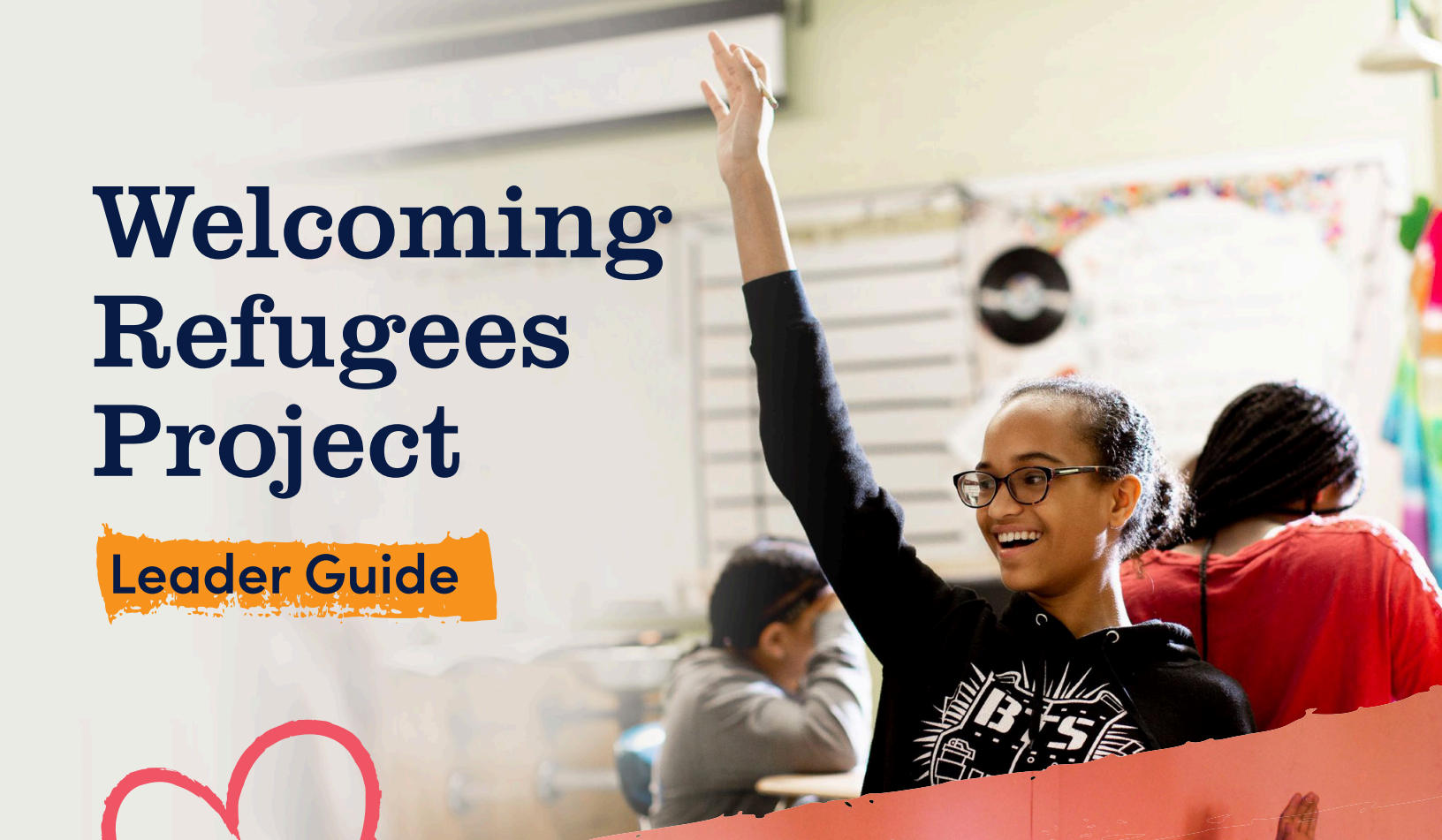


Welcoming Refugees Project

Leader Guide



We're all connected.

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Welcome from the Students Rebuild Team

Dear Challenge Leader,

Pryvit. Hola. Iwi Selami Newi. Salut. Merhaba. ‘Ahlan Bik. Huānyíng. Welcome.

What does home look like to you? For many, it’s where you grew up, where you created memories, and where you feel surrounded by your community. Now, imagine losing the only home you’ve ever known. That’s the reality for many families when war and other crises cause them to flee—and they become refugees.

Today, more than 400 million young people live in areas of the world experiencing conflict, from Ethiopia to the war in Ukraine and natural disasters in Afghanistan.

That’s why we’re encouraging students all across the world to welcome refugees—including right in their own community. We know that young people are doers: they are fueled by doing good and want to make their mark on this world. This year, that might just mean making a few new friends.

The 2023 Students Rebuild Challenge is empowering students around the globe to make a difference and support those displaced by war and other crises that cause families to flee their home countries and create more welcoming and inclusive communities.

This Leader Guide will introduce you to everything you need to know about the Welcoming Refugees Project. We’re excited to take this journey with you and our incredible partners this year: UNICEF, Choose Love, Little Amal, and so many more.

Remember: we’re all connected.



Alexandra Manuel
Manager, Students Rebuild

What is Students Rebuild?

Students Rebuild, a program of the **Bezos Family Foundation**, is a free, ready-made adventure in global learning that engages the whole student, and helps change the whole world.

The way it works is simple:

- We issue an annual challenge that invites students to respond to a specific problem affecting young people somewhere in the world.
- Each Students Rebuild Challenge gives K-12 students the opportunity to explore an issue alongside fellow “artists” from around the globe, then create art based on what they learn.
- For every piece of art we receive, the Bezos Family Foundations donates funds to support a respected community-based organization serving youth.

Since 2010, more than one million student artists from 83 countries and all 50 U.S. states have participated in the Challenges. They have created nearly 6 million works of art and raised more than \$11 million dollars to benefit communities all across the globe.



About the Welcoming Refugees Project

This year, we're inviting students from around the world to join us in learning about refugees and the local actions we can take to make our communities more welcoming and inclusive through art.

No matter what we believe, where we live, or who we are, we are all part of one global community. Today, more than 400 million young people live in areas of the world experiencing conflict. This year, we are supporting those displaced by war and other crises that cause families to flee their homes.

For the Welcoming Refugees Project, Students Rebuild is teaming up with humanitarian aid organizations around the globe. Together, we're teaching students about refugee crises and how small actions can make a big difference. By creating art, students can raise funds for these organizations to help change the lives of displaced families throughout the world..

All are welcome.

Take three simple-but-powerful steps to help your students deepen their empathy for their global neighbors, and turn that empathy into action:

- 1** **Learn about welcoming refugees in your community and around the world.**
We provide the lessons and content guides.
- 2** **Create a work of art welcoming refugees** that reflects culture, community and connection.
- 3** **Send your artwork to us.** For each one we receive, the Bezos Family Foundation will make a \$5 donation—**up to \$1.6 million**—to organizations providing humanitarian relief around the world.

 **The Welcoming Refugees Project kicks off September 13, 2022 and ends June 2023. You can join the Challenge and submit art anytime throughout this period. Get started by registering online at studentsrebuild.org.** 

Who is Receiving Funding?

The funding students generate will support five organizations that are providing humanitarian aid and other resources to refugees around the world. See a snapshot of the projects below and find a full description of the organizations and projects on our Partner page at studentsrebuild.org/partners.



PARTNER: Unicef
LOCATIONS: Jordan, Ukraine
PROJECT: Support refugee youth with art kits focused on expression and wellbeing



PARTNER: Little Amal
LOCATIONS: New York and across the U.S.
PROJECT: Raise awareness of refugee youth through performance art around the globe



PARTNER: Choose Love
LOCATIONS: Countries in the Middle East and throughout Europe and Mexico/U.S. migration routes
PROJECT: Support youth and refugee led organizations responding to international crises



PARTNER: Welcoming America
LOCATIONS: Throughout the U.S.
PROJECT: Lead a national community network creating welcoming communities for all



PARTNER: World Savvy
LOCATIONS: Schools and districts across the U.S.
PROJECT: Reimagine K–12 education for a more globally connected world

Altogether, the Welcoming Refugees Project will help make a difference for tens of thousands of children worldwide.

How Do I Get Started?

Everything you need to participate in the Challenge can be found online at: studentsrebuild.org/refugee.

This includes up-to-date information on the Challenge, an interactive map featuring this year's teams and art that's been submitted, educational resources to support student learning, and instructions for making this year's art.



We recommend you bookmark the Challenge webpage on your computer and come back to it often.

Here's how to maximize your experience and get started:

1. Register your team

Registration is simple, free, and takes less than two minutes. Once registered, your team will be displayed on our interactive map. Teams can be any size—from one person to thousands! [Register your team now.](#)

2. Check out your Dashboard

Registration also unlocks your **Dashboard**—an online feature that lets you track your progress, save materials and lessons for quick reference, upload photos, and provides you with a personal link to your shareable Team Page. Your Team Page allows you to share progress, photos, and any materials you choose with students, families, and colleagues.

3. Choose your learning and support resources

The Welcoming Refugees Project can be scaled from a single lesson plan to a full course on global “activism”. You can customize your participation to meet your team’s needs and time constraints.

To make your journey easy, we’ve built a few **recommended curriculum resources** you can follow based on the time you have. We also have overview sheets, participation certificates, and more to make your Challenge experience personal.

4. Connect, learn, and make art

Using the resources and templates found in the [Welcoming Refugees Project Art Guide](#), have your students make postcards welcoming refugee students to their communities!

5. Submit artwork to Students Rebuild

There are two ways to submit your art to Students Rebuild: mail us your art pieces or digitally submit them online.

Whichever you choose, the first step is to go to studentsrebuild.org/submit and make sure you're logged in. Once there, you'll be able to enter the number of art pieces and the number of participants from your team. Your donation amount will immediately start calculating and display itself on your private dashboard, the team map, and your shareable Team Page. More details on submission are included in the Completing the Challenge section of this document.

Find all of the resources listed here for free at: studentsrebuild.org/resources.



**Have you participated
in a Students Rebuild
Challenge in the past?**



If so, welcome back! You will need to register your team again for the Welcoming Refugees Project, but if you are using the same email as you registered with in the past, your impact data from your past Challenge participation will still be viewable to you on your personal dashboard. If you uploaded photos or saved resources on your dashboard during the World Needs Challenge, you will still be able to access those as well through your Team Page link.

During the Challenge

Throughout the Welcoming Refugees Project, there are numerous engagement opportunities and tools available for you to enhance your team's experience. Use these as they make sense for your team and, as always, feel free to adapt or create your own resources to fit the learning goals of your classroom or program.

Overview Materials and Teaching Guides

In addition to this Leader Guide, here are the other quick reference tools designed to help you structure your Challenge experience. All of these tools can also be found on our [Resources page](#). These include:

- **Introductory Challenge Video:** A short video that provides inspiration and information on the Welcoming Refugees Project.
- **Art Guide:** Detailed information and instructions on how to make this year's creative call-to-action: artfully illustrated postcards to welcome our new refugee friends!
- **Recommended Curricula Resources:** Every year our team identifies lesson plans and curricula that can be used to deepen learning throughout the Challenge. This year there are recommended resources from UNHCR, Little Amal, Welcoming America, and more and can be found within our [Recommended Resources](#) document.



Connecting with our Global Community

To foster connections and learning across your teams—which last year spanned 102 countries—we'll be sharing stories on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter exploring experiences of refugees around the world and hosting events with our partners to bring engagement opportunities to your community!

- **Events:** This year, Students Rebuild and our partners are hosting events across the world to educate communities on the refugee crisis, provide aid and other resources to refugee families, and encourage youth to partake in the Welcoming Refugees Project either with their classmates or community.
- **Stories:** Read posts from partners on project progress, features on students and teams, and updates from the Students Rebuild team.
- **Social Media:** Share your team's photos, videos, and highlights on social media. Tag @studentsrebuild on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter and use the hashtag #WelcomingRefugees so we can see what you share!
- **Newsletters:** Each month we send out a newsletter sharing the latest updates and highlights from the Students Rebuild community. Sharing your team's work with us on social media is a great way to get your team featured! Sign up for our newsletter online or when registering for the Challenge.

Completing the Challenge

Congratulations, you're almost done! Submitting your art is required to ensure your contribution results in a financial donation. It's simple and your art can be submitted two ways: by mail or digital photo submission.

Here are few important things to note for submitting:

- **Have your email address on hand:** You'll need access to the email address you used for registration to verify your email before completing the submission process.
- **Know how many people contributed to your art making:** This could be one person or thousands!
- **Know how many individual pieces of art were made:** This will calculate how much of a donation will be made on your team's behalf.

- **Know if you'd like to submit digitally by uploading photos or by mailing us a package of your art:** Either option is great, however, all mailed art has the opportunity to be included in our final culmination—we try our best to include at least one piece of art from each physical package received.

Submitting Your Art to Students Rebuild

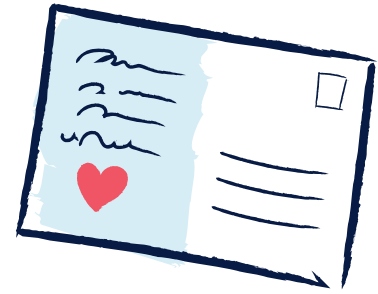
- **Submission always starts online at studentsrebuild.org/submit:** whether digitally or by mail, log in on the submission page and follow the instructions on the page to begin the process.
- **You don't need to take a photo of each piece of art:** You can only upload 12 photos with each submission instance, so submit group shots of art, create an art display, or choose a representation of your Team's artwork. If you have more images, you are welcome to upload the rest to your personal gallery—a feature of your Dashboard.
- **Please make sure images are in PNG or JPG format and are less than 10MB each:** Uploading may take up to 3 minutes so please be patient. Hitting "Upload and Submit" multiple times may cause duplicate submissions.
- **You can submit art multiple times throughout the Challenge:** If your team creates more art—great! Come back to the submission process and add your numbers.
- **If submitting multiple times, all your numbers will be cumulative:** If you're submitting more than once, only add the numbers of NEW art items and ADDITIONAL participants that may not have already been counted.
 - **For example,** if the same group of students makes 15 additional pieces of art, on the submission form you would enter # of art pieces: 15 and # of participants: 0.



- **We cannot accept photos with recognizable faces:** If these are submitted we'll need to reject the photo, but your submission will still count.
 - Tip: Art held in front of faces is a great blocker!

Mailing Your Art to Students Rebuild

- **After entering your numbers online, you'll be able to select "Mail Art" instead of "Upload Art":** This will generate a mailing slip that will provide both the mailing address and details of your submission.
- **Unable to print right now?** Write down the provided details on a slip of paper and include it in your package. This enables us to easily identify your package and let you know when we receive it!
- **Your numbers will be counted as soon as you hit "complete submission" online, not when we receive your package:** This means your dashboard display will immediately reflect your impact. When we receive your package, we'll send you a notification email within four weeks.



Do you have other submission related questions? Check our [FAQ section](#) for answers! If you can't find the answer there, reach out to us at info@studentsrebuild.org.

Beyond the Challenge

You did it! Now what? While you and your students have now finished the Welcoming Refugees Project, check out what's still to come with this year's Challenge!

Celebrate Your Team's Efforts

It's time to celebrate! Your team's hard work helped generate funding to support multiple organizations and programs supporting refugees, making a difference for tens of thousands of children worldwide. Download and share the [participation certificate](#) to continue the celebration with your team members.

When the Challenge ends, Students Rebuild will work with partners to showcase submitted student art and raise awareness around the refugee crisis. Check out our website in Spring 2023 for updated information on the culmination.

Share Your Art With Your Community!

As leaders, we encourage you to share your students' art with the local community. In past challenges, educators have displayed created art in local community hubs like libraries, local non-profits, city hall or in schools. Many times the individual art pieces are brought together in creative ways.

Some examples include:



In 2021, students in Concord, Massachusetts made a variety of community quilts. The "Common Threads" community quilts were a cooperative effort, sponsored jointly by a Students Rebuild Challenge team called Concord Kids Care and COAR, their local DEI group. In schools across Concord, librarians guided the student discussions and activities. In Concord's public libraries, posters were used to inform people about the goals of the project. Also set up were DEI book displays, several quilt square coloring workshops, and a Saturday story time with quilt squares coloring as the activity.

"I started out sharing the Challenges with my fellow librarians in my school district, but this year I've even gotten some local youth organizations to submit art! Our town's local art center, The Umbrella, ran a kids' camp during spring vacation and used the Clean Oceans challenge as the basis for this paper-and-recycled materials quilt. The students ages 5-12 created 200 individual artworks for the quilt. Even better, The Umbrella staff are interested in working with our Concord Kids Care team next year, too." – *Karen, Librarian, Concord, MA*



Raise Awareness

Spread the word about the Challenge with your students, their families, and the community! **YOU** have single-handedly contributed the most to the growth of Students Rebuild over the last 10 years! Word-of-mouth is consistently the best way that new educators and students learn about the program. Your **Team Page** gives you a personal way to share the Challenge with your students, their families, and colleagues. The shareable link to your Team Page can be found on your Dashboard, accessible after you complete registration.



Consider Hosting an Event, Exhibiting your Artwork, and/or Contacting Local Media

A great way to raise awareness about the Challenge and your team's efforts is by hosting an event or holding a local celebration of your art! Here are a few ideas to get you started: Combine your Challenge participation with a community event to welcome refugees in your community; partner with a local refugee aid organization to have your students paint portraits of local refugees; host a cultural exchange where students and families can learn about different cultures from countries experiencing a refugee crisis. What ideas can you add?

Special events and interactive activities will help draw more people to the cause and can even result in media attention. Please let us know about any special events you host so we can highlight them as well!

Continue Serving Kindness

While our Welcoming Refugees Project will end on June 9, 2023, we hope you continue the journey by:

- **Using our learning resources** to dig deeper into the impact of refugee displacement and how we can continue to make refugees feel welcome in our communities.
- **Thinking about everyday actions**, big and small, that your team can engage with refugees in your local community.
- **Sharing your team's experience and photos** with your local community and with us! Featuring stories of how our Challenges impact students and their communities is one of the things we love most.

Give Us Feedback

After the Challenge ends in June 2023, we'll send an online survey. Your prompt and honest feedback will help us improve our program to better serve you and our community.

Contact Us

Challenge Hashtag: #WelcomingRefugees

On the Web: studentsrebuild.org

 facebook.com/studentsrebuild

 youtube.com/studentsrebuild

 twitter.com/studentsrebuild

 pinterest.com/studentsrebuild

 instagram.com/studentsrebuild

 info@studentsrebuild.org

