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DALLAS LOVE PROJECT TO HONOR PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY'S LEGACY UPON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS ASSASSINATION

More than 20,000 pieces of love-inspired art created by Dallas citizens to be displayed throughout the city

Dallas (June 19, 2013) – After the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in Dallas on November 22, 1963, Dallas was labeled by some as a “City of Hate.” Now, 50 years later, students, community arts organizations, citizens and artists wish to express the idea that Dallas is a city where love thrives through the [Dallas LOVE Project](#). Participants in this city-wide project will become a collective voice of love using the words of great peacemakers, poets, artists, and musicians as inspiration for the creation of more than 20,000 pieces of art to be displayed all over Dallas from September 21st (International Day of Peace) through the anniversary of the Kennedy’s assassination, November 22, 2013.

The idea for the project was initiated by [29 Pieces](#), a Dallas-based nonprofit art organization focused on the creation of monumental change through monumental art. 29 Pieces is collaborating with arts and community organizations, professionals, schools, artists, corporations and citizens of all ages for the Dallas LOVE Project. The city-wide project is based off of 29 Pieces’ “MasterPEACE” program, a hands-on, creative curriculum that teaches essential social values like kindness and compassion and important life skills like problem solving and conflict resolution.

Below is more information about the Dallas LOVE Project:

- Children and adults will participate in workshops led by project leaders designed to teach them about JFK’s legacy.
- Participants will be asked to create their own work of art and message to the world (using quotes from great peacemakers, artists, poets and musicians) that love lives in Dallas.
- Art will be installed at different venues throughout Dallas on September 21, 2013 (International Day of Peace) through the anniversary of the Kennedy assassination, November 22, 2013.
- Much of the art will be featured along the JFK motorcade route.



"The Dallas LOVE Project is hitting the streets with a message of LOVE to honor JFK’s legacy, to give tens of thousands of children and adults the opportunity to be part of a historic, collective project, and to promote what is best in all of us - LOVE for one another," said **Karen Blessen, Founder and Artistic Director of 29 Pieces, Executive Director of the Dallas LOVE Project.**

The Dallas LOVE Project aims to engage 50,000 people and exhibit more than 20,000 love messages to the world. In order to reach this many people, many organizations have stepped up to the place to help bring the project to life. Some of the organizations involved include, but are not limited to:



- 29 Pieces
- Dallas Museum of Art
- Southern Methodist University
- DART
- ArtLoveMagic
- Bowdon Family Foundation
- Uplift Education
- Latino Cultural Center

To view an updated list of organizations involved, go to <http://dallasloveproject.is/alreadychangingdallas/>.

For more information about the Dallas LOVE Project and how to get involved, go to <http://dallasloveproject.is/>. You can also go to <https://www.facebook.com/DallasLoveProject#!/DallasLoveProject> to see updates and artwork from the project.

About the Dallas LOVE Project

After the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in Dallas on November 22, 1963, Dallas was labeled by some as a “City of Hate.” That unfortunate label stayed with Dallas for many years. Now, 50 years later, artists, students, and other community arts organizations and citizens will create art to honor President Kennedy and to tell the world that love thrives in Dallas. The “Dallas LOVE Project” is a tribute to JFK that will be expressed in the form of more than 20,000 pieces of unconditional love art installed on September 21st, the International Day of Peace, and displayed through the 50th anniversary of his assassination on November 22, 2013. Each and every work of art will be brought to life by the hands of a Dallas citizen, turning many physical and mental walls across the city of Dallas into galleries of love.

About 29 Pieces

29 pieces is a Dallas-based nonprofit organization focused on the creation of monumental change through monumental art. The art – 29 pieces of sculpture as large as 60 feet tall – currently exists in the form of drawings and models made by Karen Blessen, an accomplished professional artist whose creations grace public spaces like Times Square NYC and, and whose illustrations resulted in the first Pulitzer Prize awarded to a graphic artist. The change – creating peace and justice through social action – is MasterPEACE, a series of 14 project-based lessons that use the arts to teach children about peace and introduce them to the heroes of human rights. The lessons are facilitated by dancers, poets, musicians and other artists. Now in its fifth year, the 14-lesson program has been taught to more than 4,500 Dallas students.