

The first ever Amnesty International Human Rights Art Festival will take place over three days April 23-25, 2010, bringing together cultural, business and political figures.

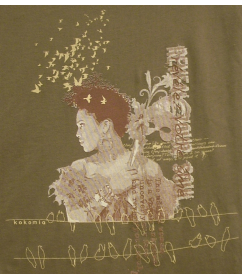
PAVE: Promoting Awareness, Victim Empowerment is an official partner of the first ever Amnesty International Human Rights Arts Festival:



Binding Project:

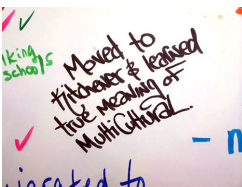
The Binding Project is an international art empowerment campaign where participants write a word of empowerment on plastic zip tie bracelets. PAVE is currently collecting thousands of binding bracelets to be included in an installation art piece. These zip ties are what was used to bind the hands of PAVE Founder Angela Rose behind her back when she was abducted from a shopping mall parking lot.

<http://www.bindingproject.com/>



Removing the Mask:

This is an interactive art project where people decorate masks as an invitation for us to realize the individual **MASKs** that we hide behind each day. Project creator, PAVE's Jaime Gill, believes that the **MASKs** that we wear are our **Mistakes, Assumptions, Scars, and Knowledge** of our true selves; and because we don't feel that we will be accepted by our friends, families, and/or society. Removing the Mask is a thought provoking and engaging exercise that will cause vulnerability and encourage forgiveness, empowerment, and healing!



Shattering the Silence Wall:

This community art campaign invites participants to write or draw on a wall covered in butcher paper with stories of surviving and thriving or simply their signature as a promise for nonviolence.



Koko Mia:

These limited edition designs were created by Artist and Owner of Koko Mia, Morgan Ramsdell. Inspired by the issues of PAVE and drawing upon experiences of her own life, Ramsdell juxtaposes raw edgy imagery with the gentle to speak about women's issues. She uses poetry from her own journals and images from her photographs and paintings in her artwork that will hopefully inspire and empower those who wear it.



Real-Eyes-Moms:

"Real-Eyes-Moms," is an artistic exploration of self identity guides youth to explore the stories behind their lives, as young pregnant and parenting homeless women. Each girl is currently creating a life-sized silhouette of her own body cut from plywood. Each plywood silhouette is uniquely designed by each young woman using a collage of media; not limited to, paint, sculpture, and tile to design each piece. The creation process serves as a way for each of the youth to express their fears, desires, goals, dreams. In the end, these beautiful silhouettes will serve as a tool to give a voice to these young women and to create an awareness of the need for resources to help change their lives. By using art as tool for empowerment and communication, we hope to use this project to make an important change in the lives of these young women.

Also featured is a listening station for the poem "Angel Rising" created by acclaimed spoken word artist Steve Connell. Listeners will have an opportunity to record their emotions after listening - **"Hearing Steve's poem was more healing than years of therapy."**