



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente
Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة
联合国环境规划署



Children's Art Event to Launch UN Climate Campaign Paint for the Planet – 23-25 October in New York City

The global United Nations campaign '*UNite to Combat Climate Change*' will kick off in October with an auction and exhibit of children's art in New York.

The *Paint for the Planet* event will feature a selection of stand-out entries from UNEP's International Children's Painting Competitions.

Showcasing children's fears and hopes for the planet, the paintings are a powerful plea from children for leadership on climate change before it is too late.

The original artwork has been chosen from a collection of nearly 200,000 paintings which have never been displayed before. The exhibit opens at UN Headquarters in New York on 23 October.

On 25 October, a selection of the paintings will be auctioned at the Harvard Club of New York City to raise emergency funds for children affected by climate-related disasters, such as the recent storms and hurricanes in the Caribbean.

The exhibit is open to all, and the art will also be sold online to enable people around the world to participate. Several of the young prize-winning artists will be flown to New York to share their message for the planet with decision makers, corporate leaders and the media.

Paint for the Planet will launch the '*UNite to Combat Climate Change*' campaign to support the call for a definitive agreement at the climate change talks in Copenhagen, Denmark, in December 2009. After New York, the exhibit will travel to various climate-related events and meetings around the world, culminating in Copenhagen.

The curatorial partner for *Paint for the Planet* is the Natural World Museum (NWM), which presents art through innovative programmes to inspire environmental awareness and action among the public.

Paint for the Planet is made possible through the generous support of Bayer, Nikon and the Foundation for Global Peace and Environment.

To participate in the auction, and for more information, contact: lucita.jasmin@unep.org or anne-france.white@unep.org

Paint for the Planet – Important dates:

1. **Exhibit opening and media event on 23 October**, 12.30–2pm at the Main Lobby of United Nations Headquarters in New York City. The month-long exhibit will feature the paintings as well as children's video messages to global leaders on climate change.
2. **VIP reception and auction on 25 October**, 7–9pm at the Harvard Club of New York City. An online auction will be organized in conjunction with the main event.

