

PRESS RELEASE

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DREAMER I: SPACE SUIT STITCHED FROM CHILDREN'S ARTWORK MARKS 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISS

Swiss Hospital HUG to be the first of 15 Worldwide with over 200 pediatric onco-patient Artists.

Spacesuit Art Project, a global initiative that implements arts therapy sessions in pediatric oncology centers, will spearhead the production of its sixth space suit, DREAMER I, with its first arts therapy session hosted by Geneva at Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève (HUG) in partnership with The Red Pencil (International). With the guidance of arts therapists, pediatric onco-patients have painted their dreams on individual rubberized material sections, which will be constructed together alongside hundreds of similar segments by Russian spaceflight manufacturer and space suit designer NPP Zvezda into a cover for the Russian Orlan space suit. Switzerland is among the 15 other countries worldwide, including Russia, Japan, Canada, Germany, Great Britain, France and the project's homeland, the USA, participating in the initiative, dedicated to mark the 20th Anniversary of International Space Station (ISS) agreement signing. DREAMER I will follow former space suits HOPE, COURAGE, UNITY, EXPLORATION and VICTORY.

The DREAMER I space suit is a continuation of Space Suit Art Project, a collaboration between the Space For Art Foundation (USA), Unity Public Movement (Russia), ROSCOSMOS, NASA, and international hospitals, astronauts, and other space agencies.

Space Suit Art Project's founders, artist and former Arts in Medicine Program director at MD Anderson Cancer Center Ian Cion and retired NASA astronaut and artist Nicole Stott, aim to unite pediatric patients, who are all dreamers, to collectively create DREAMER I, established upon Cion's idea that "dreaming together is the beginning of new reality." Cofounder Stott describes the project history, "what started with one artist, in one hospital, in one country, with one art space suit, has blossomed into a global Space for Art community. I am so thankful to be part of this amazing team that is on a mission to unite children around the world through the wonder and awe of space exploration and the healing power of art."

Alena Kuzmenko, president of Unity Public Movement (Russia) and Space for Art partner, explains, "When we observe how our patients transform and fantasize

aloud throughout sessions, we realise, as adults, that children from around the world dream about the same things -- to receive pets, become princesses, fly to Paris. We summon to not fight one another, but to join together global efforts in the fight against child cancer.

For this session, the Spaces For Art Foundation and Unity Public Movement partnered with HUG and The Red Pencil (International) to work alongside Russian cosmonaut Fyodor Yurchikhin and Swiss astronaut Claude Nicollier.

Space for Art foundation (USA)

Space for Art Foundation is a global organization, dedicated to the creation and implementation of mission-driven arts initiatives and creative collaborations that serve the public good. Through research, funding, and exploration, Space for Art Foundation pioneers new applications for the arts within a broad range of sectors, including healthcare, aerospace, and international relations.

For more information: <https://www.spaceforartfoundation.org/>

Unity Public Movement (Russia)

Unity Public Movement is a nonprofit organization dedicated to quality of life support programs for cancer patients including, but not limited art therapy, beauty, nutrition and well-being courses. One of the main goals of Unity is to spread and raise awareness on the best practices in cancer patient support globally.

For more information: <http://www.unity-movement.ru/>

About HUG

Bringing together eight Geneva public hospitals and 40 outpatient units throughout the canton of Geneva, HUG forms the leading Swiss University Hospital and was awarded by the World Health Organization (WHO) with referral center status in six areas, including therapeutic education and Humanitarian Medicine and Disaster Management. With its missions in care, teaching and research, the hospital's work is recognized nationally and internationally in many cutting-edge disciplines, such as cardiovascular disease, neurosciences and oncology.

For more information: <https://www.hug-ge.ch/en/>

About The Red Pencil (International)

The Red Pencil is a pioneer humanitarian organization whose mission is to bring the benefits of arts therapy (art, music, movement and dance) to children, adults and families who are unable to express verbally the emotions caused by traumatic life circumstances - natural disaster, displacement as a result of conflict zones, human trafficking, life-threatening disease, violence and abuse.

The creative process of art-making allows them to find new resources to cope with difficult situations, gain self-confidence and feel empowered to move on towards a more hopeful and happier life. Anyone, anywhere, at any stage in their life, can benefit from arts therapy.

For more information: <https://www.redpencil.org/>



VICTORY spacesuit aboard the ISS with the international crew in December 2017. More than 180 kids from 10 clinics in Russia and the USA participated on VICTORY, which Spencer 138 days at the ISS and came back in February this year.



L: Painting suits EXPLORATION and VICTORY in Houston, Texas in September 2017
R: VICTORY space suit on display at the Healthcare Conference by the International Medical Cluster in Skolkovo, Russia in July 2018.

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