

## Art and Resistance Through Education

Connecting Communities, Creating Human Rights Change

Launched in June 2011 in the Bronx, New York City, Art and Resistance Through Education (ARTE) is an organization that uses art, design, and technology to empower young people to develop creative solutions and bring awareness to local and global human rights challenges, fostering leadership opportunities to train and organize others.

ARTE was first established as an innovative way to make human rights education more accessible and relevant to teens between the ages of 14 and 17, through the creation of public, art-based community projects. Such projects have included, volunteer hip-hop mural projects within schools and in neighborhood community spaces.



ARTE community collaboration with Subway
Art History and The Advocacy Lab to produce
Bronx mural on sexual trafficking.

"We felt awareness needed to be spread all over the world, not just locally. It wasn't an assignment; it was more of a treat than an assignment."

- ARTE youth participant

ARTE inspires young people to learn about human rights abuses occurring in other countries, but also in their own communities. Through an interactive, arts-based curriculum and by partnering young people with human rights professionals, young people develop the both artistic and analytical skills they need to produce meaningful pieces of awareness-raising art.

The Future - As ARTE develops innovative ways to engage young people, we are expanding our programming to incorporate and encourage creativity through artistic design projects, where students can advance and utilize their skills in technology to bring

awareness to some of the world's most pressing human rights problems. Also in the coming year, ARTE will continue to expand its work with middle school aged youth, in efforts to provide quality arts education for a younger generation.

Today's event "show[ed] the power of art to make our community a more welcoming place." – ARTE Community Volunteer

For More Information – If you are an artist, human rights professional, or educator and would like more information on how to collaborate in the future with ARTE, please e-mail us at: marissa@artejustice.org. Or if you are interested in



ARTE students in Boston work on a mural focusing on child slavery, The Right to Play.

volunteering with us, please visit our www.artejustice.org for further details.

## Top Five Facts About Art and Resistance Through Education

- Through its programming, young people gain an extensive skills and knowledge set including: civic engagement, art, human rights education, global citizenry, teamwork, community organizing, and leadership development.
- ARTE works with a wide-variety of artists, community leaders, and non-profit partners. Some of these past collaborations have included: The Advocacy Lab, Subway Art History, the Boston Community Leadership Academy, and others.
- After receiving a basic human rights overview, young people have the opportunity to democratically select a human rights issue to research. Some past issues have included: human trafficking, labor rights, and child slavery.
- ARTE projects range from a variety of different timelines from longer oneyear programs to full day-long workshops or even two hour-long workshops, focusing on human rights education and arts activism.
  - Our programs engage a wide variety of young people with unique and diverse skill sets. Prior to participating, many of our young people know little about human rights. Some consider themselves artists while for others, ARTE is their first time participating in an art project.