GLOBAL GIRLS - GLOBAL GENERATIONS

By Jennifer Bao Yu “Precious Jade” Jue-Steuck

Welcome back to your “G2” Global Girls column, a place where teens and tweens around the world can share, inspire, and explore!

Please join us this holiday season by participating in our first group charity fundraiser, The Postcard Project – “Advice, Lessons Learned, and Words of Wisdom from Adopted Youth Around the World.” We look forward to hearing from you.

A HOLIDAY WISH: The G2 Postcard Project

Have you ever wished you had a t-shirt or sign so you wouldn’t have to tell every new person your story over and over again?! Well, here’s a “writing and art workshop”, just for you!

In the season of sharing, you are invited to create a piece of artwork and a piece of short writing on any of the following topics for future generations of adoptees.

“Dear Sisters”
Your mentorship/advice to younger adoptees quotes that are inspirational to you: a dream for the world.

“Bullies Not Wanted”
Tactics for girls if they’re bullied. A personal story involving bullying tips for verbal defense, including protection of privacy from intrusive questions.

“Love Letters To Our Mothers”
Letters to your adoptive mother, birth mother, your adoptive family, or birth family.

“Snapshots ... of an adopted Chinese girl’s journey”
WRITING:
The writing can be in any creative form (letter, poem, etc.), as long as it fits in the message space of the postcard template. We prefer that the writing is clearly handwritten, instead of typed, because it adds more personality to the postcard.

On the “To:” section of the postcard, we ask that you handwrite to whom your poem/letter is for.

Examples:
To: All mothers in China who have given children up for adoption
To: The kid who bullied me in the cafeteria
To: Anyone growing up who feels alone, etc.
This message is up to you!
And underneath please write our address, like so.

To: ____ (your message)______
“G2” Global Girls
Global Generations
P.O. Box 1236
Laguna Beach, CA 92652

POSTMARK DEADLINE:
March 1, 2009

“From:” section of the postcard must include name, (or anonymous), age, where you were adopted, and where you live. Although, on actual postcards, most people do not write the name of the sender. This is a way for each of the artists to have their own “profile”. To protect your privacy, please only use the initial letter of your last name and do not put your actual address on the postcard art. (Please see sample.)

ARTWORK:
Artwork can be anything representative of you, or addressing the topic that you chose for writing. “Dear Sisters”, “Bullies Not Wanted”, “Love Letters To Our Mothers”. Painting, drawing, collage and photography are all wonderful! You can create a self-portrait, a family portrait, recreate a scene from your hometown, a picture of you doing something you enjoy – anything you would like. The only restriction is that all postcards must be original pieces of art or photography! For copyright purposes, no store-bought postcards, please.

POSTCARD TEMPLATE:
To make a postcard for submission, take a standard 8.5” x 11” piece of paper or cardstock and fold in half so the paper is 4.25” x 5.5” This size allows for a little more writing space than a “standard” postcard. Artwork can take up one entire side of the paper. On the flip side, draw a line three inches from the right hand side as a divider. Dividing line three inches from right.

Now you are ready to make your postcard your own!

To send, please glue, staple, or tape your sheet of paper together, (or, glue onto a piece of thin card-board). Make sure your postcard is sturdy enough to make it through the mail. By writing the address directly on the postcard, there will be no need for envelopes, (eco-friendly), just attach a stamp and mail! In the final book, everyone will be able to see the stamps from other countries on the postcards as well as the postmark dates.

Who can contribute? Parents, grandparents and adoptees of all ages and backgrounds.

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standard letter stamp if mailed within the U.S. If mailed from outside the U.S., please look up rates through your local post office.

What will happen to my postcard?
If selected, your postcard will be included with other postcards in a fundraiser book made up entirely of postcard submissions bound together as the first anthology edited by Chinese adoptees and friends. G2 Teen Judges will select the best postcards at the first G2 Teen Reunion Celebration in Laguna Beach, CA.

Please Note: We cannot guarantee that every entry submitted will be published in the finished book, but there is a good chance that your postcard will be included. Take your time to create a quality piece of art and writing that is representative of you.

We welcome your submissions! Thank you for making our holiday wish come true by helping us fund our G2 Teen Programs.

The Global Generations’ Global Girls “G2 Postcard Project Team”

Jenna Cook, 16; G2 Teen Ambassador from Massachusetts

Ana Tanner, 14; G2 Teen Ambassador from California

Haley Butler, 13; G2 Teen Ambassador from Tennessee

Julia Tombari, 13; G2 Teen Ambassador from Washington

Ying Ying Fry, 14; G2 Teen Ambassador from California