

**FUTURE** *takes*

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### *Second Transcultural Thematic Issue*

### *“Transcultural Impacts and Perspectives on the Future”*

**Perspectives from Canada, Italy, South Africa, Southeast Asia, Southwest Asia (Middle East), the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.**

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## **Children Creating Bridges**

Children Creating Bridges (CCB), based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that engages children in cross-cultural and trans-generational experiences. Its vision for the future is a world in which children are the catalysts for change. CCB envisions children of different socio-economic classes, races, religions, cultures and nations creating bridges that will enable them to connect to one another. The objective is to inspire all involved to collectively create a world of tolerance, celebration of diversity, compassion, trans-national and inter-cultural dialogue, and mutual respect. In turn, this will facilitate the expansion of consciousness, self-identity, and harmony by helping participants identify and transcend hidden culture-based assumptions.

### **GLOBAL JOURNEY THROUGH MUSIC**

A key CCB project is the Global Journey Through Music Program. CCB uses the Putumayo World Music program to provide an exciting way for children to travel the globe without leaving their hometown. Participants embark on a journey of music and discovery that spans six continents. During each session there are opportunities to experience world music and to participate in related activities that cultivate imagination and creativity. For example, the children are asked to write about how they feel when listening to different types of music. In addition, the CCB features drawing and painting (in which children are asked to illustrate what they think it would be like to live in the country of origin of a particular song), crafting simple musical instruments, and even creating multicultural mobiles. Other activities include

vocabulary games, dancing, and constructing family trees that trace one's roots. Each child is given a Passport Journal that serves as a souvenir of his/her adventure.

### **BRIDGING THE GENERATION GAP**

Another program, the Warm Caps for Babies Program, bridges generational gaps in a meaningful way. By engaging senior citizens in teaching children how to knit and crochet, the program preserves skills that were more commonplace in the United States in times past. The caps are then donated to developing countries and to poverty-stricken communities in the United States. The CCB has expanded this program to elementary schools, high schools and youth organizations.

Other programs include the Free Yoga Program, which brings together a diverse population of youth in southeastern Pennsylvania to create a sense of oneness.

Additional information regarding the CCB and its programs is available at [www.childrencreatingbridges.org](http://www.childrencreatingbridges.org)