HAPPY SCHOOLS!
ART CONTEST
Top 30 entries with captions
Yejoon (Jennifer) Yoo
1st place
Age: 18
Nationality: Republic of Korea

In the Mood for School

This work reflects the value of learning content which is useful in everyday life. Nowadays, students in our society are suffering from both mental and physical problems due to huge pressure, concerns and competition in schools. As greater academic achievements are required in society, students concentrate on getting higher grades rather than learning important lessons for daily life. Accordingly, students often forget how to foster healthy relationships with others, to manage their anxiety and stress, or to solve life problems. Students are our future; therefore, helping them to learn useful life wisdom and increasing their happiness is very important to promote a healthy society. Through the work “In the Mood for School,” I wanted to encourage both schools and students to acknowledge the value of useful learning content and lessons which are applicable in human life. The roses in the front represent youthful love and relationships. The books symbolize important knowledge and wisdom that are taught in schools. The cell phone behind the books stands for communication that forms and fosters relationships with others. The cup of coffee stands for leisure and relaxation, and the football at the back of the painting represents physical activities and entertainment. Lastly, the feet symbolize students who are in the mood for learning. Although I painted other objects with different colors, I intentionally painted the feet with only black and white to portray that students are ready to be “colored” with essential wisdom for life.
These are students of an elementary school in Makassar who follow a ‘class of inspiration’. Every year this class is conducted to give a clearer perspective to students about their dreams for the future. Tutors of this class come from different professions such as accountants, officers, doctors, pilots, journalists, designers, photographers etc. It is expected that students will be able to define their future dreams from childhood. As seen in this picture, students are flying paper planes that they made with the hope that their wishes could fly as high as the sky, and that one day, they could perhaps even fly a real plane.
Debdatta Chakraborty
3rd place
Age: 40
Nationality: India

These students are from a school in the interior parts of St. Martin’s Island in Bangladesh, and does not have any modern amenities. However, the locals have set up this school with basic infrastructure and the students here are the first generation from their families to receive any kind of education. Their happiness to learn surprises everyone.
Elodie Khan

Age: 10
Nationality: Australia

This picture shows friendship and inclusion. The different animals represent students from different backgrounds, nationalities and cultures. A happy school is a place where everyone is friendly, there are no bullies, and everyone feels included and safe. We need schools like this because the way you feel affects the way you learn. If you feel positive then your learning will be positive. It’s also healthy to be happy!
Kuntal Kumar Roy
Age: 40
Nationality: India

Joy of Learning

This snapshot has been taken in a remote village in India. After returning from their school, these children are very happy to be learning with their new English book that given to them from the school.
There are estimated to be more than 18 million street children in India. A significant number of these children come from tribal communities. These communities face widespread discrimination, compounded by illiteracy, malnutrition, health and social problems stemming from extreme poverty. Organizations work to help children from these marginalized communities in Kolkata to stay off the streets and thrive in mainstream school environments.
Napasorn Saesin
Age: 14
Nationality: Thailand

Going Together towards Success with Happiness

This picture shows a school bus driving out of an old book. It signifies that in order to become a ‘Happy School,’ we need to step out of schools that teach the same old thing from old textbooks and instead make a journey to a new world to find success. The smiling balloons symbolize happiness and they also capture the idea that we should let happiness lead us. The school bus represents schools and togetherness and is surrounded by music, academic subjects and nature, as it heads towards success.
Abhijeeta Sarkar
Age: 12
Nationality: India

TREE SCHOOL:
A WONDERFUL WORLD
Dipayan Bhar
Age: 26
Nationality: India

Homework with the Help of Potato Biomass
In this image we can see a boy doing his homework with his Grandmother with the help of potato biomass. He learnt how to create a light bulb with potato biomass and he is applying this learning at home. This image captures how his happiness is derived from the practical application of learning how to create sustainable energy at home by powering a lightbulb from everyday materials.
Alland Dharmawan
Age: 21
Nationality: Indonesia

At Charis National Academy in Malang, Indonesia, students are always encouraged to engage in hands-on activities. The teachers are really creative and always have ideas to help students to learn by doing. Students are taught to make creative visual displays and to engage in a warm and friendly learning environment. Pictured here are Charis students creating a visual display using dyed hair foam.
Chesa Tan
Age: 18
Nationality: The Philippines

A happy school will always have a happy community

Surrounding students with a loving community instills a sense of warmth and friendliness. With such good qualities, all of this improves a child’s sense of self-worth and ability to learn. My artwork shows students having a good ability to learn (graduation hats) as they are being thrown up in the air by the people who love and support them such as grandparents, parents, teachers, and friends. If you look closely, the artwork also portrays a warm face with the community presented as a smile, and the children as the eyes.
Alland Dharmawan
Age: 21
Nationality: Indonesia

At Charis National Academy in Malang, Indonesia, students are always encouraged to learn as much as possible. The school often takes students on field trips so that they can experience interesting and engaging learning activities. Pictured here are Charis students on a field trip to the dentist where they are learning how to take good care of their teeth.
Amitava Chandra
Age: 49
Nationality: India

This image depicts the everyday life pertaining to a happy schooling for the hilly-kids, for whom the time spending with their buddies is cherished by each and everyone.
Debdatta Chakraborty
Age: 40
Nationality: India

The joy of learning is now being experienced by kids belonging to the tribes of Chattisgarh, thanks to the several NGOs, particularly the Ramkrishna Mission which is working in tandem with the UNICEF.
Selina Tjandradipura
Age: 32
Nationality: Indonesia

Happy schools are about friendship, happy learning and a friendly environment. Students not only study inside their classrooms, but can also learn outside with their teacher about science, the environment and keeping spaces green. They play together with happy feelings, without stress or bullying from other students, and their teachers always teach them to learn about having a sense of responsibility towards others.
Kuntal Kumar Roy
Age: 40
Nationality: India

Happiness

This snapshot was taken in a remote village in India. After spending a few hours in their school, the children returned to their homes together as a group with pure and innocent smiles on their faces. This shows us the happy and peaceful atmosphere of the school.
Vinci Paula Jowane Cruz
Age: 17
Nationality: The Philippines

Caption: Masterpiece
Going to school is like painting a canvas with different colors, using different hands. A happy learner is working on a masterpiece; that is, himself. And a happy learner does not work on his own, he works with others. Because in order to produce a work of art, one must use different colors extracted from the different experiences of the people around him.
Andrea May Parreno
Age: 12
Nationality: The Philippines

Different Nationalities, Different Interests, One Happy School.
Go out in the Sun

For World Storytelling Day 2013, a team of mothers, NGO staff and student volunteers came to a local elementary school in an indigenous community (ethno-linguistic group of Blaan) in South Cotabato, Philippines, to share stories in the sun. In this photo, an NGO staff member tells a story by the side of the lazy river. The setting of the storytelling in nature enhanced the learning experience by allowing the students to connect the environment and the story.
Salma, Kartika, and Desinta are third grade students in Central Java, Indonesia. They are having fun waiting for their time to perform at the Solo Dance 24 hours event held on 29 April 2015. This event was conducted to celebrate World Dance Day and used to practice students' skills in dancing.
Nimai Chandr Ghosh
Age: 56
Nationality: India

We should play football every day for our good health and happy school days. A female teacher is teaching her students about football to promote a good and healthy life.
Masyudi Firmansyah

Age: 33
Nationality: Indonesia

Singing Together

A teacher teaches a visually impaired student to sing at YAPTI school for children with disabilities in Makassar, South Sulawesi, Indonesia.
Floods are not an obstacle to go to school to learn. Whenever rainy season comes the kids in Manggala Makassar district need to cross over the flood in the rice field using their small boat to be able to reach their school. They row the boat themselves with excitement, and no complaints, sometimes even studying on the boat.
At a local school in Kalimantan, Indonesia, students learn happily while a dog is walking in front of them. This is how a classroom looks like in Kalimantan. Floors are made of wood, animals sometimes come into the classroom, but students are always eager to learn.

Alland Dharmawan

Age: 21
Nationality: Indonesia
Yoonjee Lee

Age: 12
Nationality: Republic of Korea

A happy school is not only education, but also friendship.
Access to information is one key element for effective learning. Teachers also provide assignments that students work on collaboratively. Activities such as these develop interpersonal, communication and teamwork skills among students. Students shown in this photo discuss the latest issues they read from the newspaper as part of a collaborative exercise in their social studies class.

Francis Albert Mendoza
Age: 31
Nationality: The Philippines
Most students in Indonesia wear a uniform at school. But not all students can afford to pay for both their uniform and their tuition fees. For those who are less fortunate, there is a programme supporting a deprived school in Makassar, Indonesia, where students do not have to wear a uniform and can learn outdoors; for example under the house on stilts made out of wood which in Indonesia we call "Rumah Panggung". The kid in this picture is one of the students in this school.
Nishant Shah

Age: 19
Nationality: Nepali

Knowledge is never confined between the four walls

Two students of the Oasis Public School, in Tokha, Kathmandu (Nepal), are discussing in the playground during their recess. Tokha lies in the suburbs of Kathmandu Valley and schools are rare to find there.
Lkhavuujal Niipra
Age: 31
Nationality: Mongolian

We are the future owners of the world
Masyudi Firmansyah
Age: 33
Nationality: Indonesian

Learning with nature

A girl is studying on a bridge with a beautiful rainbow in the background. It seems as if it were a colourful and natural painting, capturing a moment after the afternoon rain in Romang Tanggaya village, Makassar, South Sulawesi, Indonesia.