Kids Giving Hope to Kids

Drawings created by children in Afghanistan, Los Angeles, and northern Iraq, sent to refugee camps as messages of hope to Syrian and Iraqi children.

Main Display Case
Leatherby Libraries, first floor

Exhibit Dates: August - December 2015

Curated by Lynn Matthews

Special thanks to Janice Flinn and Susan, Grace, and Precious Oweiss
About Lynn Matthews

Lynn Matthews, a registered nurse for 32 years, has served in Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia, Cambodia, and Somalia. In 2014, after witnessing the plight of the displaced Syrian and Iraqi children living in the refugee camps of northern Iraq (Kurdistan) she decided to start the “Kids Giving Hope To Kids” project. Using the medium of art, Lynn empowers the children of Afghanistan, northern Iraq, and the United States to compassionately and creatively encourage displaced Syrian and Iraqi children. Lynn and her husband Mark have been married for 23 years and live in the Los Angeles area.

About “Kids Giving Hope to Kids”

Lynn writes, “I wanted to DO something in my own small way to alleviate the suffering of these Syrian children.” She had made seven trips to Afghanistan and had established contacts with many schools there. She asked the Afghan teachers to invite their students to make ‘peace drawings’ with a message of encouragement for the Syrian and Iraqi kids in the refugee camps. The Afghan children were excited to do this. She brought their drawings and greetings to several refugee camps in northern Iraq and distributed them to the kids. In turn, these kids made drawings for the Afghan students. These drawings were sent back to Afghanistan.

Last year, she expanded the project to include American kids by visiting some local schools in the Los Angeles area. She invited them to make drawings with some encouraging words for the children who have suffered so much. The results are filled with great compassion and truly convey the depth of love and caring that the young artists feel for their new Syrian friends. To learn more about this project, visit kidsgivinghopetokids.com.