



2019 – 2020 YOUTH ARTS NEW YORK ANNUAL REPORT

PROGRAMMING REPORT

July, 2019 – We awarded Leslie Cagan the first Youth Arts New York Mentorship Award

September 2019 – Kathleen Sullivan traveled to Anchorage with Ray Acheson of WILPF to present at a conference sponsored by Alaska University — *Hiroshima-Amchitka Legacies: What Future Will We Chose?* She was interviewed on a popular state-wide morning TV show to speak about Alaska’s nuclear legacy and its impact on indigenous Alaskans. Kathleen was featured together with Department of Defense Scientist Bruce Wright on Alaska Public Radio broadcast “[Going nuclear in Alaska: Past...and Future?](#)” Kathleen presented an interactive workshop at the Pacific University of Alaska and successfully lobbied Anchorage’s Mayor, Ethan Berkowitz, to sign onto the ICAN Cities Appeal.

October 2019 — We supported Hiroshima Survivor Setsuko Thurlow on 2 university visits in Boston at Harvard University and Tufts University.

November 5, 2019 – We conducted our 8th annual Disarmament Education Professional Development Day at UN Headquarters in New York in partnership with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs for 30 secondary educators titled “Nuclear Weapons Today: From Hiroshima and Nagasaki to the Ban Treaty”. The workshop included a book launch in coordination with the UN Bookstore, of Kathleen Burkinshaw’s young adult novel *The Last Cherry Blossom*.

February, 2020 – Kathleen Sullivan coordinated a speaking tour for Setsuko Thurlow in February 2020. Setsuko participated in a keynote panel at the ICAN Paris Forum, met with the Deputy Mayor of Paris, and addressed the French National Assembly. At the Sorbonne hundreds of international students gathered to hear Setsuko’s testimony. In Spain she met with Ada Colau, the Mayor of Barcelona, where the mayor announced that Barcelona signed the ICAN Cities Appeal in honor of Setsuko’s visit. Setsuko shared her testimony at Barcelona’s Casa de America and in Madrid she addressed the Spanish Congress on the important role that Spain can play in promoting the TPNW, especially as a member of NATO. Setsuko’s testimony sessions and governmental meetings were widely reported, including a most moving [interview in El Pais](#), the most popular newspaper in Spain, and the third most read Spanish language online news source. In this article the journalist asks her, what is your nightmare, your biggest fear? Her response — indifference. “My nightmare, now, is the people who deny the nuclear threat we

live with.” The tour generated many resources in Spanish that can be referenced in the Hibakusha Stories website.

We completed the redesign of both our [Youth Arts New York](#) and [Hibakusha Stories](#) websites around standards-based Common Core curriculum, drawing on the cache of videos and written testimonies our Hibakusha Fellows have provided over these last 10 years.

We were well into plans for the Spring when the Corona Virus took over our lives. We were forced to cancel a series of events meant to coincide with the Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty scheduled for April and May. We had planned an exhibit of a set of kamishibai, Japanese storyboards, based on the life of Shigeko Sasamori, created by students at Broken Arrow, OK, High School. We had arranged for a concert and reception for the Nagasaki Peace Journey Choir in the Visitors Center of the United Nations Headquarters and at LaGuardia High School for the Performing Arts. That visit was also to include a 90-minute disarmament education workshop featuring Hiroshima A-bomb survivor Setsuko Thurlow and Kathleen Sullivan, PhD.

INDIVIDUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE YOUTH ARTS NEW YORK TEAM

Members of the team organized a hearing at New York City Council that featured over 60 speakers from all walks of life and over 400 pages of written testimony in support of two pieces of nuclear disarmament legislation. Speakers included municipal workers, veterans, scientists, academics, artists, lawyers, the faith-based community and others.

Mitchie Takeuchi and Susan Strickler’s film *The Vow from Hiroshima* was screened at the Cleveland Film Festival and was picked up by Bullfrog films for educational distribution.

FINANCIAL REPORT

We began the year with \$3,563 in the bank and ended the year with \$13,632.

We received \$16,690 in individual donations, \$12,000 of that from our Board of Directors. We received \$5,000 from the Thomas C. and Sandra Sullivan Foundation and \$1,000 from the Berner Family Fund.

We spent 3,146 on administrative fees and \$17,364 on programming. \$5,000 of that went to our first award for Youth Mentoring, given to Leslie Cagan for her work on the 2019 Queer Liberation March and Rally in New York City.