

How to Host a Photo Gallery for the Stop the War on Children Week of Action

To help tell the story of children living in war zones during the Stop the War on Children (SWOC) Week of Action, we have collected photos and artwork for you to display in a gallery format. Organizing a photo gallery event to share these images with the public can be a powerful way to put members of the community in the shoes of children enduring hardship due to war and conflict. If you are interested in bringing these stories to your community, reach out to your Save the Children Action Network (SCAN) staff contact, who will provide the necessary materials.

Follow these steps for a successful photo gallery:

- 1. Location:** The first step is to find a location for the art gallery to take place, for either a brief event or longer term. Look for free or low-cost spaces like a library, community center, student union, coffee shop or place of worship. Be sure you and the venue have agreed upon how long the art gallery will be in place. Also, make sure you or another volunteer are available to set up and take down the gallery within the agreed upon window.
- 2. Reception:** Whether your art gallery will be set up for a couple of hours or a couple of weeks, you should plan a reception to kick off the display and educate community members not only about the issue facing children living in conflict zones, but what people can do to help. Provide an opportunity to write postcards or make phone calls encouraging their legislators to cosponsor a resolution in support of safe education for children in conflict zones.



To add to the educational nature of the event, you can also consider showing a [virtual reality video](#) about what its like to be a child in Syria. Talk to your SCAN staff contact about getting refreshments and swag for your event.

- 3. Partnerships:** Look to like-minded organizations – such as refugee resettlement groups and missionary groups – to collaborate with you to host and promote the event. If you are on a college campus, consider partnering with the international affairs department or UNICEF club.
- 4. Promotion:** Let others know about your art gallery and reception by sharing the details on social media, with local news outlets and on community event calendars. Your SCAN staff contact can also promote the event via texting and emails to supporters in the area. Consider inviting your local members of Congress and their staffs to attend the reception. This event is a great way to build on existing relationships with in-district congressional staff.
- 5. Follow up:** Take photos of your art gallery and at your reception to send to your SCAN staff contact. Send a thank you email to all attendees within a day or two after the event with how they can get more involved. Don't forget to enter the contact information from your postcards and send to your SCAN staff contact.