

# Peace Tiles

## Using Participatory Arts Techniques in Health Education and Advocacy

*PT Workshop, 30 May 2006  
33<sup>rd</sup> Annual International  
Conference on Global Health  
of Global Health Council*

**The Peace Tiles (PT) Workshop** at the *International Conference on Global Health* introduced the International Peace Tiles Project and provided a hands-on training on making tiles and building partnerships.

The workshop participants were public health prevention specialists, child survival experts, academics (sociology) health communication consultants, doctors, nurses, medical students,... from the US, India, Uganda, Georgia, El Salvador...

The PT workshop at the conference was led by Nil Sismanyazici Navaie, Founding Director of *Arts For Global Development, Inc.* During the first half of the workshop Nil focused on various case examples from around the world in which arts, in any kind and style, is utilized to address health issues. The presentation was to familiarize the participants on the communicative, therapeutic, and educative power of arts for instance in tackling HIV/AIDS, drug abuse, youth depression, and supporting hospice care. She then introduced the PT project by giving an overview of its history, its objective, the method, and principle accomplishments around the World AIDS Day 2005.

After the slideshow that also presented some images of selected tiles from Nigeria, Kenya, Cameroon, Senegal, Tanzania, Thailand, and USA; and the murals showcased in Switzerland, South Africa and India; Nil invited participants to discuss key health issues from global and local perspectives. By brainstorming and making a list of vital challenges (*such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, diarrhea, heart problems, obesity, parasites, diabetes, poverty, violence, and more*) together with the participants, she then facilitated participants voice their thoughts on these challenges with creative ways in which arts is used as a communication or an advocacy tool.

The discussion session yielded into the second half of the workshop where participants concentrated on making tiles that were informative / educative and/or inspirational / hope-giving. The participants were encouraged to think of their target audiences and hence the content of their tiles as well as what they want to achieve through the arts making process and the final art piece.

Once the tiles were completed and set to dry, Nil showed the participants the "Positive Love" video of a workshop from Thailand that enabled children to create their visual voices on HIV/AIDS. Nil then opened the floor for further discussion, gathered everyone around the tiles and called participants to talk about their pieces and objectives. In conclusion, workshop participants created the Global Health Conference (GHC) PT Mural!



For further details on the **Peace Tiles Project** please visit [www.peacetiles.net](http://www.peacetiles.net). To learn more about the workshop conducted at the *International Conference on Global Health*, please contact Arts For Global Development, Inc at [info@art4development.net](mailto:info@art4development.net). Arts For Global Development, Inc is a partner of the PT Project.

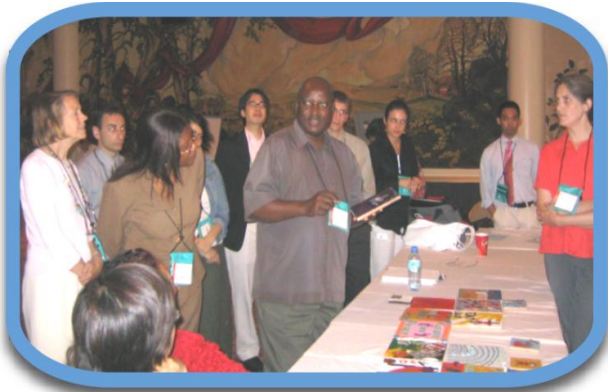


Photos: GHC workshop participants working on their peace tiles

The hands-on arts activity created an opportunity for participants to learn about the tile making process and its outcomes: a communication starter (*to bring groups together and engage them in dialogue*), and a self-expression and an advocacy tool.



Photos: Participants talking about their tiles and expressing their thoughts on those vital health issues that they intend to address with their tiles



### GHC Peace Tile Mural | May 2006

