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Winners Unveiled – results of Changi Airport 's “Flight of Friendship” Art Contest

A four-year-old girl from Malaysia is the youngest winner in an international children's art contest held in conjunction with Changi Airport 's "Flight of Friendship" celebrations. Lee Jia Yi will now see her painting displayed at various locations of Changi Airport , together with the selected drawings of other participants.

Jia Yi's drawing was one of the over 8,030 entries received for the art competition from children aged between four and eight, in 26 countries. Their artwork had to depict the theme "How Air Travel Brings the People of the World Closer Together". In all, ten winners were picked, and like Jia Yi, their reward is an all-expenses paid four-day holiday in Singapore for them and one parent/guardian each. The other winners are from Australia , China , India , the Philippines , Thailand and UK . They received their prizes today at Changi Airport , from Mr Yeo Cheow Tong, Singapore 's Minister for Transport.

While the participants may be young, their drawings became a source of inspiration for the adults who judged their works of art. One of the judges was Mr Yam Kum Weng from Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore. He said, "some common themes that cropped up were world peace, equality and hope in a better world. These messages are relevant today, no matter if they come from children or international peace agencies."

The art competition was launched on 17 December 2003 and ended on 10 April 2004 . The organisers had anticipated some 5,000 entries but were pleasantly surprised by the stronger-than-expected response. The winners were picked after several sessions of evaluation. It is hoped that the trip to Singapore will help the young winners form lasting international friendships.

Aside from the all-expenses paid trip, the winners will also receive S\$1,000 worth of shopping vouchers and the winners' schools will each receive S\$1,000. The ten winning drawings have also been made into postcards which will be distributed to passengers at Changi Airport .

The art contest was one of the key events in Changi Airport 's "Flight of Friendship" celebrations. "Flight of Friendship" was organised to commemorate 100 years of powered flight.