

Release at Will

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**Art & Expression of Children from Across the Globe  
Will Be Highlighted At Freedom Center International Day**

What do children in Zambia, New Mexico and Cincinnati share? Many things! More than 150 youth from CincyAfterSchool and international YMCA sites have found out they have lots to share. Their exchange of artistic expression and a video footage will be among the highlights of International Day at the Underground Railroad Freedom Center, on April 30. The FREE two-hour event (6 to 8 pm) is being hosted by CincyAfterSchool Arts and the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati International Committee and is sponsored by UBS Financial Services.

The event will include:

- Live music
- A CincyAfterSchool and International YMCA Collaborative art exhibit featuring handmade dolls made by the participating children to represent themselves, bios of the children including what they want to be “when they grow up”, and drawings detailing their insight as to how to make the world a better place.
- A video montage in the theatre featuring the local and international children making and talking about their projects.
- Informational tables from the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky University, University of Cincinnati and others about their international work.
- A performance at 7 pm. by the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati World Champion Double-Dutch Team that will be traveling to Prague this summer.

“This has been a tremendous learning experience for our kids,” - Kerry Ginn, CincyAfterSchool Arts Program Director. “Cultural exchange brings the world so much closer when children learn about each other’s differences and similarities.”

Admission to the Underground Railroad Freedom Center will be free during the International Day activities. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, the public can contact the YMCA at 513-362-YMCA.

With more than 83,000 members across the Tri-State, the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati has grown to operate 111 program child care, CincyAfterSchool, and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning sites in addition to its 17 branches and summer camp locations. The Association is the largest non-governmental, non-profit community services organization in this area that is committed to helping everyone reach their God-given potential in spirit, mind, and body – regardless of their ability to pay. Each year tens of thousands of people from children to seniors are able to participate in YMCA programs and services because of financial assistance, including health and wellness, active older adult programs, youth and teen camp, swimming and water

safety lessons , teen achievers, college readiness, and job preparedness. In 2007, nearly 10,000 kids participated with YMCA scholarships.

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