



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

November 1, 2006

## Local Student Artists Wage War as Children For Peace

**Students at Oakridge Public School are daring to be caring Canadians as DAREarts' Children for Peace. By creating original art cards, they are helping kids in Afghanistan wage war on war.**

On **Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 9:00 am - noon**, the children of Oakridge Public School are fighting back against the devastating effects of war, as they create art cards as part of the '**Centipede Children for Peace**' project. For the 11th year, the **DAREarts 'Children For Peace'** project is being embraced by Toronto area schools. This original card-making program was initiated in Canada by **DAREarts' founder, Marilyn Field**. It is an international children's charity dedicated to empowering children as '**Children For Peace**'.

The students will be joined by **DAREarts' Founder and President Marilyn Field** and artist **Ann Lyons**. **Deputy Mayor Sandra Bussin** will be the children's special guest to applaud their efforts.

Most of Oakridge's students are new arrivals to Canada, presenting a very diverse population from many countries and cultures, some of whom have experienced conflict first-hand. This project allows students to feel empowered to accept social responsibility by helping others.

*"We are ordinary children from ordinary schools but we know that, even though we are just specks in this big world, we can make a difference to children who are suffering. We paint greeting cards to sell and, with the proceeds, help children who are suffering from wars in their country. We want those children to know that we are thinking of them."*

Barbara, 12

Schools can choose where the proceeds go this year: either to 'at risk' aboriginal children living in Canada's own far north, or to the children in war-torn Afghanistan.

DAREarts founder **Marilyn Field**, expressed, "*Our local youth deserve our support and encouragement. With hard work and creativity, they are becoming a strong and impressive force to spread the message of peace and to raise funds to help children in both Canada and abroad who are affected by wars. By their creative actions, they are becoming responsible world citizens who know how to put their caring into affirmative action.*"

Backgrounder:

By creating an original card, each child becomes part of the international movement '**Children with love, Children for Peace**' that has been recognised by the Nobel Peace Prize committee. Numerous heads of state, **the Pope** and **United Nations Secretary General, Kofi Annan** also support the movement. In its 11th year, one million children participate yearly around the world, including, through **DAREarts**, 10,000 Canadian youth. In 2001, **DAREarts Founder, Marilyn Field**, conducted an international choir of 'Children For Peace' from twenty-two countries at the **Nobel Peace Prize's** 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary concert.

In cooperation with **NATO** peace keeping forces, the children's cards have previously bought three special ambulances for the children in Kosovo, rebuilt schools in Bosnia, helped to purchase 'BigFoot, a landmine removal machine, supplied 1,000 school bags for kids in Afghanistan and helped Canadian Olympic wrestler, Daniel Igali, build a school in Eniwari, Nigeria.

DAREarts' Canadian Charitable Number is 88691 7764 RR0002.

For more information call:

Alison Postma  
Director of Communications  
DAREarts Foundation  
3042 Concession 3 Adjala, RR 1,  
Hockley Valley, ON L0N 1P0  
905-729-0097