

About the Organization

The Mosaic Project, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, works towards a peaceful future by reaching children in their formative years. We unite young children of diverse backgrounds, provide them with essential skills to thrive in an increasingly diverse society, and empower them to strive for peace. **We create a microcosm of the diverse, inclusive, just world we want to see and show our young students that peace is possible.**

We seed the future population of middle schools, high schools, and all the venues of adult life with thousands of individuals who have seen a new possibility of what the world can be. Not only are our students inspired to work towards peace, they have been given concrete skills to do so and are empowered to take action.

Outdoor Project

The Mosaic Project's principal program is our unique human-relations Outdoor Project. This dynamic 4-night, 5-day experience for fourth and fifth graders is offered during the school week. Three classes from schools that differ markedly in socioeconomic, racial, and ethnic make-up participate in the program together, giving the students the opportunity to experience firsthand a diverse setting in which all are welcomed and respected. While typical outdoor educational programs focus on environmental science, ours addresses issues of difference and builds self-esteem and community.

Our students never forget this inspiring learning experience. We reach them before negative attitudes surrounding difference become entrenched and we enable them to live with, learn from, and befriend others with whom they would not ordinarily interact. Together in a beautiful, natural setting, they begin to recognize their commonalities and gain respect and appreciation for the uniqueness of all individuals, including themselves. They are encouraged to overcome ignorance and insecurities which can lead to fear of difference, prejudice, discrimination, hatred, and violence. We provide our students with the profound, personal experience of building an inclusive, egalitarian community across race, culture, and class barriers, empowering and inspiring them to create such communities throughout their lives.

Supporting Programs

In-School Project: To prepare students for our Outdoor Project program, we partner with schools to coordinate ongoing in-school workshops and assemblies that begin as early as kindergarten. These programs continue after the intensive Outdoor Project experience to reinforce lessons learned.

Youth Leadership Project: We offer leadership training for high-school students who serve as mentors for the 4th and 5th graders at our Outdoor Project. The Project's curriculum addresses issues of difference while building leadership skills. The youth leaders undergo extensive training prior to arriving at the Outdoor Project. Once there, the training continues and they serve as Cabin Leaders for a session, putting theory into practice.



The Mosaic Consulting Project (MCP): Through our adult education arm, we offer trainings to companies, community-based organizations, and educational organizations. MCP trainings utilize experiential, dynamic activities to explore differences and build community, while focusing on empathy, appreciation of differences, assertiveness, and conflict resolution. Net proceeds from MCP directly fund The Mosaic Project's youth programs.

Our Curriculum

All of our programs emphasize building self-esteem and community and empower students to create a peaceful future. In particular, we focus on four themes:

- The celebration of diversity and awareness of stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination
- Respect for and appreciation of self and others
- Teamwork and cooperation
- Communication and nonviolent conflict resolution (including listening skills, empathy, and assertiveness)

Our innovative curriculum is experiential. Learning at Mosaic becomes a magical adventure as the curriculum comes to life through hands-on activities, interactive theatre, games, role-plays, discussions, stories, and original songs. Our two albums highlighting our musical curriculum have received rave reviews and are available on iTunes, Spotify, and anywhere you listen to music! Visit <https://mosaicproject.org/music>.