

**“Thank you from Japan” (Special TV program about this story was broadcast by NHK World on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> February 2012)**



Some of the pictures drawn by the children of Onagawa town

After the disaster, Japan received a lot of assistance and words of encouragement one after another from all over the world. Such support greatly contributed to and encouraged reconstruction from the disaster, and prayers offered courage to people.

Children in the town of Onagawa drew pictures to express their gratitude for the support. These pictures were exhibited at various festivals in 2011, such as Global Festa in Tokyo, the World Collaboration Festa in Nagoya and International Festival Okinawa, together with messages of support received from across the world. Japanese embassies and consulates in various parts of the world are planning to organize events in March 2012 to show these pictures.

A song titled “Heroes 2011, Japan” was also produced to express appreciation for the global support. It was composed by Mariko Hata, with lyrics written by Patrick Harlan. The lyrics are in English. Students at Sendai Hachiman Elementary School are practicing the song by singing in English on a daily basis to directly express their gratitude for the support messages received from all over the world.