

TSIPI BEN-HAIM

BIOGRAPHY

**CITYarts
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Tsipi Ben-Haim is the Founder, Executive & Creative Director of CITYarts, Inc., a public art non-profit organization in New York City celebrating its 33rd Anniversary. In 1989, with a vision and a dream to engage youth in actively transforming New York City through art, Tsipi took the helm of a previous organization, CityArts Workshop (which was closed, 1969-88), changing its logo and mission to found CITYarts, Inc. Now, the focus of the organization is aimed at the Voices of our Youth and empowering them to create murals and mosaic projects in collaboration with professional artists that activate their imagination and desire to make a difference in the world.

Through creativity, perseverance, and determination, she is largely responsible for the success of over 300 public art projects, including murals, mosaics, and sculptures, throughout the 5 boroughs of New York City and beyond. Raising awareness to social issues by creating and producing art works in public parks, schools, and underserved neighborhoods, they are created under 5 diverse programs: Community Identity, Young Minds Build Bridges, Global HeARTwarming, Kids for Justice and Windows of Opportunity.

After 9/11, she created the Young Minds Build Bridges program, which connects youth from different countries and cultures around the world to address civic and social issues like the struggle for Peace and the speed of Climate Change. To date, CITYarts has impacted over 200,000 kids, collaborated with more than 500 artists, partnered with over 1,500 sponsors, and engaged over 500,000 volunteers.

Tsipi holds a B.A. from Tel-Aviv University and a Master's degree from New York University. Outside of her work with CITYarts, Tsipi is an accomplished poet, writer, curator, public speaker, and art critic for various magazines and foreign press outlets. She published a poetry book "Comets" in 2008 and gave a TEDx talk-To Catch the Sun- in 2014. As a curator, Tsipi organized several exhibitions, including the recent SOHO artists History Walk Exhibition as well as traveling CITYarts exhibition Pieces for Peace with Youth from Around the World, which was most recently exhibited at the Saatchi Gallery in London, Toronto, Spain, the European Union Parliament in Brussels, and the U.N. headquarters in New York and Geneva, among other locations. Plans are already underway for bringing the exhibition to Poland, Austria, Panama, and Hungary.