



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Stars of HOPE® to Shine Bright in Santa Rosa

1,000 school children will Create Hope this February 15 and 16 to inspire fire-ravaged community through therapeutic art.

February 13, 2018 – Santa Rosa, California – As children can attest to, compassion knows no age limits or geographic boundaries. On Thursday February 15 school children at Hidden Valley Elementary School and on Friday February 16 school children at Riebli Elementary School will participate in the Stars of HOPE® project where they will hand paint beautiful designs and inspirational messages of hope and healing on 1-foot wooden stars. The painted Stars of HOPE will be displayed throughout the community and serve as beacons of hope and compassion for all to see through the long-term recovery from Octobers' deadly wildfires. The project is being sponsored with the generous support of KPMG LLP.

Stars of HOPE® began spouting up throughout Sonoma one week after the fire to boost the emotional recovery and resiliency of fire victims. In December, hundreds of Stars of HOPE painted by local residents, families, students, and disaster survivors from around the U.S. started providing color, light, inspiration, and hope to the devastated areas of Glen Ellen, Coffee Park, Fountaingrove and many other neighborhoods.

"I feel incredibly supported and understood. Stars of HOPE helped show you there is a light at the end of the tunnel and we will get through this," stated Jennafer Carlin-Rosset, a fire survivor from the Fountaingrove area and parent at Hidden Valley Elementary School.

"It made my day when I saw the stars in Coffee Park. I personally wanted to thank everyone who made them," posted James Styles of Santa Rosa on the Stars of HOPE USA Facebook page.

MEDIA ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND EVENTS WITH PRIOR APPROVAL FROM PRINCIPALS.

About Stars of HOPE

Stars of HOPE® empowers people of all ages to transform communities and individuals in need of hope through the power of art and personal messages of healing. Since 2007, over 80,000 hand-painted Stars of HOPE have lifted the spirits of millions of disaster survivors in 190 communities and 26 countries. Stars of HOPE is made possible by individual donations and Global Community Sponsor KMPG LLP. Stars of HOPE® is a registered trademark of New York Says Thank You Foundation. For more information and photos, please visit www.starsofhopeusa.org or [Facebook.com/starsofhopeusa](https://www.facebook.com/starsofhopeusa)