

ADDENDUM 8

Amity Turkish Cultural Center 2nd Annual Art and Essay Contest 2010-2011 Theme: "Empathy: Walking in Another's Shoes"

ART & ESSAY CONTEST BRAINSTORMING WORKSHEET

Teachers: Please feel free to use this worksheet of questions to assist your students in brainstorming their projects. Please refer to the UNAOC's website at www.unaoc.org for additional information.

When planning your submission(s), it is important to think about the theme, "*Empathy: Walking in Another's Shoes*" in many different ways. Try to think about the following ...

When you see a person walking down the street, or a new kid getting on the bus, what is your first reaction towards him or her? What may be any judgments or assumptions you may subconsciously be making about that person? Why?

Who are the people or students around me? Do I know enough about them to imagine what it would be like to walk in their shoes?

Do I know their "stories"- their journeys in life? Do I understand where they used to live and what they want to do next?

What cultures do I see around me?

What parts of other cultures do I understand? What do I not understand?

What is the hardest thing my classmates have to deal with? Do I see it? Hear them talking about it? Why is it hard for them? Is there anything comparable in my own life that is as difficult as what they may have to go through every day?

What makes my neighbors and peers happy? Why?

Do these same things make me happy? Are the same things hard for me to deal with?

What are good ways to show empathy? How does it feel when somebody else shows me empathy?

What is the difference between feeling 'empathy' and feeling 'sympathy'?

What is a time when I showed empathy to someone around me, and what happened?

Why does it matter whether or not I try to understand the people around me?

How would the world be different if everybody practiced empathy?

The theme of "*Empathy: Walking in Another's Shoes*" means much more than thinking that one knows what other people go through every day. When composing your work, feel free to be creative. Just remember that whatever type of submission you choose, you want to create a work that makes the reader think and realize the theme and why it is important to consider in today's global context.

For more information, please visit www.atccenter.org/contest.