

YOUTH ARTS NEW YORK

ANNUAL REPORT



JULY 1, 2015 TO JUNE 31, 2016
Prepared by Robert Croonquist

For the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors
Dreamaway Lodge, Becket, MA
Sunday, October 9, 2016

Youth Arts New York BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Linda S. Chapman, President; Daniel Osman, Vice President; Sandra W. Parker, Member at Large;
Kathleen Sullivan, Hibakusha Stories Program Director and Robert Croonquist, Founder & Treasurer



Youth Arts New York is an official Non Governmental Organization (NGO) with the United Nations Department of Public Information with a Memorandum of Understanding with the Office for Disarmament Affairs.



FY 2015-2016 INITIATIVES

The primary initiative of Youth Arts New York FY 2014 – 2015 was Hibakusha Stories. Hibakusha is the Japanese word for atomic bomb survivor. Youth Arts New York began Hibakusha Stories in October, 2008. For 8 years our focus has been bringing hibakusha to New York City to spread their testimony person to person in area high schools and universities. In 2015 we developed and facilitated daylong interactive disarmament education workshops that included hibakusha testimony and viewings of the monumental Hiroshima Panels, artworks by Iri and Toshi Maruki, on display at Pioneer Works in Red Hook, Brooklyn. We also began to develop our new initiative: Sustainable Hudson Atlantic: Education from River to Harbor with A Living Library on Roosevelt Island, an expeditionary trip to Mexico to make connections with those working on the preservation of the monarch butterfly and its endangered habitat, enrollment in the Billion Oyster Project and an educational sail on the Hudson River Clearwater Sloop's Mystic Whaler.

DISARMAMENT EDUCATION AT HIROSHIMA JOGAKUIN HIGH SCHOOL

On August 6, 2015, the 70th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima, Kathleen Sullivan, Robert Croonquist and Reiko Yamada, a student at Jogakuin High School when the bomb dropped on Hiroshima, presented a disarmament education program for 200 youth from six schools from around Japan and the Punahou School of Hawaii.





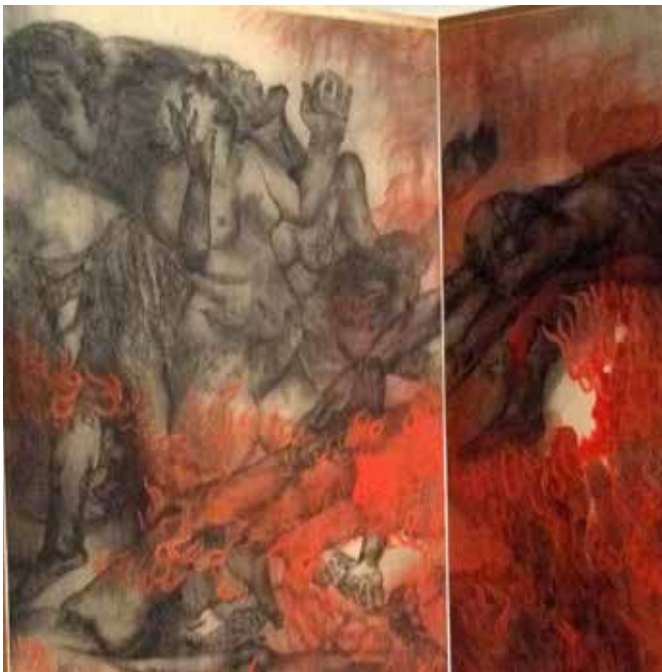
BEARING WITNESS: TESTIMONY, DISARMAMENT AND THE HIROSHIMA PANELS

Youth Arts New York's Hibakusha Stories initiative presented 7 full-day disarmament education programs to high school and university students from the New York City metro area. The sessions included A-bomb survivor testimony by 2015 Nobel Peace Prize nominee and Arms Control Association Person of the Year Setsuko Thurlow (Hiroshima), Mexico-based artist Yasuaki Yamashita (Nagasaki), Clifton Truman Daniel, grandson of US President Harry S. Truman and Alice Slater, New York Director of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation. University programs included 20 Norwegian students from Dowling College Manhattan. Students from East Orange, NJ, STEM Academy, three NYC public high schools, Brooklyn Friends School and international students from EF International Academy attended day long workshops at Pioneer Works where they heard hibakusha testimony, participated in interactive disarmament education workshops led by Kathleen Sullivan, Debra Kaplan Brindis and Robert Croonquist and viewed the Hiroshima Panels and artifacts from Nagasaki. They responded in words and pictures.



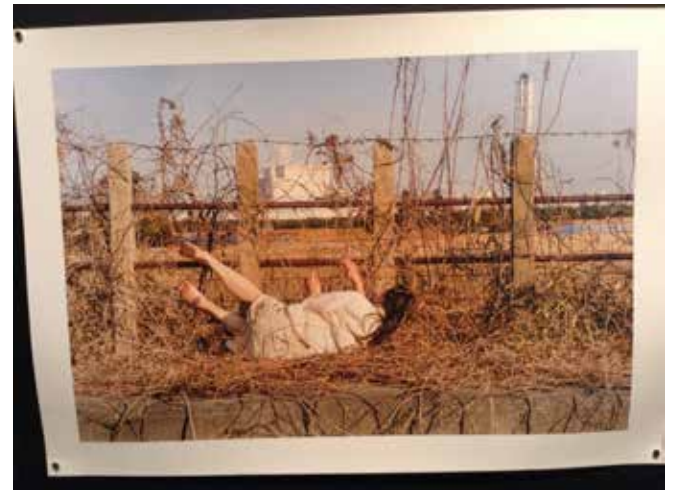
THE HIROSHIMA PANELS AT PIONEER WORKS CENTER FOR ART AND INNOVATION

From November 13 to December 20, 2015, Youth Arts New York/Hibakusha Stories in collaboration with Yoshiko Hayakawa, Takayuki Kodera and Yukinori Okamura of the Maruki Gallery, Tokyo, produced an exhibition of six Hiroshima Panels at Pioneer Works Center for Art and Innovation in Red Hook Brooklyn. Abstract expressionist masterworks sometimes referred to as the Guernica of Japan, the Hiroshima Panels were painted by husband and wife team Iri (1901-1995) and Toshi Maruki (1902-2000) over a 32-year period. Unique and unprecedented in the world, they have been exhibited extensively throughout Japan and Europe but have made precious few appearances in the United States. Their work is a living reminder of the threat of nuclear weapons that is still very much with us today. The exhibit included a set of black and white posters of historic photographs of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and artifacts from Nagasaki on loan from Kathleen Sullivan, given to her by Nagasaki hibakusha Sakue Shimohira. The 1986 Academy Award nominated *Hellfire: A Journey from Hiroshima* which captures the Marukis in their decades-long collaboration to create the Hiroshima Panels was screened on a continuous loop. The exhibition was voted second best out of 10 for art installation throughout Brooklyn in 2015.



A BODY IN FUKUSHIMA EXHIBITION

In conjunction with the Hiroshima Panels, a gallery was devoted to *A Body in Fukushima*, a haunting series of photographs by historian William Johnston of dancer/choreographer Eiko Otake. Together they made two extended visits in 2014 to the area surrounding the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear reactors which were damaged during the massive earthquake and tsunami that hit the northeast Japanese coast in 2011. Following abandoned train lines, Eiko and Johnston visited the empty stations and their neighborhoods, places that formerly bustled with people. Eiko says, "By placing my my body in these places, I thought of the generations of people who used to live there. Now desolate, only time and wind continue to move."



HIROSHIMA PANELS OPENING NIGHT

Eiko Otake, a Guggenheim and MacArthur fellow, performed with the Panels as part of her two year-long solo project *A Body in Places* and Yukinori Okamura, curator of Tokyo's Maruki Gallery, led the assembled audience on a guided lecture of the Panels. Approximately 500 people attended.



DISARMAMENT EDUCATION WORKSHOP – QUEENS COLLEGE

150 university students attended a disarmament education workshop facilitated by Kathleen Sullivan with testimony by Setsuko Thurlow. The event was filmed by Professor Mari Fujimoto.

RADIATION DETECTIVES

Hibakusha Stories team members Kathleen Sullivan, Carolina Soto and Robert Croonquist teamed up with Nathan Snyder at the NYC i-School to further develop our Radiation Detectives project. In the Autumn and Spring of each year students visited the campus of Columbia University to measure its radiological legacy as the home of early research for the Manhattan Project. Students used Geiger counters bought with a grant secured by Mr. Snyder. As part of a module on nuclear weapons, students then prepared public service announcements (PSAs) that they presented at a public forum at the school.

DOCUMENTATION OF HIBAKUSHA TESTIMONY AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

One of the aims of Hibakusha Stories is to create an online portal for educators to teach the history, development, use and humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, the responsibilities of living with nuclear waste and the movement to abolish nuclear arsenals. We created curriculum in six areas of study for teachers to use in the classroom.

- 70th Anniversaries of Hiroshima and Nagasaki: Testimony, Memoir, Remembrance
- The Humanitarian Initiative: Contemporary Action for Nuclear Disarmament by Governments and NGOs
- The Atom Bomb in Our Back Yard: The Challenges of Nuclear Power
- Nuclear Controversies I: The Decision to Use Nuclear Weapons
- Nuclear Controversies II: Racism and Nuclear Weapons
- Aging Nuclear Infrastructure and Weapon's Security

GENETIC AND CULTURAL TRANSFER OF TRAUMA

Timothy Moussou, Professor of Biological Sciences, University of South Carolina and Rachel Yehuda, Director of the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, joined second-generation hibakusha Mitchee Takeuchi in a discussion led by Pioneer Works Co-Director of Education Catherine Despont on the genetic transfer of trauma. Approximately 200 people were in attendance.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY: UN HEADQUARTERS

On Election Day 2015, Youth Arts New York facilitated *Teaching Hiroshima and Nagasaki*, a workshop for educators with the New York City Department of Education in collaboration with the Information and Outreach Branch and the Nuclear Section of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch of the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs. Each year, 35+ public and private high school teachers from the NYC Metro Area learn about teaching disarmament. The day began with a tour of the disarmament exhibit at UN headquarters that now includes video clips of Hibakusha Stories Fellows Toshiko Tanaka and Yasuaki Yamashita. Attendees were given a brief history of nuclear disarmament and the role of the UN by Michael Spies, UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, Political Affairs Officer, were introduced to the Hiroshima Panels by Pioneer Works' Gabriel Florenz and Catherine Despont, heard the story of second generation hibakusha Miyako Taguchi and were given an introduction to *Action For Disarmament: Ten Things you Can Do!*, a UN publication co-written by Kathleen Sullivan and Peter Lucas. Peace Boat US Director Emilie McGlone introduced teachers to the Japanese NGO Peace Boat and its opportunities for youth. In the afternoon teachers broke into groups to develop unit plans utilizing NY State Social Studies Standards and Common Core guidelines.

HIBAKUSHA TESTIMONY FOR UN TOUR GUIDES AND INTERNS

Since 2010, Hibakusha Stories has collaborated with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) to bring hibakusha to the UN to meet with UN Tour Guides and UN interns and to share their testimony. These events are part of an on-going effort by UNODA with its NGO partners to ensure that the legacy and testimonies of atomic bomb survivors are spread to as wide an audience as possible, especially given the advancing age of the hibakusha. After the briefing in May 2015, Ms. Jihye Shin who is responsible for coordinating group programs for visitors to the UN said "I learned a lot about the importance of telling the hibakusha's story to the public and how I could improve my interaction with the visitors regarding the topic of nuclear disarmament."

SUSTAINABLE HUDSON ATLANTIC: EDUCATION FROM RIVER TO HARBOR

The program will provide interactive experiences in the field concerning the ways we eat and farm, the natural wonders of the Hudson River, the revitalization of urban and rural waterways, economic and environmental justice, genetic conservation and resilient ways of living. Another action area, in keeping with our focus on nuclear issues, is education on Indian Point, NYC's closest nuclear reactor, one of the oldest operating in the nation, and the guardianship of its radiological legacy.



A LIVING LIBRARY ON ROOSEVELT ISLAND

Youth Arts New York again collaborated with A Living Library on Roosevelt Island. Led by Smithsonian Laureate Bonnie Ora Sherk, 30 youngsters learned the about the ecosystems of the New York region and planted gardens that bear fruit, food, flowers and milkweed, the habitat for monarch butterflies.



MONARCH BUTTERFLY PRESERVATION

Robert Croonquist visited the Sanctuario El Rosario, one of three monarch butterfly sanctuaries in the mountains of Michoacan, Mexico, to lay the groundwork for a cross border program linking schools in New York, Tulsa, OK and San Miguel de Allende, Mexico in the preservation of one of the world's most remarkable and endangered species.

HUDSON CLEARWATER SLOOP

On March 23, 30 international students, primarily from China, participated in a three hour educational sail on the Mystic Whaler. Students learned about the history of the Hudson River, how to measure water quality, how to read a navigational map and how to identify fish and the sources of pollutants that flow into the river. The educators were all first rate and the interactive methodology kept students engaged throughout.



ACHIEVEMENTS OF YOUTH ARTS EDUCATORS



CLIFTON TRUMAN DANIEL AND WESLEY DANIEL, grandson and great grandson of US President Harry S. Truman, are collaborating on an illustrated children's book based on the testimonies of hibakusha they met while participating in Hibakusha Stories activities.

SHIGEKO SASAMORI was named New Jersey Peace Action 2015 Person of the Year. The award had particular resonance because the group was founded 59 years ago by Dr. Norman Cousins. Sasamori is the adopted daughter of Dr. Cousins who met her when she came to America as part of the historic Hiroshima Maidens program.

MITCHIE TAKEUCHI, SUSAN STRICKLER & JENNIFER HAHN are collaborating on *A Vow from the Ruins*, a feature length documentary film about the life of Setsuko Thurlow.

SETSUKO THURLOW AND THE HIBAKUSHA OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI WERE NAMED 2015 ARMS CONTROL ASSOCIATION PERSON OF THE YEAR for their "unyielding dedication to sharing first-hand accounts of the catastrophic and inhumane effects of nuclear weapons, which serves to reinforce the taboo against the further use of nuclear weapons and to maintain pressure for effective action to eliminate and outlaw nuclear weapons and nuclear testing". 100 people were in attendance to hear Ms. Thurlow and President Obama's Deputy National Security Advisor Ben Rhodes deliver keynote addresses. The event was aired live on CSPAN and is archived on Youtube.

KATHLEEN SULLIVAN AND ARI BESER created a 90 second public service announcement called *Hibakusha: The Nuclear Family* that can be viewed on The Nuclear Family Facebook page.

KATHLEEN SULLIVAN WAS NAMED HIROSHIMA PEACE AMBASSADOR by Mayor Kazumi Matsui on August 6, 2015, the 70th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima.

YOUTH ARTS NEW YORK/HIBAKUSHA STORIES TEAM WERE HONORED GUESTS AT 70TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIONS in both Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We were also honored with receptions by both Mayor Matsui of Hiroshima and Mayor Taue of Nagasaki. Mayor Taue referred to our work twice in his Nagasaki Peace Declaration.

YOUTH ARTS NEW YORK/HIBAKUSHA STORIES IN THE NEWS In July of 2016 President Barak Obama made a historic visit to Hiroshima, the first ever by a sitting United States president. Youth Arts New York/Hibakusha Stories became the go-to American source for interviews with hibakusha. We fielded questions from the Wall Street Journal, NBC, MSNBC, CNN, CSPAN, NY 1, the New York Daily News, Al Jazeera, NPR, BBC Scotland, CTV and Democracy Now! among others. Hibakusha Stories Fellows Setsuko Thurlow and Shigeko Sasamori tirelessly gave interview after interview, Ms. Thurlow conducting eight in one day, retelling her testimony and offering her critique on the contemporary nuclear weapons situation.

YOUTH ARTS NEW YORK TEAM

Debra Kaplan Brindis, Blaise Dupuy, Michael Cassandra, Linda S. Chapman, Marie Cochrane, Robert Croonquist, Jonathan Fluck, Thomas Fuhs, Kosaku Horiwaki, Rieko Ishibashi, Jeff Jewel, Emilie McGlone, Hayato Nakao, Sandra Parker, Nina Resnick, Robert Sink, Caroline Soto, Susan Strickler, Kathleen Sullivan, Miyako Taguchi and Mitchie Takeuchi. Photographers Robert Croonquist, Ed Marshall, Taku Nishimae, Janis Lewin and Paule Saviano documented our activities and Jennifer Hahn documented with video.

ATTENDANCE

HIGH SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS

	HIBAKUSHA STORIES
200	Hiroshima Jogakuin High School
20	Dowling College Manhattan
150	Queens College
50	East Orange, NJ, STEM Academy
50	Belmont Prep
5	Brooklyn Friends School
25	Manhattan Bridges High School
20	EF International Academy
20	NYC i-School
30	Radiation Detectives NYC i-School
	SUSTAINABLE HUDSON ATLANTIC
30	A Living Library on Roosevelt Island
30	Hudson Clearwater Sloop/ EF International Academy
630	<hr/> TOTAL <hr/>

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

	THE HIROSHIMA PANELS AT PIONEER WORKS
200	Genetic and Cultural Transfer of Trauma
500	Hiroshima Panels Opening Night
2000	Hiroshima Panels and Second Sunday at Pioneer Works
150	Hiroshima Panels Reception for UNDelegates and NGOs
100	Arms Control Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC
2950	<hr/> TOTAL <hr/>

UN EVENTS

35	Professional Development Day UN Headquarters
35	Testimony with UN Interns and Guides
70	<hr/> TOTAL <hr/>
3650	<hr/> TOTAL ATTENDANCE <hr/>

YANY 2015-2016 FINANCIAL REPORT

<u>Opening Balance</u>	975
<u>Closing Balance</u>	3,082

REVENUES

Program Fees	3,130
Foundations	3,000
Individual Donations	5,755
Board of Directors Donations	15,059
<u>TOTAL REVENUES</u>	<u>26,944</u>

EXPENSES

<u>ADMINISTRATIVE</u>	
NYFA Credit Card Fees	34
NYFA Administrative	2,068
NYFA Contract Fee	200
Printing & Duplicating	272
Messenger Services	210
Meetings & Conferences	729
<u>SUBTOTAL</u>	<u>3,513</u>

<u>PROGRAM</u>	
Photographic Services	500
Workshop Instruction	3,730
Program Supplies	549
Printing & Reproduction	598
Online Expenses	2,418
Equipment Rental	120
Messenger Service	307
Food & Hotel	6,255
Travel & Transport	6,420
Fundraising	250
Miscellaneous	157
<u>SUBTOTAL</u>	<u>21,304</u>
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	<u>24,817</u>

NON NYFA Transactions paid directly by Board of Directors

Officers & Directors and Liability Insurance	\$3,013
Donation to Pioneer Works	\$1,600
<i>Opening Chase Savings</i>	<i>2,147</i>
<i>Closing Chase Savings</i>	<i>1,059</i>

GRANTS: \$3,000 from the The Thomas C. and Sandra S. Sullivan Foundation

IN KIND DONATIONS Businesses: Dreamaway Lodge, Dupuy's Landing Guest House, El Oratorio de San Miguel de Allende
 Individuals: Rachel Clark, Sumiko Hatakeyama, Richard & Gail Keene, Emilie McGlone, Eiko Otake, Kathleen Sullivan, Mitchie Takeuch, Yasuaki Yamashita





HIBAKUSHA STORIES

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A NUCLEAR-FREE WORLD