

Children For Peace on Parliament Hill

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More than a dozen Syrian refugee children, who a year ago were fleeing their war-torn homeland, displayed paintings they created about their experiences last Thursday on Parliament Hill.

Their 40-painting exhibit, titled “Children for Peace – From Heart to Heart” was presented by the Humans for Peace Institution and the Ottawa Chinese Community Service Centre to celebrate Canada’s 150th anniversary. The artwork was on display for the day in a Senate committee room in Parliament’s Centre Block.

“Art connects us both to individual experiences and to different perspectives of the world. In the case of these young Syrian children, their paintings illustrate a story of hope—and a powerful message of peace and unity,” said Senate Speaker George J. Furey.

The project aims to teach children the importance of helping those in need and of welcoming new community members.

“These refugee children fled the war in their home country and arrived in Ottawa less than one year ago. At their young age, they have already undergone adversity and misery that many children could not even think of. These children are giving back to the society and sending a message of gratitude to all Canadians,” said Senator Victor Oh.

The artworks were sold in a silent auction and the proceeds were donated to the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO).



Speaker George J. Furey welcomes artists from Children for Peace to the Senate.



Speaker George J. Furey meets with Syrian refugee children in the Senate Chamber.



The art exhibition of 40 paintings by Syrian refugee children.



Senator Victor Oh and Speaker George J. Furey meet with Syrian refugee children.