

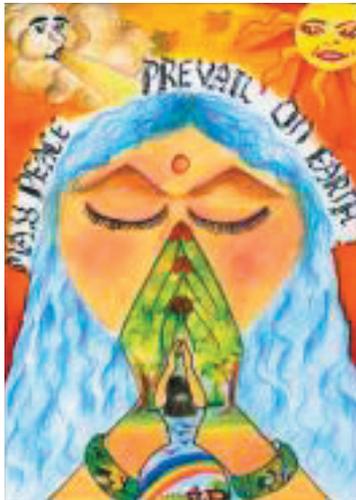
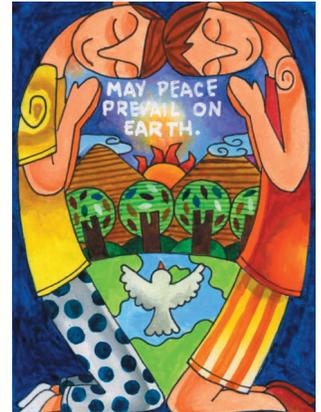
# Peace Pals Competition & Exhibition

April 4 through June 4, 2007



In February, the StarShine Academy of Phoenix played host to the Eighth Annual International Peace Pals Art Competition and Exhibition. This was the first time the United States played host to the prestigious event.

The competition and exhibition was started to promote world peace through children's art. Each child is recognized for his or her submission and all of the winners' artwork is exhibited throughout the world.



Last year Argentina played host to the event and in the past countries such as Scotland, Russia, Chile, India, Philippines and Japan also participated. This year's theme embodies "Peace."



**About Peace Pals.** Masahisa Goi founded Peace Pals in Japan in 1955. In 1990, the society, sponsored by the World Peace Prayer Society, was accepted as a Non-Governmental Organization in affiliation with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations. The organization, now headquartered in New York, participates on several committees of the U.N. that center on values and spiritual issues. The U.N., which celebrates its 60th anni-

versary, is currently implementing a decade long resolution to promote a "Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World" (Resolution A/Res/53/35).

**Starshine Academy** was started three years ago in an inner-city neighborhood that had high rates of poverty, school drop-outs and crime. The academy's vision was to create an excellent academic environment and develop a new school model. In

addition, it provides programs in character development, conflict resolution and mentoring in areas such as science, financial literacy, business, music and the arts.

The Peace Pals project in Phoenix has been brought together by community partnerships with organizations such as the Cultural Arts Coalition, AZDOP, The Fusion, Social Venture Partners Arizona and Arizona Public Service AAAME.