
Good News Department

Two Young Artists Share Dreams Of Peace

(NAPSA)—By designing a holiday greeting card about children's dreams of peace, two children are sharing their hopes of peace with children around the world.

The two grand prize winners of the 11th annual Pier 1/UNICEF Greeting Card Contest won for their interpretive illustrations of "Children's Dreams of Peace." These designs were produced as UNICEF greeting cards and are on sale now through the holiday season exclusively at Pier 1 imports stores and at www.pier1.com. One hundred percent of the proceeds from the sale of these cards is donated to the U.S. Fund for UNICEF.

Seven-year-old Nicholas Rakestraw of Fort Worth, Texas, won for the seven and under category, and eight-year-old Renuka Chandani Lovett of Lagunitas, California, won for the eight to 13-year-old category.

"It was a difficult decision with so many impressive drawings to choose from this year," said Charles J. Lyons, president of the U.S. Fund for UNICEF. "With all the talk about the impact of recent worldwide events on children, these illustrations represent a level of awareness and feeling that words can't often express."

"Renuka and Nicholas should be very proud that the money raised from the sale of these cards will go to help children in need throughout the world," said Marvin J. Girouard, chairman and CEO of Pier 1.

Renuka's creation depicts a little girl holding a candle and making a wish on a magical flower; the design created by Nicholas is a happy patchwork quilt of peace in which to blanket the world.

Submissions for this year's contest were collected during the



Two winning greeting cards may help to give peace a chance for children around the world.

month of March, to coincide with National Art Month.

The submissions were part of an enthusiastic response to the new and timely theme of "Children's Dreams of Peace," which encouraged young people in the U.S. to share their hopes of peace for children around the world.

The largest retailer of UNICEF greeting cards, Pier 1 has raised more than \$15 million from the sale of the cards since 1985.

Children and adults alike can help UNICEF do even more for the world's children by buying UNICEF cards all year round by visiting <http://www.unicefusa.org/cards>.

Funds from the sale of cards support UNICEF programs that provide lifesaving medicines, vaccines, nutritious foods, primary education, clean water and sanitation and emergency relief for millions of children and women in more than 160 countries and territories.