

## **KIDS SHARE WORKSHOPS, INC OF CENTRAL VERMONT WINS THE 2010 USBBY BRIDGE TO UNDERSTANDING AWARD**

Kids Share Workshops, Inc. located in Central Vermont has been selected as the winner of the 2010 USBBY Bridge to Understanding Award. Through the creation of innovative arts and book-making projects, Kids Share raises awareness of other cultures and of issues that concern children and their safety and well-being in many parts of the world. Challenges facing the people of countries such as Tibet and other areas in conflict are also brought to the forefront in this arts-based project. Children in Vermont's public schools and the Boys & Girls Club connect with children in Tibet, Nicaragua, and India through arts and literary projects that result in a cross cultural exchange of illustrated narrative books. The overall mission of the Kids Share Workshops is to raise awareness of other cultures throughout the world. Each year culminates in the co-creation of a book made by children from Vermont and children from a culture outside of the U. S. which directly reflects the purpose and mission of the USBBY Bridge to Understanding Award. For complete information on the outreach activities and multiple projects accomplished by the Kids Share Workshops, Inc. program go to [kidsshareworkshopsamericas.wordpress.com](http://kidsshareworkshopsamericas.wordpress.com).

Founder/director of Kids Share Workshops, Inc., Kristina Applegate, will accept the award in Washington D. C. on Sunday, June 26, 2010 during the ALA co-sponsored USBBY session.

The Bridge to Understanding Award carries a monetary prize of \$1,000 and a certificate. This prestigious award was established in memory of Arlene Pillar, an educator who served USBBY as newsletter editor from 1984 until 1990. The award recognizes a program that promotes reading as a way to expand understanding of one or more cultures or countries outside of the United States. Preference is given to programs that focus on contemporary life and culture. Organizations eligible for this award include schools, libraries, scout troops, clubs and bookstores. The program may be a one-time event or an ongoing series that serves children ranging in age from kindergarten through tenth grade. Applications and criteria for the 2011 award are available at [www.usbby.org](http://www.usbby.org) or from the USBBY secretariat at [Secretariat@usbby.org](mailto:Secretariat@usbby.org). Phone: (224) 233-2030. To be considered the program must occur during the year 2010. Deadline for submissions is January 31, 2011.

USBBY, the United States National Section of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), is dedicated to promoting high quality literature for young people throughout the world.