



**The Art Miles Mural Project - United Nations Association USA
2171 Pan American Way, Balboa Park - San Diego, California 92101 USA**

For Immediate Release: Art Miles Shoes of Hope Set Sail to Haiti

March 10, 2010

The Art Miles Shoes of Hope Project once again has sparked a remarkable “Sail Aid to Haiti” event in collaboration with Volunteer San Diego, Bridgepoint Education, Inc., Vista Middle School, the Endangered Planet Foundation and the sailing vessel “Tranquility” from TransMarine in Miami, Florida.

Inspired by the Art Miles Shoes of Hope, Volunteer San Diego and in partnership with Bridgepoint Education, employees and families painted 1,400 pairs of Art Miles Shoes of Hope to orphans in coastline village survivors of Haiti’s devastating earthquake. Vista Magnet Middle School and other Art Miles team members provided the other 600 pairs.

The painted shoes were picked up and will be delivered by the “Tranquility” directly to an orphanage along with medical supplies and food. This first shipment, will serve as a test run by the ship and other donors for consecutive drops of aid to Haiti. The voyage will be led by Captain Cameron Murray and First Mate, Leighia Murray, an outstanding young couple and parents of two children of their own, and who, despite their own involvement as busy young entrepreneurs and teachers, have passionately and generously responded to the need for “Aid” by land, by air and for them, by sea. It is their dedication and determination that will ensure the shoes get through some rough seas to their final destination and onto the feet of the children.

Bridgepoint Education hosted a two-day shoe decoration project at their Kearny Mesa location on February 24 and their Sabre Springs location on February 25. Approximately 1400 employees participated in the project.

The Art Miles Mural Project/Art Miles Mural Project and Shoes of Hope is a 12 year effort in support of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non Violence Among Children of the World (2001-2010) and is home based as a project with the United Nations Association, San Diego in Balboa Park. More than 35,000 pairs of AMMP shoes have been provided to disarmed child soldiers in Africa, to the poor and needy in Bangladesh, Cambodia and impoverished areas of the USA. Shoes on the feet of victims of human and natural disasters provide recipients with a sense of protection and of not being forgotten. Rebuilding lives and communities can begin from their “feet up” as they find themselves among the aftermath of such destruction. Art Miles Shoes of Hope gives hope to those who suffer from such massive losses, especially because they contain personal handwritten messages inside each pair of shoes.

Partners for this project include:

Bridgepoint Education -

Bridgepoint Education offers innovative approaches to the challenges faced in higher education. Bridgepoint subsidiaries tackle issues such as affordability, transferability of credits and online convenience, without sacrificing overall academic quality. By providing both online and campus-

based programs at Ashford University and University of the Rockies, Bridgepoint offers access to both traditional and adult learners seeking high quality, convenient higher education degree programs.

Bridgepoint Education was founded on the principle that education improves lives. Bridgepoint Education employees witness such change everyday. Accelerated careers, increased earning power and improved quality of life keep Bridgepoint Education employees motivated to make a difference with each and every student.

“Volunteer San Diego is the premier provider of volunteer programs and services in San Diego County. Annually, Volunteer San Diego fills 51,000 volunteer slots, helping meet the needs of more than 700 community organizations. Volunteers of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds are mobilized to feed the homeless, serve seniors, protect the environment, read to youth and change San Diego for the better.

TransMarine is a renewable energy business based aboard a 56’ Steel Bruce Roberts sail boat (Tranquility) who is working on a project to take supplies to the Coastal Communities in Haiti. More than 35,000 pounds of food and 20 pallets of medical supplies will be included in this first destination of “Sail Aid” to Haiti.

Endangered Planet Foundation, founded by Charles Michael Murray, is located in Laguna Beach, California, and is dedicated to ensuring the survival of the Earth through the arts, education and dialog, the dissemination of knowledge and the recognition that advances in technology can provide many of the answers that will lead to a sustainable future.

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