



Funded by the European Union
The Young Artists Forum concludes the second stage of the project
“Promoting the Democratic Concepts and Human Rights for the Youth through Arts”

Ramallah – August 24th 2008 – the Young Artists Forum (YAF) announces its conclusion of implementing the 3rd stage of the project is being implemented under the name “Promoting the Democratic Concepts and Human Rights for the Youth through Arts” sponsored by the European Union under the program European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR).

These activities were for 8 months. 20 villages and camps were benefit within Ramallah and Al-Bireh cities and 800 children participated in them, aged from (14-18).

On the other hand **Ms. Wesal Mohamed**, the project administrator and coordinator said that in the 2nd stage of the project, each location was given 1 workshop and each workshop hosted 50 children, and each workshop was divided to 2 sections, one is a social education about democracy and human rights, and the second is the division of the children to drama and fine art groups that is considered as an “incarnation” of the lecture that was given to artistic outputs.





Also adding that with the assistance of the Fine Art trainers **Ms. Nabila Adeeb** and **Ms. Manar Nei'rat** and Drama trainer **Mr. Alaa' Albaba**, the children discussed further about their outputs that are related to the concepts they grasped from the social instructor's lecture **Mr. Rateb Abu Rahmeh**.

And some of these topics were such as: discrimination, democracy, tolerance, and the declaration of the human rights, through illustrating case studies and discussing it.

Questionnaires were given to each participant in each workshop which confirmed that 81% states their need and the necessity of such activities.

In addition, **Ms. Wesal** clarified that YAF conducted a pre-scan for the targeted locations to determine the most needed of creational and recreational activities locations for youth and also the ones next to the splitting wall .

YAF announces the ending of the project's third stage that was for two months, targeting 30 talented male and female either in fine art or drawing that were selected from the 600 children that participated in the second stage.

YAF's project aimed to enhancing the democracy and human rights concepts within the target group, and refining "the talented" existing talents through special workshops, in which their productions will be exhibited also their theatrical skills will be played in front of the audiences and moving around the twenty villages from one village to another.

A 17years old participant from Beit Reema, **Mustafa Ettehad** told us about a Drama Workshop/3rd stage, where they were working on how to best express their feelings using certain movements and exercises, "The trainer **Ms. Munira Zureiqi** asked each one of us to set in a spot where we feel comfortable and try to remove all the things that makes us painful from our soul, body and mind through exhaling, her words affected me so much. I felt choked and suffocated at the beginning but when I did the exercise I was relieved".

Note that this fourteen-month project is funded by the *European Union* in which it will result of many artistic outputs under the theme of democracy and human rights.