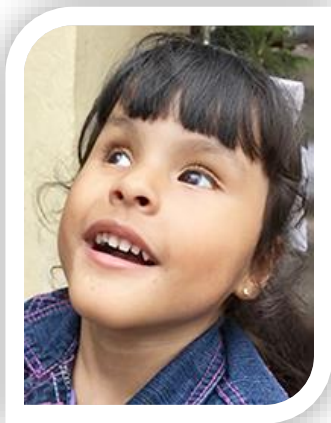


May 24, 2017

Dear Friends,

Keeping up with world news is a necessary and depressing pursuit, but we must also *search for the good that is seldom reported.*

In the colonias, Ailene continues creating art, although she was born blind. Her teacher creates braille outlines and explains the animal or flower that she will create and its colors. Her paints are organized and although she has never seen a color, she knows when she is using blue, red, white, yellow, green, brown or black because of the sequence of the little paint bottles.



Estrella, also born blind, continues to laugh and entertain her world with song. She continues to seek applause and continues to enjoy cookies.

The sound of children laughing and chattering at the cafeterias makes everyone smile. Soon summer vacation, which is just a few weeks in July, will begin, but the school year is winding down. There are rehearsals for the graduation performance, where every child in every class from Kinder onward will perform in groups.

Some will sing, others will dance and some will act in a small skit. Parents and friends will crowd the schoolyard to watch the performances, awards and graduates.

Near the intersection of two quiet dirt roads I am sitting with a dozen children. We sit in a circle and I entertain them with a few magic tricks. I am just good enough to amaze little children and they all laugh and ask for more. Loving these children is the easiest thing I do.

My feet ache and the skin on my neck tells me that I got a little too much sun. But who cares? Today, like most days, sure had a lot of happy moments. You made so many happy moments happen for so many children!