

Statement of Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey  
March 4, 1968 -- District of Columbia Public Schools Art Show

It has been rewarding for me to work closely with District of Columbia schools on this art project. When the planning started six months ago, I enthusiastically endorsed the theme, "The Nation's Capital Is My Home." I knew the results would be exciting, for the art of a child is his picture of the world in which he lives.

No matter how much trouble a child may have in his verbal or written expression, a boy or girl often can effectively communicate through art. The visual commentary of a child usually surprises the adult world by its candid and fresh viewpoint.

Art teachers said that when the project was announced, the students were enthusiastic. The young people went right to work--they were excited about the theme and we received many entries.

Such an art project as this gives the children of Washington a wonderful opportunity to study the nation and its history. A little boy ends up looking at the White House as his home. A group of first graders painted themselves looking out of the curtained back windows of the Capitol. A little girl painted herself at a White House birthday party for George Washington with Abraham Lincoln looking on.

Some of the children have presented me their paintings for my own collection. Students at Stoddert Elementary School gave Mrs. Humphrey and myself a beautiful stitchery. Their gifts will be a constant reminder of how exciting it is to live in our nation's capital.



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