



Hope Wall

Save the World. One Piece at a Time.

Overview

A Hope Wall is a community-constructed collection of original images that focus on making small pieces of the world better.

“Artists are people who say, ‘I can’t fix my country or my state or my city. But by golly, I can make this square of canvas, or this eight-and-a-half-by-eleven piece of paper, or this lump of clay, or these twelve bars of music, exactly what they ought to be!’ “ - Kurt Vonnegut

Inspired by Vonnegut’s idea of making one piece of the world better, this project helps students identify the parts of world they can impact in positive ways.



Two Ways to Participate

Solo/Global Project	In Your School/Community
Create and share your messages (with invitations for others to join) using the hashtag #HopeWall	You can use these resources to do this project with your school staff to welcome students into the building, the students in your classroom, or any group of combination of groups. Post your wall using #HopeWall

The Bucket and Friends Books

That you don't need to do the project, but are related in cool ways

I wrote the Bucket books as a tool for young people growing up in a difficult world.

Bucket and Friends Save (part of) the World with a Wall follows a group of friends who realize that the wall where kids sit when they're too upset to go to recess (that they name the Sad Wall) is being used more. Bucket and their friends start adding pieces of beauty, hope, and evidence of good deeds done, reflected by some sort of image on a square of paper, to the wall. Soon, other classmates and whole classes are adding to the wall as well, highlighting all the good that can happen when we all do a small part.



Lesson Plan - Hope Wall

Appropriate (with adaptations), for students K-12 and Adults

Participants create a visual representation of small ways they can impact the world in positive ways. Reflections and discussions focus on how to address feeling overwhelmed, finding agency, and building community.

Step	Procedure
Introduction	<i>Option One:</i> Write or display the following quote from Kurt Vonnegut: “Artists are people who say, 'I can't fix my country or my state or my city. But by golly, I can make this square of canvas, or this eight-and-a-half-by-eleven piece of paper, or this lump of clay, or these twelve bars of music, exactly what they ought to be!’”

Discuss the quote with students, asking what they would 'fix' in the world, what they think the world needs more of, and what things are in their control.

Option Two:

Start with the first brainstorming sheet that asks questions about how students feel about the world. Starting with solo writing that moves to small group discussion (or flip those steps) can be good.

Brainstorming

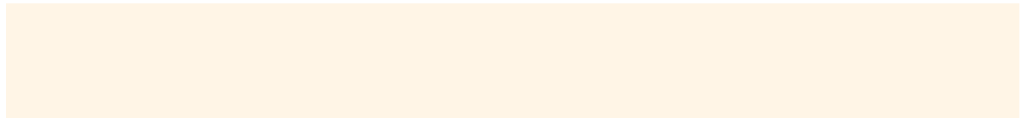
Using the attached brainstorming sheets, have students write down as many ideas as they can about what they feel the world needs and how they can contribute.

Next, have them sketch ideas of how they could represent their ideas visually. Could they draw a picture of what they plan to do? Something that would inspire that action in others? If they want the world to have more beauty or humor or hope, could try draw something beautiful or funny or inspiring?

Building a Hope Wall

When students have decided on an image, give them the paper they will use for their final projects. It helps to have access to lots of different kinds of materials, so students have choice in the kind of visual they want to make.

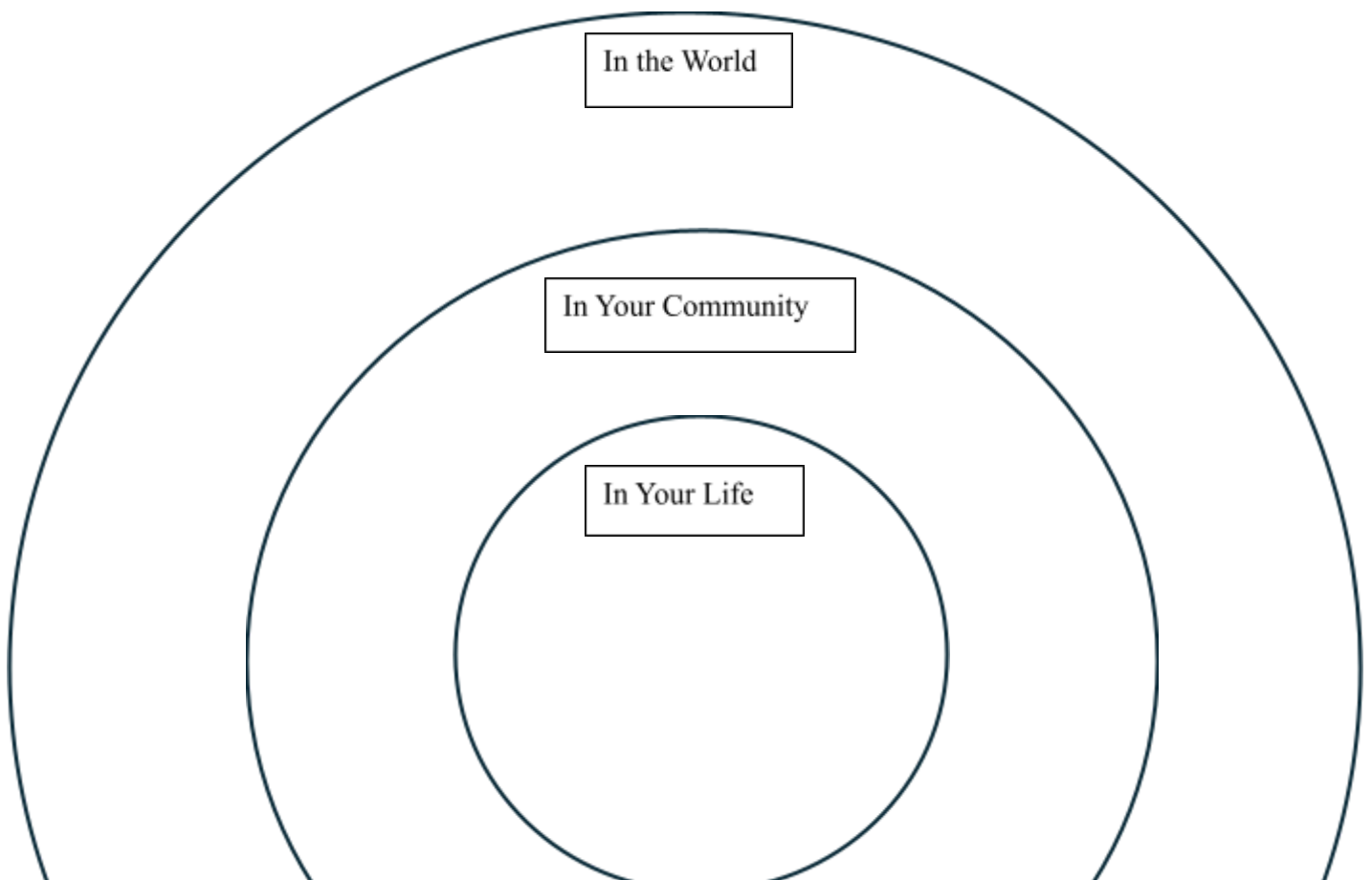
Display the works together on a wall. It may be helpful to include a small explainer of what the project was (and that invites people to add their own!).



The materials in this packet are free to use, share, reproduce, and adapt as needed. Their use in any product, physical or digital, offered for sale is not allowed. Please direct any questions or requests to Tom Rademacher, mrtomrad@gmail.com

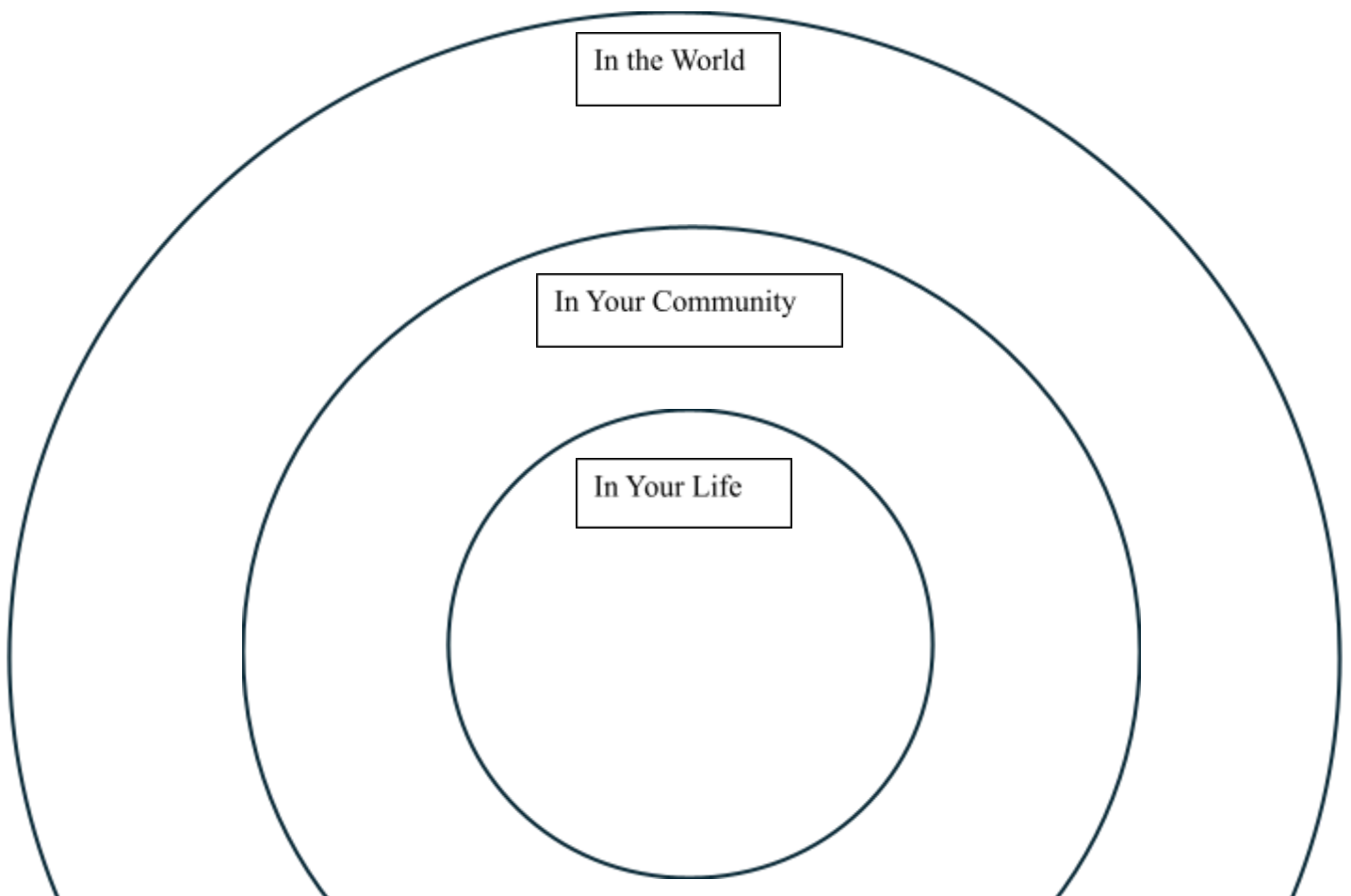
HOPE WALL BRAINSTORMING – PART ONE

Fill in as many ideas as you can of what you WISH or HOPE that would make the world a better place?



HOPE WALL BRAINSTORMING – PART TWO

NOW, looking what you wrote on the other side, what things could you do that would help?



Planning your Final Project

In the squares below, sketch images that represent:

- Small things you have (or will) do
- Wishes and Hopes for the world
- Pieces of beauty, joy, humor, or hope for the world.

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Final Idea:

Pick the image you feel best about from the other side of this sheet and try a more careful and complete version below. What does it represent to you, and why?

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My Piece of the Hope Wall:

Describe your visual:

Why did you pick this image and idea?