

Stories of Peace & Moderation



What: Stories of Peace and Moderation is a project designed to elicit the thoughts and contributions of school children to the planned "Program for Peace" ceremony that will take place in Stockholm in order to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the September 11th attacks. The ceremony will honor the citizens from over ninety countries that perished in the attacks. The project is a collaboration between the Embassy of the United States in Stockholm, the Swedish-based non-profit organization Stories for Society, and a selection of Stockholm-based schools.

The objective of the project is to give school children the opportunity to express their thoughts on peace and moderation at the ceremony by adding their stories (in the form of writings and drawings produced together) to the floral wall of unity, resilience, and peace. There will be an opportunity for the children to present their stories as a part of the ceremony. A short film or slide show of the workshops and stories will be produced and posted at Stories for Society's web site and linked to the Embassy's web site. The project will provide each participant in the ceremony with a copy of the children's jointly produced stories, or a summary of them.

It is hoped that the project will have outcomes beyond the ceremony itself, including helping children to assimilate ideas of peace and moderation, as well as supporting and encouraging schools in their related programs. Stories for Society aims to make Stories of Peace and Moderation an ongoing project for schools through an on-line portal which invites the sharing of further ideas/stories.

Who: Stories for Society is a Swedish-based non-profit organization which introduces storytelling to schools as a tool for learning and communication. Strengthening skills such as empathy, creativity, teamwork and communication are at the heart of Stories for Society's method, which has been used in several Swedish school projects and in teacher training programs. How we relate to one another and realize new possibilities together are at the core of the process involved in the production of stories by children in this method. The non-profit has a highly-qualified team and board with diverse and international backgrounds. For further information visit www.storiesforsociety.com.

How: Stories for Society will initially work with the Raoul Wallenberg school in Bromma to arrange 2 half-day workshops or 4 x 2-hour workshops in which children produce joint stories on the subjects of peace and moderation.

One of the distinguishing features of Stories for Society's method is that groups of children produce stories together, requiring extensive discussion amongst them about the themes.

Where: The workshops will take place at the schools in a classroom milieu. The children involved will have the opportunity to participate in the ceremony in Stockholm on 9/11.