho Oncologist, President, LAD ONLUS

We have also received drawings from children from schools in Italy, Portugal and the United States.

They shared inspiring and encouraging artwork and messages with children in hospitals.



Partnership in Happiness video

<https://icedrive.net/s/QS2GfWgSPWuy4yQ2gQRzbT7N3RYy>

Dolls for Africa

Our mission: to make sweet, simple cloth dolls that African children can relate to.

**"Dolls for Africa
is a project of great
compassion
and caring.
I endorse it enthusiastically."**

**Archbishop
Desmond Tutu**

Young children in the Gifted Education Program from one of the Madison County Schools in Mississippi make dolls for the "Dolls for Africa" project in 2021.



Dolls for Africa

1
NO POVERTY

4
QUALITY EDUCATION

"I am deeply grateful that I was able offer my students the opportunity to be involved in the Dolls For Africa Project.

I have been a teacher for thirty five years, and this is one of the most rewarding endeavors of my career."

**Sibyl Ross,
Gifted Education Teacher Highland Elementary School Madison County Schools,
Ridgeland, MS. (recently retired)**



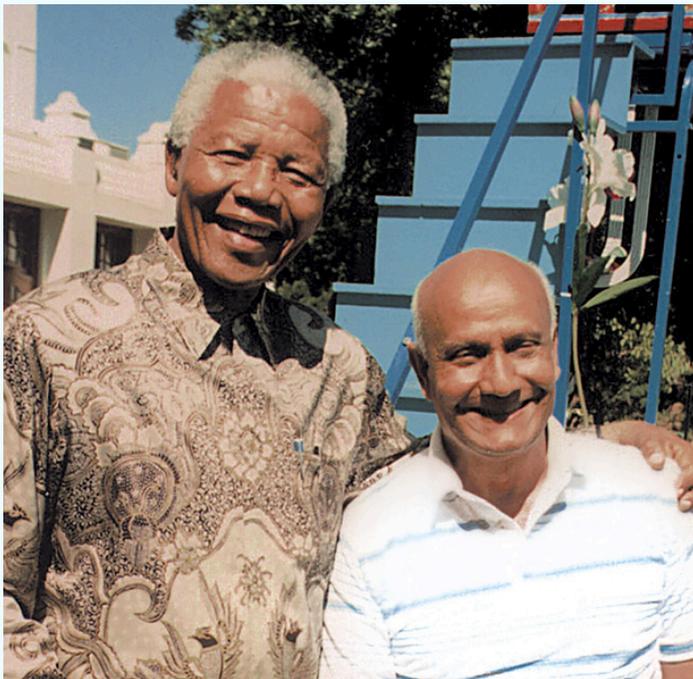
Dolls for Africa



1
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The dolls were offered to children in one of the orphanages under the umbrella of the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund.



Nelson Mandela and Sri Chinmoy



An example of how students could celebrate the UN Nelson Mandela Children's Day

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/0m1oga36f5pntrwjlk53x/Dolls-for-Nelson-Mandela-Orphanage-final.mp4?rlkey=czvsvbm0gw3zs8gmjjk1s&st=h5a91a9x&dl=0>

Timing for the Introduction of the Kids to Kids Educational Module to School Children

1
NO POVERTY

4
QUALITY EDUCATION

Mrs. Nibesha Hunt, a kindergarten teacher at St. Joseph's school in London, and a volunteer with the Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles, began introducing her youngest students to their wider world family in 2002.



A young boy in her class was a native of Eritrea, a small and beautiful African nation. The student shared stories of his village and friends, and the teacher identified the location of the tiny country on the east coast of Africa. The child's mother explained the needs of a school in their village. Students at St. Joseph's school then arranged for the construction of urgently needed windows in that school.

In a related effort, students at St. Joseph's school collected many toys, items of clothing, and art supplies, and also added their own personal messages and drawings, all of which were added to a sea container full of classroom furniture and educational materials, and sent to school children in Guinea-Bissau, another African nation.

The above examples show that even young children are happy to help those in need, as indicated by the below statement of Nanette Braun:

“Lifelong behaviours are shaped at an early age and we hope that providing the knowledge and tools to help build a more sustainable future will have lasting impact.”

Nanette Braun,

Director of Campaigns in the UN Department of Global Communications



**Kids to Kids celebrate
Mother Teresa's canonization
by sending 5,500 Kids gift packs
to India for the Missionaries of
Charity**

**"The greatest good is what we do
for one another."**

**"If you cannot feed a hundred
people, then feed just one."**

Mother Teresa



To pay homage to Mother Teresa on the occasion of her canonization, organizers of Sri Chinmoy's ongoing humanitarian program, the Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles, arranged for 50 schools in the Czech Republic to put together 5,500 Kids-to-Kids packs containing hygiene and school supplies for Nirmala Shishu Bhavan - the Mother Teresa Missionaries of Charity in Calcutta, Indian - for distribution to destitute and orphaned children.

**Kids to Kids celebrate
Mother Teresa's canonization
by sending 5,500 Kids gift packs to
India for the Missionaries of Charity**



Sister Mercina, a sister of Mother Teresa order in Calcutta said upon receiving the humanitarian container:

"We are very grateful for these gifts for they will bring joy and ease to many children. We will distribute the packages partly here in Calcutta, West Bengal and thousand will go to Urisa and other places in India."



Peace visionary Sri Chinmoy was a dear friend of Mother Teresa's.

Since first meeting her in October 1975 at an interfaith conference at United Nations headquarters in New York, they met and spoke together several times about their shared vision of a peaceful world and their efforts to help those in need.



Sri Chinmoy with Mother Teresa
Missionaries of Charity House
Bronx, New-York, June 17th, 1997

On Mother Teresa requests, Sri Chinmoy's organization sent over the years humanitarian supplies to the Missionaries around the world for distribution to the poor and needy.

Once she said to Sri Chinmoy: "I am so pleased with all the good work you are doing for world peace and for people in so many countries. May we continue to work together and to share together all for the glory of God and for the good of man."



**"Thank you, thank you.
How much work you do for the poor and
the needy—those poor in the spirit and
those needy in the body!...
You do beautiful work!"**

**Mother Teresa
June 17th, 1997, meeting with Sri Chinmoy**

Mother Teresa speaks with Sri Chinmoy just after viewing through a window at her Missionaries of Charity house in the Bronx the 98 boxes of medicines and medical supplies offered to her by Sri Chinmoy, June 17th, 1997.

Friendship Across Canada Programme in Celebration of National Aboriginal Awareness Day



“We want children to be aware of the difference they can make through everyday actions,”
said Nanette Braun,
Director of Campaigns in the UN Department of Global Communications

On 9 May 2007 students from the Kitigan Zibi School in Maniwaki, Quebec, received 200 Kids to Kids packs on behalf of Peter Ballantyne Cree Nations Reserve at Pelican Narrows in Saskatchewan, which were prepared individually by students at Maple Ridge Elementary School, in Orleans, Ontario.



Friendship Across Canada Programme in Celebration of National Aboriginal Awareness Day



Students from the audience were invited to the stage to join in the Friendship Circle Dance.



“National Aboriginal Awareness Day is an opportunity for all Canadians to celebrate the contributions of First Nations, Metis and Inuit people to our country and our province. And even more importantly, it is a reminder to young Aboriginal people that their heritage and culture are a proud and strong foundation on which to build their future”.

**The Hon. James K. Bartleman,
Lieutenant Governor of Ontario**

Connecting children in the Czech and Slovak Republics, Indonesia and Guatemala

With great care and affection, our Kids to Kids volunteers from eight schools in the Czech and Slovak Republics had prepared many hundreds of Kids to Kids kits for Indonesian children.

The Kids to Kids kits, which have been delivered to millions of children worldwide during countless crises, contain school and art supplies, a small toy or plush animal, a personal note of encouragement and friendship, and a photo of the child who gave the gifts.



Such simple but heartfelt offerings serve as a powerful vehicle for dialogue between the children of different countries and backgrounds.



The Guatemalan sea container delivered 1,249 packages, 6,015 exercise books, 554 plush toys, 30 musical instruments, 40 bicycles and other sports equipment, and much more.

The total number of items was 33,763 weighing 2110 kg.

Sharing gifts and happiness in Indonesia 2020-2021

Princess Febri Dipokusumo, a district Governor of “Rotary International” in Java, instead suggested that we provide service to the children of Indonesia in a different way.

She invited Kids to Kids to be a partner in the Rotary Door to Door project, which would arrange for our gift bags to be delivered to disadvantaged children in 14 cities across five islands and six provinces in Indonesia.

We arranged for the purchase of the items, and our gift bags were prepared and distributed by Rotary International.

Sharing gifts and happiness in Indonesia video

<https://icedrive.net/s/T4YWZYxuGN2SutYPa9Rjxv1TPhYP>



Prince Dipokusumo, Princess Febri and family

Sharing gifts and happiness in Indonesia 2020-2021

“All Rotarians and Rotaractors helped distribute holiday gifts for these children, in various areas from Central Java, East Java, Bali, Nusa Tenggara to Sulawesi. All worked together to share. In each of our visits to children’s homes or to homes for children with disabilities, we learned a lot about the importance of gratitude.

Myself and my family, also Rotarians and Rotaractors not only came to bring gifts but we really brought happiness to Indonesian children. We walked from village to village, along small alleys, visiting tenements. From there we increasingly realized that our lives and our children were far more fortunate. We learned a lot from this simple project. As Sri Chinmoy said when we give without expecting, then Peace will be ours.”

Febri H Dipokusumo

District Governor Rotary District 3420 Indonesia 2019 - 2020



In support of the United Nations
ACT NOW Campaign

We initiated a new project, inviting the Youth in Sudaji to plant 200 fruit trees in the community.



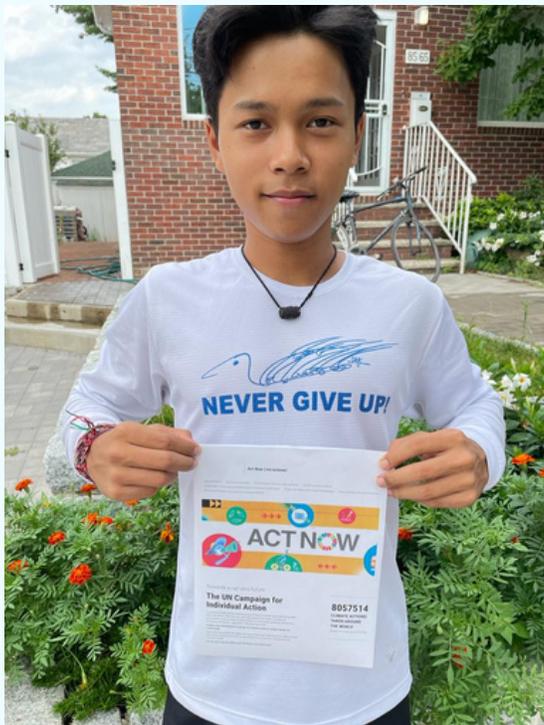
In support of the United Nations ACT NOW Campaign

Minister of Tourism of Indonesia Dr. H. Sandiaga Salahuddin Uno, BBA, MBA planted a tree in Sudaji in gratitude for the inspiring community initiatives to serve Mother Earth.



In support of ACT NOW video

<https://icedrive.net/s/jD9tG5bjxGbXZkxu68Ta8AvgFGjN>



“We invite people to show us their climate action and inspire others. Because, when we pull together, we have much more power to influence change,”

says Nanette Braun,
director of campaigns at
the United Nations.

Portugal

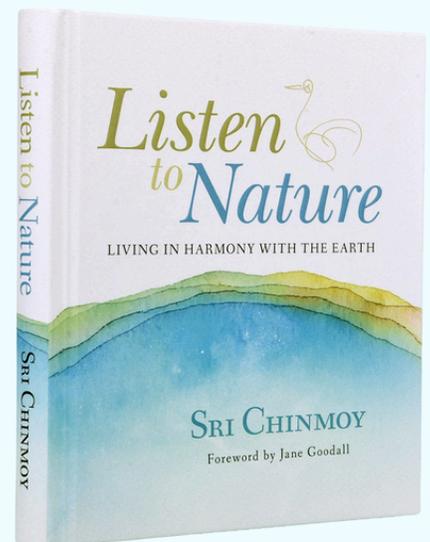
This is a story of Professor Simone Auf der Maur, who is teaching her student teachers at Porto University, about the environment through inspiring quotes from the book “Listen to Nature” by Sri Chinmoy, and hands on projects such as planting an olive tree.



Teachers of secondary school and student teachers from Porto university with Professor Simone Auf der Maur

“Over the course of time, the students are going to grow alongside their trees, nourished by the shared experience of planting and caring for life. Lessons of patience, resilience, and responsibility have been nestled deep within their souls. They have become advocates for change, and guardians of a future where humanity and nature can thrive in harmony.”

**Professor Simone Auf der Maur
University of Porto, Porto, Portugal**



Celebrating the UN-designated International Mother Earth Day April 22

27 April, Ceremony, Conservatory of Music, Porto, Portugal



Beginning of the planting of the tree



Head of School Jorge Moreira

28 April, Ceremony, Secondary School in Ermesinde, Portugal



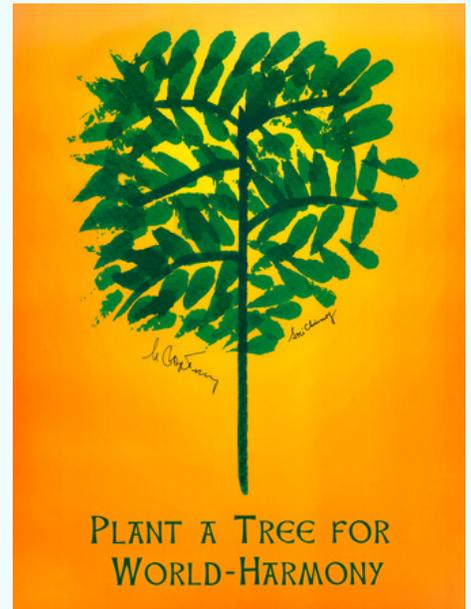
Celebrating the UN-designated International Mother Earth Day April 22

Earth Day Activities, 30 April, Escola da Ponte, Portugal
Students planting the olive tree



Celebrating the UN-designated International Mother Earth Day April 22

In northern Portugal,
on the International Day of Mother Earth 2023,
little seeds of hope were planted.



Artwork by Sri Chinmoy

Planting the Olive Tree – the Tree of
Peace – at the Community Garden of São
Bernardo, Aveiro, Portugal by the
students at the Centro de Estudos de
São Bernardo

The Community Garden
of São Bernardo, Aveiro



Portugal

Celebrating the UN-designated International Mother Earth Day April 22



Artwork by Sri Chinmoy

“Here today, on Earth Day, we are planting this olive tree, which has long been recognized as a symbol of peace.”

Henrique Vieira,
Parish Council of São Bernardo



In support of the United Nations Ocean Conference

An Exhibit from the artwork and writings of Sri Chinmoy
25 June 2022, Matosinhos, Portugal, Leixões Cruise Terminal



Professor Simone Auf der Maur
University of Porto, Porto, Portugal



**UN Ocean Conference 2022
Exhibition video**

<https://icedrive.net/s/FYTuwji2igNtuahx8Gi9wu9Vg68k>

Portugal

3

GOOD HEALTH AND
WELL-BEING

Celebration of the International Day of Happiness

Happiness Banners in Portugal in celebration of the International Day of Happiness

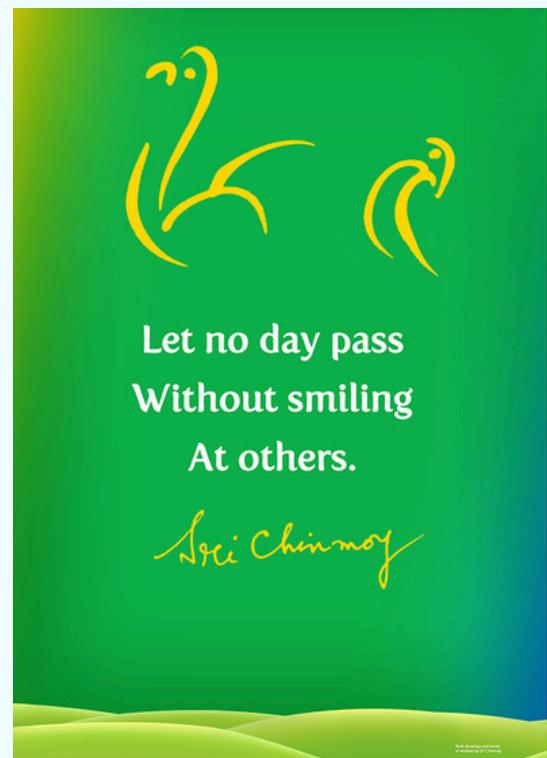
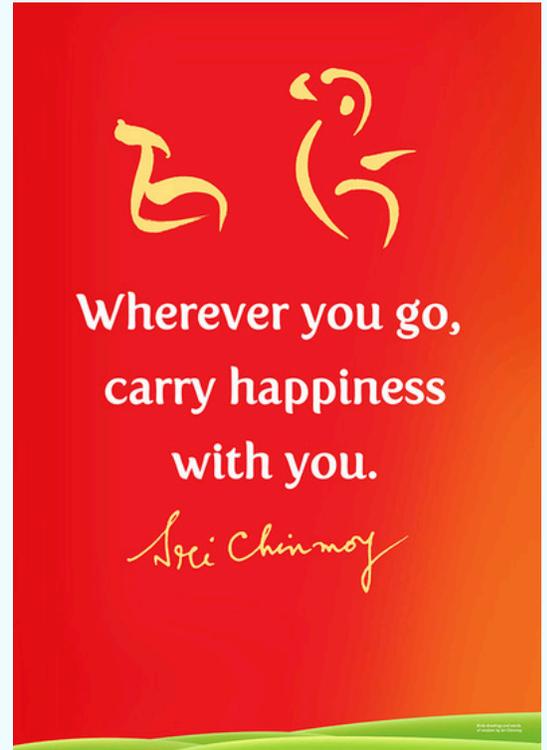
The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles has been offering Happiness, Health and Harmony Banners with inspiring messages during the pandemic.

Five pioneer Portuguese primary and secondary schools have chosen to participate in the Happiness-Banners project, some of them having prepared ceremonies for their reception, with the participation of the different members of the community.

The Portuguese schools made their own selection from 27 aphorisms, which were printed on Happiness-Banners that the schools wanted to post so that the whole community could read and feel inspired.

Happiness Banners in Portuguese Schools

<https://icedrive.net/s/tzzFBY6iVbihD4wxX5SaPzVFW9P5>



Portugal

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Celebration of the International Day of Happiness



Portugal

3

GOOD HEALTH AND
WELL-BEING

Celebration of the International Day of Happiness



During the ceremony, students at Escola Básica dos 2.º e 3.º Ciclos D. António Ferreira Gomes, performing song, "Your Heart is as Beautiful as the Rainbow", by Sri Chinmoy.

“Let us allow ourselves to be carried away by the breeze of peace and love and by the current of harmony, hope and goodness and, in this way, we build, day after day, a more fraternal and colorful world. This initiative is a hymn to solidarity and a call to the practice of well-doing.”

Júlia Miranda

Teacher at the Ermesinde Secondary School, who strongly supported the preparation and performance of the ceremonies



**“A cheerful mind
Has always been
a perfect guide
To a healthy body.”**

Sri Chinmoy



Bulgaria

3

GOOD HEALTH AND
WELL-BEING

Celebration

of the International Day of Happiness and the International Mother Earth Day 2023

The inspiring team in Bulgaria led by Violeta Angelova celebrated both the International Day of Happiness and Earth Day with thousands of visitors to the Plovdiv and Burgas Malls.

The mall projected inspiring “Thoughts for the Day” on the theme of Happiness and Environmental Protection, on huge screens for all visitors to enjoy, as well as welcoming Sri Chinmoy’s art exhibition in the mall in honor of the International United Nations World Ocean Day.



Celebration of the International Day of Happiness and the International Mother Earth Day 2023

On March 20, the team organized a public discussion on the occasion of the International Day of Happiness at the St. Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia.

A public discussion included representatives of the Youth Group of the United Nations in Bulgaria, the European Studies Club and other students at the University.



Celebration of the International Day of Happiness and the International Mother Earth Day 2023

A friendship happiness art exchange was arranged in a primary school giving children the opportunity to reach out to other students in friendship.

During the team visit to the school in Bulgaria, there was a discussion on the topic of "Happiness," on the occasion of the International Day of Happiness. Guests were greeted with flowers, songs and a cheerful mood. The children had created drawings that would be received by students in Serbia. Some of the Bulgarian students had written essays on the topic of happiness that touched our hearts deeply.



Seven Minutes of World Peace

Seven Minutes of World Peace was born at the United Nations on United Nations Day (October 24) in 1984.

A seven-minute lunchtime meditation to honour the occasion was led by Sri Chinmoy, in a UN conference room, with many staff and delegates present.

Individuals and organizations all around the world were inspired to join the observance at the same time. The United Nations declared that, in future years, September 21 would be observed as the UN International Day of Peace.



Portugal

Celebration of the International Day of Peace

A member of the Kids to Kids team, in Coimbra, Portugal, invited the Conceição School to participate in the Seven Minutes of World Peace observance on September 21, 2022.

Professor Fernanda Silva responded enthusiastically.

All 220 students, and 22 adults (teachers, operational assistants, cooks and the Friar who works for the parish) took part in the activity, dressed in white and forming a human frame with the word Peace.



Portugal

Celebration of the International Day of Peace

“In the classroom, all the students talked about peace and carried out activities: panels, white doves, viewing images. These activities served as preparation.

... The school also distributed posters around the village to publicize the activity.”

Professor Fernanda Silva



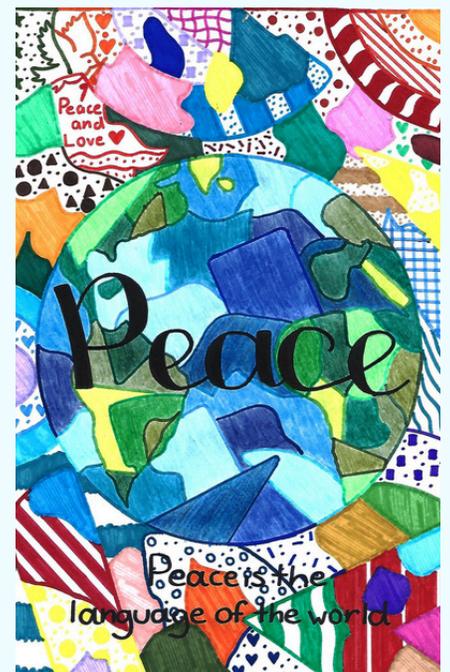
Drawings from Portugal for the children of the Jhamtse Gatsal Community “Garden of Love and Compassion” (India)

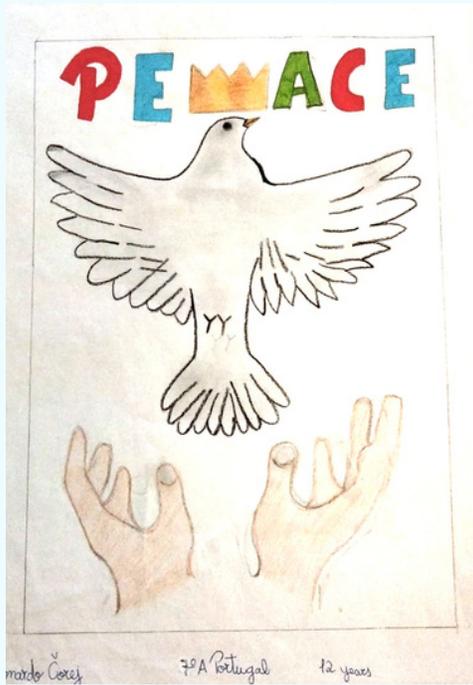


At the Conservatory of Music in Porto, Portugal on 4th of October 2024 a small ceremony took place in the school library to celebrate peace.

The students of the 7th grade had been working hard to create beautiful peace drawings for the "Seven Minutes of Peace" project. This project was inaugurated by Sri Chinmoy in 1984.

These drawings were created in honor of the UN International Day of Peace and are meant to share a message of kindness, understanding, and love with the world. The "Seven Minutes of Peace" project is a reminder that even small acts of peace can create a ripple that reaches far across oceans and borders, connecting us all.





During this ceremony, the students were reminded once again about the importance of this project and, most of all, about the children of the Garden of Love and Compassion in India. The students were so curious and full of excitement!

Video Presentation for the children of the Jhamtse Gatsal Community

<https://icedrive.net/s/YyQD9h926z2Txky8xXWRP55b55kQ>

Beautiful video of Jhamtse Gatsal Community

<https://youtu.be/S0IJXEIEOfM>



Bikes for schoolchildren



Low school attendance recently has become a major problem in New Zealand. Even though some schools are running at less than 50% attendance, the government has eliminated most truancy officers as part of general cuts to funding for primary school education.

But some schools have taken the initiative on their own! Several schools in the Wairarapa area have gotten together, and are jointly funding their own programs to increase school attendance, employing truancy officers who make home visits. This plan has increased attendance to over 80% in the participating schools.

The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles Kids to Kids programme wanted to contribute to the successful functioning of these schools. This humanitarian programme, which was founded in 1991 by the spiritual teacher Sri Chinmoy, and is staffed entirely by volunteers, has provided needed school supplies, books and other necessities to children in schools across the developing world (see www.kidstokids.global for more information about the activities of this programme).

We were inspired by a “Keep Girls in School” programme in Nepal, run by Adarsh Mehta and her husband Jeff Jenner, who have a Canadian charity called “My 100%”. In addition to scholarships, this charity has provided 260 bicycles to loan to girls in a remote district in Nepal, so that they can get to school ([Bike Loan Program – My 100 Percent](#)). So, we started collecting bikes in Auckland to be delivered to schools in the under-funded Wairarapa area.

New Zealand



The Auckland Sri Chinmoy Meditation Centre had a working bee to service and fix the bikes



We test drove all of the bikes.

Then we loaded up a large trailer with 19 bikes, and headed south to Masterton.

We arranged a hand-over ceremony at Douglas Park School in Masterton.

New Zealand

4
QUALITY EDUCATION



Because this involved a lot of driving, we planted a tree at each of the receptor schools, to offset the carbon emissions caused by delivering the bikes.



We also took some Kids to Kids packs, for donation to deserving families in the district.





Although that programme is now finished, people have continued to donate bicycles, so we have taken another 14 to a small rural school at Matauri Bay in an impoverished area in the Far North of New Zealand.

This is a simple, low-cost initiative which any group or school could undertake, and make a real difference to those in need.