

**INFORMED CONSENT FORM
CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE VOLUNTARILY IN A RESEARCH
INVESTIGATION
ART DEPARTMENT
SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE
SPRINGFIELD MA 01109
DR.SIMONE ALTER MURI, PROFESSOR, ART EDUCATION/ART
THERAPY
PROJECT TITLE; CHILDREN'S ART DEVELOPMENT**

Dear Parent/Guardian/ School Administrator/Principal:

Your children, (children in the school/program) have been asked to participate in a research project in conjunction with the Art Department at Springfield College. Samples of children's drawings from around the world are being collected as part of a study on what constitutes "typical/normal" children's art development. The ages of the children for this study range from 6 to 12 years of age. These drawings will be included in an archive of children's art designed for college students and other professionals, for example: (art therapists, art educators, educators and related professionals), to have a baseline of information regarding art development by children.

The drawings collected will be only used for educational purposes. Paper and colored pencils, crayons or markers will be distributed. The children will be asked to draw one picture of a person(s) in an environment. This environment can be a landscape, which can include the area where they live, or a place they like to play in. No examples will be shown. There is a maximum of 20 minutes allotted for the drawing. The names of the children will not be noted or collected. However, we will note the following information on the back or reverse side of the drawing. The gender of the children, their ages and cities/towns/villages or countries will be indicated. The only other information noted on the reverse side of the drawing by the individual responsible for collecting the art is if the child spontaneously describes an item in the drawing or gives the drawing a title. All information will be kept anonymous and in confidence. There will be approximately 1,000 children participating in this study.

The benefits of your child participating are that their art can serve as a testimony to the importance of children's art. Children's drawings are an important tool to educators in determining cognitive, social and emotional development.

I do not foresee any risks that may occur from a child participating in this project. Participation is voluntary and the child is free to withdraw from the project at any time. The child may choose to keep their drawing at any point instead of handing it to the person responsible for the collection of the drawings. I would greatly appreciate your consent and your child's participation in the project. If you agree, please sign and date the form on the line below. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Simone Alter Muri Professor of Art, Springfield College.

If you have any questions, you can email Dr. Alter Muri at Simone_Alter-Muri@spfldcol.edu or call her at 413-748-3752.

I certify that I have read and fully understand the above project. Any questions about the project have been answered and explained to my satisfaction by the researcher. I willingly consent to my child/children or for the children in this class to participate.

Signature

Date