

17th Year! 13,300 and counting!



The 2023 Interdependence Hexagon Project XVII

<http://www.hexagonproject.org>

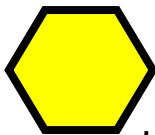
NEW!!! 2023 SPECIAL THEME :

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Download all materials from the website: Deadline: June 30

UPLOAD ALL hexagons on [ARTSONIA.COM](https://www.artsonia.com)

Connect your students to real-world issues and participate in an
international celebration!



HEXAGON

A composition of complex
relationships, interdependent lines, like bonds of human connection.

Maintains its own presence as a shape, symbol of light and life.

Destined to be part of a whole - a splendid architectural element,
forever expandable.

Multiples attach and strengthen one another to become an infinite network of
connections.

ARTIST

Interprets and articulates.

Makes vivid and comprehensible the complexities of our world
through symbols- shapes, words, music, dance, theater.

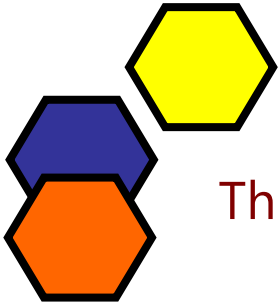
Creates compositions that speak the ineffable.

Provides new
insights into everyday realities.

Synthesizes,

makes conclusions, takes a stand, must come to terms with content and materials,
sometimes collaborates.... can change the world....





With these two words, **hexagon** and **artist**, we launch

The 2023 Interdependence Hexagon Project XVII

<http://www.hexagonproject.org>

2023 Special Theme: **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**



By Madeena3 , RC Murphy Jr. High School, Stony Brook, NY

About Our Themes:

Although safeguarding the environment has been a long-time Interdependence theme, we chose to give greater emphasis to it this year by declaring Environmental Justice as our 2023 Special Theme. Fairness and justice to the land, its inhabitants, resources, and all living things contains countless dimensions to explore, learn, inform, reflect, report, create and act upon. The following Environmental Declaration of Interdependence is a beginning guide:

A Declaration of Environmental Interdependence

**We, the people of planet Earth,
In recognition of the interconnectedness of all life
And the importance of the balance of nature,
Hereby acknowledge our interdependence And affirm our dedication
To life-serving environmental stewardship,
The fulfillment of universal human needs worldwide,
Economic and social well-being,
And a culture of peace and nonviolence,
To insure a sustainable and harmonious world
For present and future generations.**

We have had other related themes like Kindness, Empathy and Transforming Conflict – which all are welcome to address, using any of the resources and lesson plans available on our website.

We are committed to the following Goals:

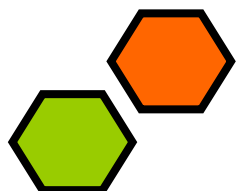
ALL themes of Interdependence- are a call to promote **global citizenship**, enabling learners to

- Develop an understanding of and make connections among personal, local, national and global issues
- Develop skills for **civic literacy** such as critical thinking, problem solving, peacebuilding and individual and social responsibility (UNESCO, 2015).
- All are invited to **think critically and creatively** about our themes, and how these ideas and skills might be cultivated using hexagonal art as a medium, individually or collaboratively.

Find additional resources go to our website, www.hexagonproject.org

General Project Guidelines

- WHO:** Grades Pre-K through university and all ages with Community Groups [**SCHOOLS and Youth Organizations** create an account on www.Artsonia.com and upload in a Project called "Hexagon Project 2023." Grade level and Artist's statement highly recommended!
- Where** will the exhibit be held? THE EASTERN REGIONAL Exhibit will open on First Friday September 1, in Scranton, PA at a location to be announced. It is hoped that other sites will do the same...Please let us know and send photos!
- Media:** Any art form [drawing, painting, collage, prints, digital and sculpture] in a variety of media is acceptable – even video.
- WHAT: TWO Strands:**
 - INTERNATIONAL ONLINE EXHIBIT:** On www.Artsonia.com. Create an account for your school or institution and upload images in a Project labeled "Hexagon Project 2023." Artsonia is the world's largest online gallery of student artwork! See further instructions on Artsonia and on our [YouTube how-to video](#).
 - LOCAL and REGIONAL PHYSICAL EXHIBITS:** Eastern Regional [PA, NY, NJ, DE, MD, Maine to Florida] held in Scranton, PA; Potential: Mid-Western and Western Regional Exhibitions; Nepal and other countries **ALL** participants are encouraged to hold their own local or regional exhibits in schools and/or communities in addition to the www.Artsonia.com Gallery. **SEE "HOW TO HOLD YOUR OWN INTERDEPENDENCE PROJECT EXHIBITION"** on our website.

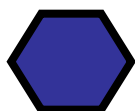


- E. For PHYSICAL Regional Exhibit:**

- 1) **Physical REGIONAL 2023 Entry Form:** MUST fill out & attach copy of PAPER [entry form](#) to BACK of work FOR IDENTIFICATION! [find this in "Forms"]. **NOTE:** if you do not also upload to Artsonia.com, your entries will be exhibited, but they will **not** be part of the jurying, which is done from Artsonia.
- 2) **Release Form** – needed **ONLY** if you do not register on Artsonia.com. Artsonia contacts parents by email for publication. If needed, download form from our website and have signed by parent and bring with art work.
- 3) **Size and Display:** Should be approximate size of printed template, but one work may contain more than one hexagon. The template should be traced onto and cut from a **firm support** such as poster or tagboard, illustration board or foam-core, etc. **Indicate "Top" and include diagram or photograph of installation if several pieces are to be hung in a particular formation.**
- 4) **Deadline for Regional:** June 30.
- 5) **Regional Mailing:** Be sure paper [entry form](#) is affixed to back of hexagon and, if needed, parental release forms included. Paper or cardboard flat work can be mailed in standard manila envelopes reinforced with cardboard. **Disclaimer: The Interdependence Hexagon Project Committee will do what is reasonable to protect the work from damage or theft. The committee is neither responsible for the work nor will it carry insurance on the work in transit or while on display. Deliver or mail to:**
Beth Burkhauser, Director
Hexagon Project
815 Clay Avenue
Scranton, PA 18510
Inquiries: beth@hexagonproject.org
[570 877-1653]. **Other Regional exhibit locations to be announced.**
Timeline: **Deadline: June 30th.** The project must be completed and uploaded on Artsonia.com by June 30 for jurying but registration is ongoing on Artsonia.com.
- 6) **Number of Entries:** There is **NO LIMIT** on number of entries.

- 7) **AWARDS/JURYING:** If uploaded onto Artsonia.com by June 30, a jury will select outstanding works and recognition will be given for the 2023 Special Theme and any Interdependence Themes in Elementary [Grades pre-K-5], Middle School [Gr. 6 – 8] and High School [Grades 9 – 12] and, for Organizations and The People's Project. Certificates and Blick Art gift certificates will be awarded in US and certificates and modest awards sent abroad, in several categories including 2023 Special Theme and any Interdependence themes. Special PARTNERSHIP awards may be awarded. Generic certificate templates are available on our website. See "How to hold your own Hexagon Project Exhibit." For **Recognition Awards**, entries are judged on the following criteria:

- Overall Visual impact
- Creativity and
- Creative use of materials related to a theme or themes of Interdependence.



- 8) **Return of Work:** Work can be picked up at the end of the exhibit [date/location to be announced] Call: 570 877-1653 or e-mail beth@hexagonproject.org. The Committee can mail back your entries ONLY if proper return postage and address labels have been included.

DONATIONS/CONTACT INFO:

We are a 501[c]3 non-profit. We welcome sponsors and donations!

We wish to continue to make this project FREE to participants – but welcome all donations – which are tax-exempt! Thank you!

Contact information: any questions or concerns about the project can be addressed to the following: beth@hexagonproject.org

Check for updates on Website:: www.hexagonproject.org also Facebook and Instagram

The Interdependence Hexagon Project

FORMS BELOW



“...we recognize our responsibilities to the common goods and liberties of humankind as a whole.”

Declaration of Interd



...[W]e must either learn to live together as brothers or we are going to perish together as fools.... [A]s nations and individuals, we are interdependent. *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Print out this hexagon and use as the template. Create one and add to others. The object is to illustrate creatively your ideas about, and interpretation of, the meaning of Interdependence themes. Use the readings provided or write your own. You may use text, storytelling, collage, poetry, paint, drawing materials and 3-D materials, digital. Keep entries this exact size [aspect ratio of 8" wide to 9"hi] Then, upload onto Artsonia.com or deliver **TO ARRIVE NO LATER THAN JUNE 30,** [go to www.hexagonproject.org for complete details, curriculum resources, release forms, etc.]Contact beth@hexagonproject.org



REGIONALS: Please fill this out and ATTACH TO BACK OF ENTRY. ALSO register on-line on www.Artsonia.com! **REGIONALS** use this in addition to Artsonia.com on-line. **Note:** if you do not upload onto Artsonia.com, your hexagons will NOT be included in the jurying.



The 2023 Interdependence Hexagon Project XVII Regional Entry Form

[Plus, Go to <http://www.artsonia.com> for on-line registration]

[also fill in and cut out and attach this form to back of entry]

Please PRINT CLEARLY BELOW Indicate TOP of work on back of work

*STUDENT Name or Names

_____ *

*Student Grade _____ *Age _____

*SCHOOLNAME:

SCHOOL ADDRESS: (Street):

(City,State,zip)

Country: _____

*TEACHER NAME:

* Teacher E-mail: (VERY IMPORTANT!) _____

* Title of work: _____

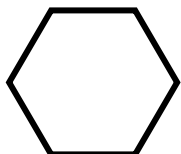
*Medium: _____

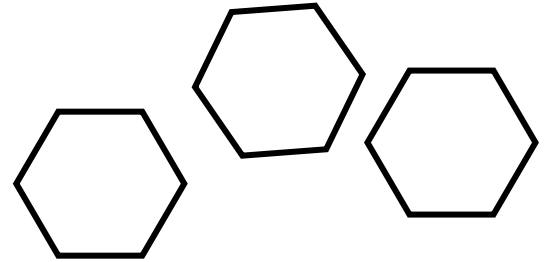
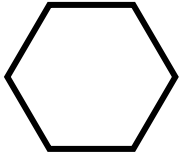
*Reflection on meaning: [print legibly in space below-may use back also]}

*indicates required

Note:

fil out and securely attach this hexagonal form on back of work.





2023 RELEASE FORM, if not on Artsonia, for local and regional exhibitions. PARENTAL (and for Individuals over 18) **RELEASE**: I am aware that my child is [or I am] entering this project and my child and I both agree to grant theHexagon Project a non-exclusive, transferable, sub-licensable, royalty-free, andworld-wide license to host, use, distribute, modify, publicly perform or display, translate, and create derivative works of the submitted content.* If submitted physically, not electronically, the work will be returned by mail [I or my institution will enclose return postage] or picked up at end of exhibition. The Hexagon Project is not responsible for work being lost, damaged or stolen but will take measures to keep the work safe and secure.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

[Print] Parent/Guardian Name: _____

*Parent e-mail _____

Artist's Name: _____ Grade: _____



Title of Work: _____

School/Organization: _____

School's Street: _____

City, State, ZIP Code: _____

Country: _____

*this license is necessary so that the Hexagon Project may freely exhibit and share images on our website and social media. **Please place all release forms in an envelope – not necessary to attach to hexagon.**



The History of Interdependence Day

- Interdependence Day was launched in Philadelphia on September 12 2003 as a post 9/11 symbol of regeneration, as a time to reflect on the tragedy of the incidents of terror, not only in the United States, but all over the world, and to ask ourselves, 'What next?' It seemed critically important to acknowledge the inevitability and significance of interdependence in our time, and set out to build constructively and culturally, a civil global society.
- The goals of Interdependence are, by nature interdisciplinary. They require everyone to connect outside of their social, economic, political, artistic and academic "boxes" and interact in a different spirit – one that is more collaborative and creative.
- It is those who can think creatively and solve problems who will be most valued as the world confronts the dilemmas of inequality, injustice, unsustainable environmental conditions, improving health care, global governance and democracy and religious freedom.
- This project is an opportunity to engage youth in addressing any one or several of these themes. [See "Themes" file]
- For the **seventeenth year**, the symbol of the **HEXAGON** will be used as a format in which to explore ideas about interdependence. **The completed hexagons will be assembled as one piece [or peace] for exhibit at the reception site in Scranton, PA in September.**



SUGGESTIONS for Teachers:

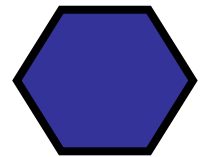
- It is yours to use, change, add to, or divert from and creatively reinterpret.
- Written to provide a guide for your use in your curriculum or for providing justification to administration.
- The only item that cannot be reinterpreted is the size and shape of the hexagon because of the necessity of having them interlock visually at the point of

exhibition. The hexagon template is included and should be used in a uniform size.

Goals Supported by the Hexagon Project that Can Be Aligned with Common Core and State Standards_:

1. To implement 21st Century Skills such as Creatively, Critical Thinking and Collaboration.
2. To communicate a unifying theme about Interdependence through the production of a work of art that reflects skills in media, processes and techniques. [Production, Performance and Exhibition]
3. To employ post-modern concepts such as social justice art education, globalization and art, alternative processes/media, juxtaposition, appropriation, text, the art of the book, digital media and artistic collaboration. [Aesthetics, Production]
4. To research world leaders, artists, writers, scientists and others who have used their art form and position to make statements about political, moral and ethical issues of their times. [historical]
5. To better understand the role of the artist in times of political uncertainty and social unrest.[historical]
6. To analyze how historical events and culture impact forms, techniques and purposes of works in the arts.[historical]
7. To demonstrate interdependence by working collaboratively, if desired. [productive]
8. To demonstrate critical skills by engaging in dialog and/or reflecting upon both the art work and writing of others on this theme. [critical, aesthetic]]
9. To analyze and interpret a philosophical position identified in works in the arts and humanities. [aesthetic response]
- 10.To understand the arts in relation to history and culture. [Interdisciplinary]

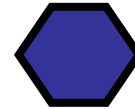
Enduring Ideas and Essential Questions Sampler:



- A. Artists use **symbols** to communicate ideas: the hexagon can be used as a symbol for interdependence. **Tessellations**: the term is used to refer to pictures or tiles, in certain geometric or animal shapes, which cover the surface of a plane in a symmetrical way without overlapping or leaving gaps. Originally they were used as floor tiles. In the Hexagon Project, tessellation becomes a metaphor for Interdependence and Interconnectedness.
- B. Interdependence / Interdependence Day [see Declaration materials] raises **BIG QUESTIONS** which promote interdisciplinary strategies:
 - How can we learn to live together in the post-communist, post- Cold War, Post-industrial, post-Modern period?



- What makes us global as well as local citizens, and what compels us - or not - to act accordingly?
- In what ways does the revolution in information and communications technology bring peoples of the world closer together? CAN it transcend hatreds, biases and resentments and turn our energies to devising ways in which we can coexist creatively and collaboratively?
- How can we affect the widening gap between rich and poor, and the vast cultural, religious, economic, and political differences among us?
- How have environment, immigration, refugees, cross-border disease necessitate common solutions to common problems?
- How have artists such as Picasso, Judy Chicago, Andy Goldsworthy, the Gorilla Girls, Keith Haring, Leon Golub, Anselm Kiefer and Laurie Anderson created art in response to injustice, inequity, identity, environmental causes, war and political crises?
- How do artists work collaboratively and in community in order to develop ideas and experiences that demonstrate and promote discussion as with Anthony Gormley, Christo and Jean-Claude?



Also, FOCUS on COLLABORATION!!!

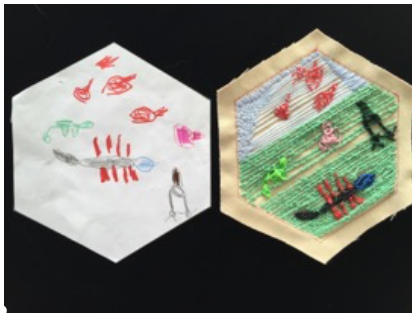
[It is **optional** and individually created hexagons are **always** welcome.]

In keeping with the concept of Interdependence – understanding and practicing skills that lead to solutions, statements, understanding and outcomes that are greater than any one individual can produce –

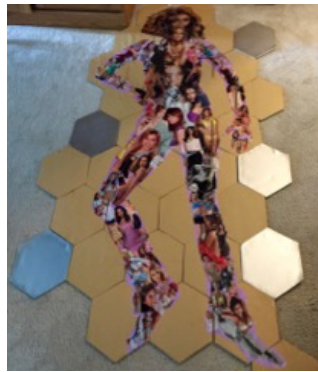
...we challenge students and teachers to think of ways they might approach the project with an element of collaboration, teamwork, group interaction and/or problem-solving.

Collaboration can be achieved in a multitude of ways – from more than one person working on one hexagon, to multiple hexagons making one statement – to collaboration between and among students from other classes or disciplines, across town, through the internet and/or across the world! Hexagons might also demonstrate evidence of a social justice/or service project taken on by a team of students. The hexagons might **BE** a project that benefits others and connects students in important ways to their world or the world at large. Any and all ideas are open to exploration!

A Few Examples of Collaboration:



1.



2.



3.



4.

1. Ethan A Peluso/Hannah Kirschner, Kdgn/Seton Hill University
2. Madison Still, Hope Cronan Gr 12[18] Smith Valley HS, NV
3. Olivia Heeson/Riley Pahl Gr.10 "Working Conditions" Seymour, AU
4. Collab JrHi-Samir Karki-Deepa Kandel-7-Nepal

Resources:

- Purchase The Interdependence Handbook: Looking Back, Living the Present, Choosing the Future (Paperback) by Sondra Myers (Editor), Benjamin R. Barber, available from Amazon for under \$12.00.



[Note: The entire Interdependence Handbook is available in pdf form at [hexagonproject.org](http://www.hexagonproject.org). Utilize selected readings from *The Interdependence Handbook* as motivation.

- Lessons and complete Unit Plans are on our website – excellent resources for your launching this Project!! Also PowerPoints.

Go to: <http://www.hexagonproject.com>

