



NEWS RELEASE

WSD students' masterpiece on display at Canadian Museum for Human Rights

Dec. 9, 2014 (Winnipeg, MB) – A locally created art mural is being put on display at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR). The mural, titled *Everybody has the Right*, is made up of 168 canvas “tiles” individually created by students from all 77 schools in the Winnipeg School Division (WSD) – the result is a beautiful mosaic of upraised hands. Together, the 8-by-10 inch tiles, inspired by things the students had learned and experienced regarding human rights, make an 8-by-12 foot mural.

“Students have shared their art, their thoughts and really put their spirit into making this mural a multidimensional celebration of human rights,” said Joe Halas, WSD Art Education Consultant and project overseer. “I’m very proud of the work everybody has put into this project.”

Everybody has the Right is being unveiled Wednesday, Dec. 10 in harmony with International Human Rights Day. CMHR has extended hours and free admission to all galleries to celebrate the day, from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

CMHR interim president and CEO Gail Stephens said the artwork is an example of how schools have recognized and celebrated the significance of the Museum’s opening.

“We are pleased to display this incredible artwork created by so many students working together,” Stephens said. “This Museum is, first and foremost, a place of education – and art is a powerful way to relay messages that can educate and inspire us all about human rights.”

A digital version of [Everybody has the Right](#) will also viewable by Dec. 19 on www.winnipegsd.ca with audio clips from each student artist linked to the tile they made.

“Our goal when we began this project during the week leading up to the opening of CMHR was to have an inspiring and thought-provoking collaborative art piece,” said Halas. “We got so much more than that.” Halas said students involved in the project are excited to see their work on display at CMHR.

Everybody has the Right was a week-long celebration of human rights, diversity and equity within WSD to coincide with the opening of CMHR on Sept. 19, 2014. In addition to the art mural, students took part in assemblies and activities at their schools to share their thoughts and learn facts about human rights in Canada and around the world.

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For media inquiries and to arrange interviews with Mr. Halas and students contact:

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