

## Media release

### Children's art competition is picture perfect

It will be paintbrushes at the ready across the country, as Children in Scotland launches its national children's art competition, inviting entries from young people aged 0-18 which celebrate their 'Perfect Place'.

The competition forms part of the organisation's year-long 'Making Space 2010' programme, championing innovative architecture and the creation of inspiring spaces for young people, and is supported by organisations including leading architects RMJM and Johnston Press.

Entries, which can be in the form of drawings, paintings, collages or photographs, will be judged by a panel of experts from the design industry, and offer young people a chance to show architects, planners and policy-makers what makes a space special and why it is important to them, or to their community.

With prizes including books, computer games and signed illustrations, as well as the chance for winners to attend an awards ceremony later in the year, competition organisers are preparing to be inundated with entries as young people let their artistic skills shine.

Bronwen Cohen, Chief Executive of Children in Scotland said: "Where young people learn is as important as what they learn, and it is vital to listen to their views about why a particular space is appealing, or makes them feel safe or inspired. This competition will allow them to have a real creative voice."

As the competition will also showcase Scotland's young creative talent, Paul Stallan, European Design Director & International Principal with RMJM, is excited to be involved in the competition. "We all dream and imagine our perfect place, so we want to know; what is yours? Since I was a small boy I have always dreamed of creating interesting spaces for people, an interest that led me to become an architect. I have never given up on my dream. Now, tell us yours!"

"Is your perfect place kooky and colourful, does it have a view of the sea, is it enclosed by massive stone walls with a swimming pool in the middle? Is it a place that makes you happy or creative? Do you remember a space that you felt especially safe in or one that inspired you to think differently? Whatever your perfect space let your imagination capture what is special about it. Through drawings or models, sketches or collages represent and create an imaginary or real place that is perfect!"

### **Notes for Editors**

**Children in Scotland** is the longstanding national agency for the whole of the children's sector, reaching over 250,000 individuals through our extensive membership of more than 450 statutory agencies, voluntary sector organisations, professional associations and community groups.

For further information visit [www.childreninscotland.org.uk](http://www.childreninscotland.org.uk)

**'Making Space 2010'** is a one year programme, led by Children in Scotland, which includes an international award and conference promoting innovation, creativity and sustainability in design for children and young people aged 0-18.

For further information visit [www.childreninscotland.org.uk/makingspace](http://www.childreninscotland.org.uk/makingspace) or contact Hannah Goodrum, [hgoodrum@childreninscotland.org.uk](mailto:hgoodrum@childreninscotland.org.uk)