



**GRAND
PRAIRIE**

Independent School District

**WORLD
LANGUAGES
& CULTURES**



The Memory Project

For a kinder world...

Art Exhibition

Dr. Susan Simpson-Hull Education Center
January 6th – February 11th, 2021

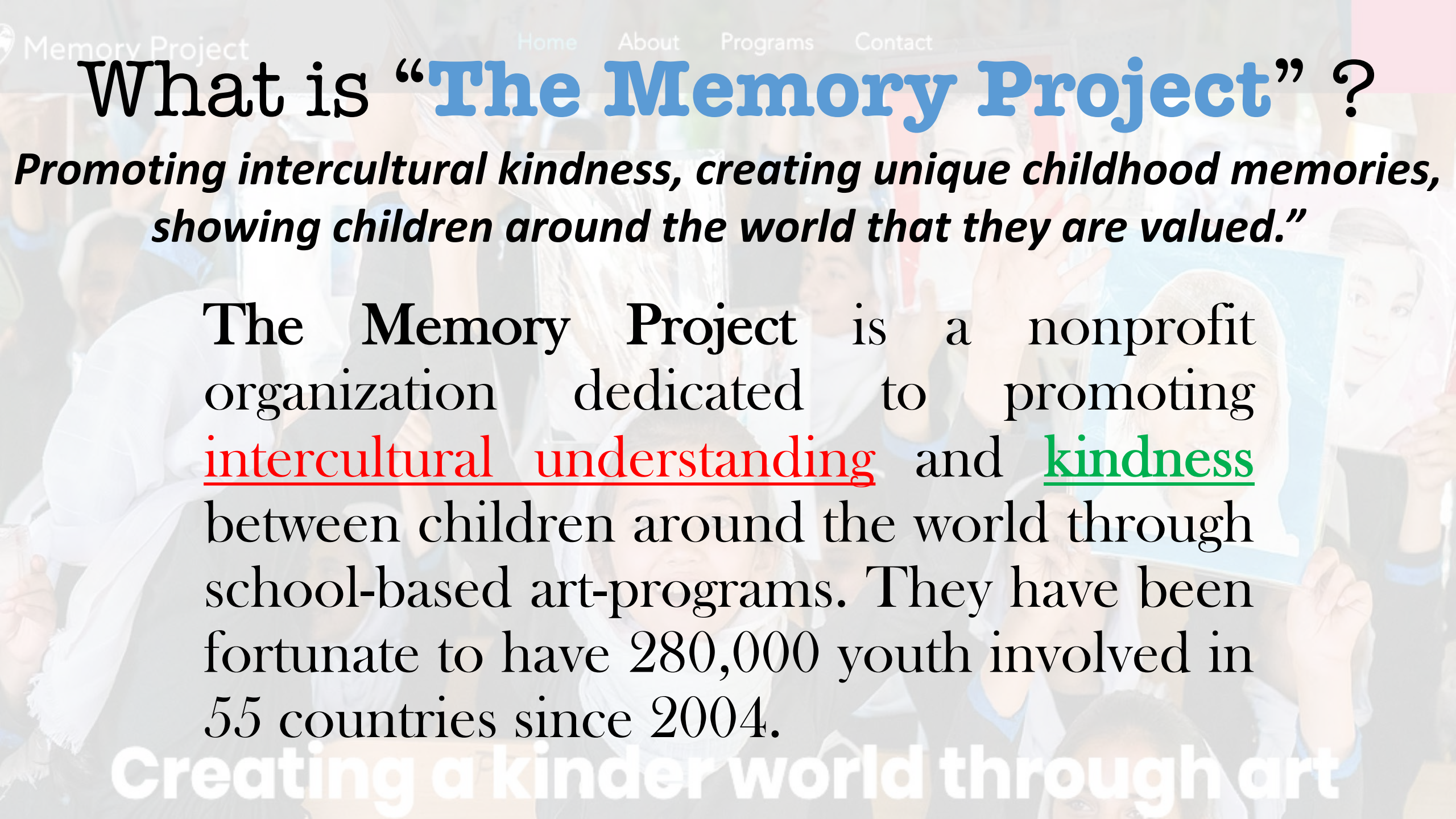


“At GPISD, one of the goals of our World Languages & Cultures Department is to provide authentic and meaningful linguistic and cultural experiences to our students. Through World languages learning and its integration with other disciplines, they will be able to participate more fully in the global community.

“The Memory Project” is a unique tool to help students to develop insight into their own language and culture and others, while making a difference and bringing happiness through a simple act of kindness”.

Veronica Benzvi, M.Ed.
Facilitator





What is “**The Memory Project**” ?

Promoting intercultural kindness, creating unique childhood memories, showing children around the world that they are valued.”

The Memory Project is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting intercultural understanding and kindness between children around the world through school-based art-programs. They have been fortunate to have 280,000 youth involved in 55 countries since 2004.

Creating a kinder world through art

“The Memory Project”: An interdisciplinary Experience

Teachers Resources



From the countries available, our Teachers and students chose AFGHANISTAN.

Teachers integrated some activities during class to provide short videos and facts about Afghanistan, to build background knowledge about the language, the culture and history of the community that they were going to connect with.

Each GPISD student received the special commission of creating a portrait or a piece of art that represent kindness, peace, friendship, unity and love.

Our students were exposed to see “the other side” of the people of Afghanistan, eliminating widespread prejudices and unconscious bias.

Impactful Video: Afghanistan

<https://vimeo.com/250560937>

Teachers Resources

<https://www.memoryproject.org/afghanistan>



GPISD Students' Masterpieces

Elementary School

Program:

“Global Art Exchange”

K-12 Students around the world exchange heartfelt artwork

The Global Art Exchange is a program for K-12 participants. In this one-to-one exchange, American students engage in artistic peacebuilding by sharing handmade, heartfelt artwork with kids from countries that are culturally very different from the USA. Currently, “The Memory Project” is exchanging with youth from Russia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Syria, and Nigeria.



Travis World Languages Academy
Mrs. Johnna Palmatier
Art Teacher

“The Memory Project was an awesome idea for my students to be able to learn about another Country and their Culture. They were excited to do this project and enjoyed creating their artwork to share with another child. I am proud of each of my students and what they each brought to the table for this project.”





Anthony Kanda - 6th grade
"For a Kinder World"



Quinnia Rodriguez - 4th grade
"For a Kinder World"



"For a Kinder World"



"For a Kinder World"



"For a Kinder World"



"For a Kinder World"



"For a Kinder World"



"For a Kinder World"

Afghanistan: Overview
Since the 1870s, the journey on earth has been...
...the journey on earth has been...
...the journey on earth has been...



"For a Kinder World"



"For a Kinder World"



"For a Kinder World"



"For a Kinder World"



"For a Kinder World"



"For a Kinder World"





Nick Gomez – 4th grade
"For a Kinder World"
 Travis World Languages Academy
 Mrs. Johnna Palmatier
 The Memory Project
 "Global Art Exchange"



Regina Carrillo – 4th grade
"For a Kinder World"
 Travis World Languages Academy
 Mrs. Johnna Palmatier
 The Memory Project
 "Global Art Exchange"



Arlene Martinez – 4th grade
"For a Kinder World"
 Travis World Languages Academy
 Mrs. Johnna Palmatier
 The Memory Project
 "Global Art Exchange"



Allison Lopez – 4th grade
"For a Kinder World"
 Travis World Languages Academy
 Mrs. Johnna Palmatier
 The Memory Project
 "Global Art Exchange"



Kaitlyn Haggard – 4th grade
"For a Kinder World"
 Travis World Languages Academy
 Mrs. Johnna Palmatier
 The Memory Project
 "Global Art Exchange"



Benjamin A. Thompson – 4th grade
"For a Kinder World"
 Travis World Languages Academy
 Mrs. Johnna Palmatier
 The Memory Project
 "Global Art Exchange"



Danna Vazquez – 4th grade
"For a Kinder World"
 Travis World Languages Academy
 Mrs. Johnna Palmatier
 The Memory Project
 "Global Art Exchange"



Allison Lopez – 4th grade
"For a Kinder World"
 Travis World Languages Academy
 Mrs. Johnna Palmatier
 The Memory Project
 "Global Art Exchange"



Benjamin Thompson – 4th grade
"For a Kinder World"
 Travis World Languages Academy
 Mrs. Johnna Palmatier
 The Memory Project
 "Global Art Exchange"

These two pieces were selected to be published on the next edition of:



Middle School

Program: “Portraits”

Advanced art students create portraits for global kindness

We invited art students skilled in portraiture to make special gifts for children facing substantial challenges around the world. The portraits help the children feel valued, show them that many people care about their wellbeing, and provide them with a special childhood memory for the future. Since 2004 “The Memory Project” has coordinated the delivery of 180,000 portraits to children in 55 countries.



Travis World Languages Academy

Mrs. Yvonne Zepeda

Art Teacher

- *“This experience has been a very exciting and rewarding one for myself as well as for my students. The students thought it was really COOL to see and work with other students from another country. It definitely sparked their interest in how other kids live. My students showed an extra sense of pride in their artwork. They wanted very much to do their best for these students. I am extremely pleased with how successful my students were with this project. Thank you for the opportunity!”*





"Sara"
Travis World Languages Academy
Mrs. Yvonne Zepeda
The Memory Project

"Sana"
Travis World Languages Academy
Mrs. Yvonne Zepeda
The Memory Project

"Rohina"
Travis World Languages Academy
Mrs. Yvonne Zepeda
The Memory Project

"Rohana"
Travis World Languages Academy
Mrs. Yvonne Zepeda
The Memory Project

Learning and Creating Process

After learning algorithms, our teachers created a series of cartoon portraits. It allowed them to capture the likeness and the purpose of the artists in the subject. The teachers had the opportunity to present some short talks about what is "The Memory Project" about not just creating a portrait, but also the importance of the community that they are in. After that, each artist created a portrait, and we created a series of short talks about the importance of the community that they are in. After that, each artist created a portrait, and we created a series of short talks about the importance of the community that they are in.



"Parwana"
Travis World Languages Academy
Mrs. Yvonne Zepeda
The Memory Project



"Khatera"
Travis World Languages Academy
Mrs. Yvonne Zepeda
The Memory Project



"Rohafza"
Travis World Languages Academy
Mrs. Yvonne Zepeda
The Memory Project



"Leda"
Travis World Languages Academy
Mrs. Yvonne Zepeda
The Memory Project



"Nasrat Ali"
Travis World Languages Academy
Mrs. Yvonne Zepeda
The Memory Project



"Naqatullah"
Travis World Languages Academy
Mrs. Yvonne Zepeda
The Memory Project



Joshua Moran
"Sana"
Travis World Languages Academy
Mrs. Yvonne Zepeda
The Memory Project



Joshua Moran
"Rohafza"
Travis World Languages Academy
Mrs. Yvonne Zepeda
The Memory Project

Grand Prairie High School
Mrs. Mary Cavazos
Art Teacher

- “Our participation in the Memory Project was powerful and profound. It is “ART with a PURPOSE” that engaged my students and gave a deeper meaning to the art of creating. By students creating these portraits, they can meaningfully impact another child that may have experienced hardship in their own countries. By students gifting their creativity, they can spread love and compassion for others globally. As a teacher, I am truly proud of their efforts and I am looking forward to participating in this project again.”





High School



GRAND PRAIRIE
WORLD LANGUAGES & CULTURES

Be Kind
To Everyone

The Memory Project
For a kinder world

THE MEMORY PROJECT IS THE PERFECT WAY TO SHOW YOUR STUDENTS HOW THEY CAN CREATE A KINDER WORLD.

The Memory Project
The Memory Project is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting cross-cultural understanding and kindness between children around the world through educational programs. They have been fortunate to have 250,000+ youth involved in its programs over 10 years.

VISION
By nurturing the hearts and minds of youth through their work, we will eliminate the world's barriers to unity, respect, and understanding. We are united in our mission to create a kinder world. We are united in our mission to create a kinder world. We are united in our mission to create a kinder world.

GRAND PRAIRIE
WORLD LANGUAGES & CULTURES



"Soreya"
Student from the United States
The Memory Project

"Jade"
Student from the United States
The Memory Project

"Salih Mohammad"
Student from the United States
The Memory Project

"Zahra"
Student from the United States
The Memory Project

"Sayed"
Student from the United States
The Memory Project

"Japhie"
Student from the United States
The Memory Project

"Raz"
Student from the United States
The Memory Project

"Theeba"
Student from the United States
The Memory Project

"Zula"
Student from the United States
The Memory Project

"Shahria"
Student from the United States
The Memory Project

Program
"Global Art Exchange"
A-GS students around the world exchange artwork through the program.

The Global Art Exchange is a program for A-GS students to share their artwork and learn about different cultures and art styles. Students are encouraged to create art that reflects their own experiences and perspectives. The program is open to all A-GS students and is a great way to connect with students from other schools and countries.

"Rahmanuddin"
Student from the United States
The Memory Project

"Farwan"
Student from the United States
The Memory Project

Ms. Mary Carson
The Memory Project

The Memory Project is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting cross-cultural understanding and kindness between children around the world through educational programs. They have been fortunate to have 250,000+ youth involved in its programs over 10 years.



"Tobason"
 Student: [Name]
 Grade: [Grade]
 Age: [Age]
 The artist's name is [Name]

"Aline"
 Student: [Name]
 Grade: [Grade]
 Age: [Age]
 The artist's name is [Name]

"Julia"
 Student: [Name]
 Grade: [Grade]
 Age: [Age]
 The artist's name is [Name]



"Rahil"
 Student: [Name]
 Grade: [Grade]
 Age: [Age]
 The artist's name is [Name]

"Jumay"
 Student: [Name]
 Grade: [Grade]
 Age: [Age]
 The artist's name is [Name]

"Shahidul"
 Student: [Name]
 Grade: [Grade]
 Age: [Age]
 The artist's name is [Name]

Program
"Portraits"
 Subsequent art students create portraits
 for global kindness.

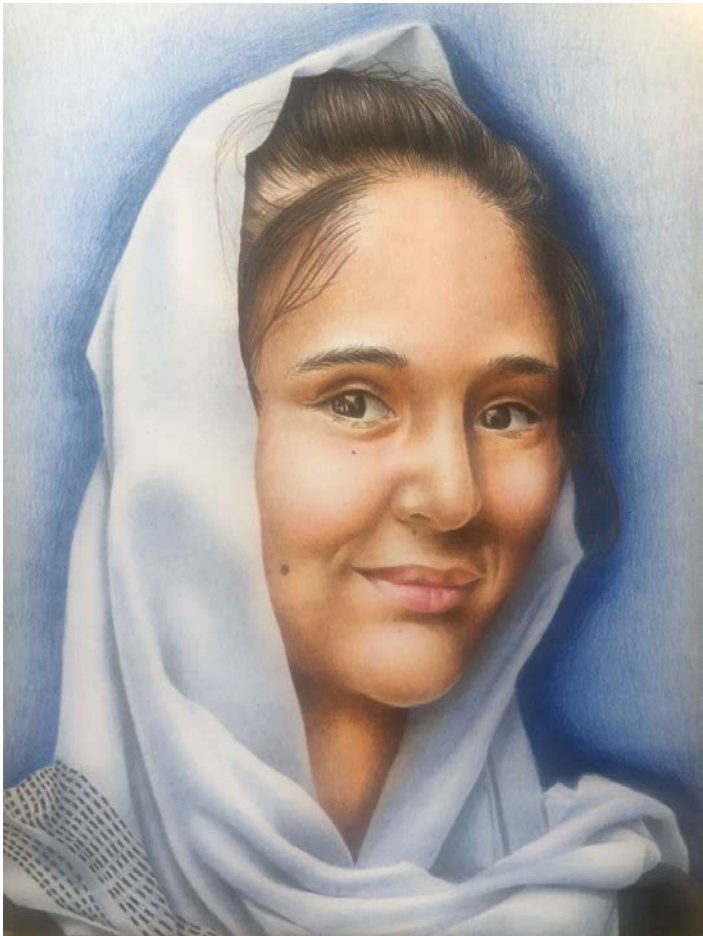
The school art students joined in partnership to make special gifts for children living in refugee camps around the world. The portraits, hand-drawn by students, were sent to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as a symbol of global kindness and solidarity. Since 2016, the "Portraits" program has been a successful initiative to raise awareness of the plight of refugees and to promote global kindness.

2022 students and teachers participating in the program created portraits of refugees in 10 countries.



"Rahmadul"
 Student: [Name]
 Grade: [Grade]
 Age: [Age]
 The artist's name is [Name]

"Julia"
 Student: [Name]
 Grade: [Grade]
 Age: [Age]
 The artist's name is [Name]



THE
best is
yet TO come



What is next?

February 2021: The “**magic of kindness**” in action!

Grand Prairie
— T E X A S —




Global Art Exchange

- All the drawings will be mailed to “The Memory Project”. They will send our students’ finished artwork to the children of Afghanistan. Within a week, they will mail us the physical artwork created by those children for our students to keep. Exchange complete!

Portraits

- All the portraits will be mailed to “The Memory Project”. They will coordinate the delivery to the children. Then, the voluntaries make a short video montage of the delivery to capture the children’s collective excitement and, share it with us!





**"THE MEMORY PROJECT IS THE
PERFECT WAY
TO SHOW YOUR STUDENTS
HOW ART CAN CREATE
a kinder world."**

--BEN SCHUMAKER



Would you like to know more about this program?

Creating a kinder world through art

Explore this link!

