



OLYMPIC ATC EXCHANGE: PRESS RELEASE

In the Summer of 2007, a Call for Participation was posted on ArtJunction.org, Art Education 2.0, and The Carrot Revolution that invited teachers and students to take part in the Olympic ATC Exchange, an international exchange of artist trading cards created to celebrate the "Olympic spirit." With the 2008 Olympics being held this coming summer in Beijing China, the Olympic ATC Exchange provided an opportunity for students to learn more about the Olympics and the ideas behind it, to promote communication and cultural exchange in art between students in different schools and countries, and to showcase students' skills and creativity through the production and exhibition of artist trading cards.

Artist Trading Cards (ATCs) are miniature works of art (measuring 2.5 x 3.5 inches or 64 X 89 mm) that are traded between artists. Students who participated in this project were encouraged to create ATCs based on "The Olympic Spirit," which encompasses 5 traits—Friendship, Honor, Peace, Glory, and Fair Play. Once the cards were completed they were packaged and mailed via snail mail to a central location in the U.S., where they were sorted and exchanged for cards made by students in other schools. Cards were then mailed back out during the last week of March to their new owners. Nineteen (19) schools from around the globe participated in the project including:

BrookHill School in Bullard Texas
Connersville High School in Connersville, Indiana
Enka Schools in Istanbul, Turkey
Fire Prairie Middle School in Independence, Missouri
Friends School In Mullica Hill, New Jersey
Hoover Middle School in Waterloo, Iowa
Hougang Primary School in Singapore
Living Sky School Division #202 in North Battleford, S.K., Canada
Montclam Middle School in Stanton,, Michigan
Mount Prospect School in Basking Ridge, New Jersey
New Albany Middle School in New Albany, Ohio
Pioneer Technical Center in Madera, California
RB Hunt Elementary School in St. Augustine, Florida
Shanghai American School in Shanghai, China
Union City Middle & High School in Union City, Pennsylvania
Watkinson School in Hartford, Connecticut
Weaverville Primary School in Weaverville, North Carolina
Westran Middle School in Clifton Hill, Missouri
Willow Springs Middle School in Willow Springs, Missouri

Gallery Deck

To commemorate the exchange and to showcase the variety of ideas and media that have been used for the project, 52 cards from schools participating in the Olympic ATC Exchange were chosen to form a "Gallery Deck" that can be seen at www.artjunction.org/olympic_atcs2.php.

The Olympic ATC Exchange was co-sponsored by Art Junction (www.artjunction.org) and The Carrot Revolution (carrotrevolution.blogspot.com).