

## NEWSBRIEFS

### **SOUTH AFRICA**

#### **Children's Art Exhibition Opens in South Africa**

The World Boys and Girls Art Exhibition made its way to Africa for the first time, opening at the Good Hope Gallery of the Castle in Cape Town, South Africa, on March 1 and running through to March 17. The showing was sponsored by the SGI and the University of the Western Cape, with the support of UNESCO and the South African Ministry of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology. President Nelson Mandela served as honorary chairperson of the exhibition's steering committee.

### **RUSSIA**

#### **SGI President To Be Acknowledged by Russian Government**

In commemoration of the 850th anniversary of the establishment of the city of Moscow, the Russian government has decided to confer a medal and Certificate of Special Commendation upon SGI President Ikeda. The honor recognizes individuals who have contributed to the development of Russian society and the promotion of amicable exchange. Moscow Mayor Yuriy M. Luzhkov recommended Mr. Ikeda for the distinction, which was approved and signed by Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

### **CHINA**

#### **Chinese University To Honor SGI President**

SGI President Ikeda has received a letter from President Lu Tiecheng of China's Sichuan Union University advising him of the institution's decision to confer an honorary professorship upon him. In the letter, President Lu acknowledges that Mr. Ikeda is a distinguished Buddhist thinker, philosopher and social activist, well-known for his endeavors to establish world peace and foster a spirit of nonviolence through culture and education.

— *Courtesy of SGI NEWSLETTER*

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