



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION  
INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

1577 Wall St. East  
Winnipeg, MB R3E 2S5  
Telephone: (204) 775-0231  
Fax: (204) 772-6464

September 15, 2014

# NEWS RELEASE

## **77 schools, 168 students, one inspiring masterpiece for human rights**

### ***Winnipeg School Division students collaborate this week on huge Mosaic Mural***

Take 168 students from 77 schools, give them each an 8-by-10-inch piece of canvas and a mix of art supplies, put them together in groups in an art room and ask them to get creative on the topic of human rights. The result? An inspiring and thought-provoking collaborative art piece that will live on to represent an exciting week of exploring and celebrating human rights.

That is the goal for the Mosaic Mural, an ambitious Division-wide project happening the week of September 15 to 19, during *Everybody has the Right*, the Winnipeg School Division's week of celebrating and exploring human rights and how to make the world a better place.

The Mosaic Mural project will see two or three students from every school in the Winnipeg School Division get together in groups of about 24, using mixed-media supplies to paint individual canvas "tiles" to assemble into the massive art piece. The students will combine their individual passions for human rights with artistic expression to make up the 8-by-12-foot mural.

#### **Student art sessions for the *Everybody has the Right* Mosaic Mural will be held at Luxton School at 111 Polson Ave. in Winnipeg. Media are invited to attend during these times:**

Tuesday, September 16, between 10 – 11 a.m. or 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 17, between 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 18, between 10 – 11 a.m. or 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Friday, September 19, between 10 – 11 a.m.

The individual tiles and the full mural will both be photographed so they can live on in a digital format, in addition to being on display. The project allows all Winnipeg School Division schools to participate in a unified venture that will inspire students and facilitate discussion about human rights.

"We have a large and very diverse student population in this division. We'll have students working together from all different schools, and working with other young artists from across grade levels, from Grade 3 up to Grade 12. It's really quite exciting," said Joe Halas, Winnipeg School Division Art Education Consultant, who is spearheading and overseeing the project.

The starting point for the mural will be blank other than an outline of upraised hands, in keeping with the *Everybody has the Right* design theme.

"The image of the hands reaching upwards signifies hope, freedom and human rights advocacy in general. There's an evocation of openness and freedom to the design of the hands," Halas said.

The project will provide a legacy for *Everybody has the Right*, as a representation of the diversity and talents of our students and a commemoration of the week, said Chief Superintendent Pauline Clark.

“The idea that this one piece will be created by students from every one of our schools is very exciting. Bringing the students together to share their thoughts and creativity in relation to human rights will result in a unique piece of art that our students can enjoy and be proud of for years to come,” said Clarke.

Other events for *Everybody has the Right* from September 15 to 19 include:

- A new video highlighting human rights and diversity in the Division (watch it at [www.winnipeg.ca/everybodyhastheright](http://www.winnipeg.ca/everybodyhastheright) ), which is being shown in schools
- Assemblies and activities at individual schools, including “Diversity and Equity Walls” where students can share their thoughts about human rights through words or images; announcements with facts about human rights in the Winnipeg School Division, Manitoba, Canada and around the world; and other student activities as chosen by each school or class
- A special *Everybody has the Right* section in the September issue of *Our Schools*, the Winnipeg School Division’s newspaper for students, staff and the community.

-30-

**To arrange a media visit, or for more information, contact:**

Communications, Winnipeg School Division  
(204) 775-0231 or [communications@wsd1.org](mailto:communications@wsd1.org)