



ARCHMARATHON
AWARDS

SKATEPARK SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGE BETHLEHEM
MAIER LANDSCHAFTSARCHITEKTUR/BETONLANDSCHAFTEN



Photos courtesy of Ralf Maier and AptART



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Category:
Urban Design & Public Spaces
Project selected:
**Skatepark SOS Children's Village
Bethlehem**

Location:
Bethlehem, Palestine
Year:
2016

A unique building project in Palestine took form. In Bethlehem, a skateboard park was built – on the grounds of the SOS Children's Village. The charity organisation Skate-Aid and the SOS Children's Villages are making possible what seemed hardly possible in this country – to convey the feeling of joy and happiness to the many traumatized children in the long term.

Up to 126 children are living in the SOS Children's village which is located in the east of Bethlehem. Bethlehem suffers from political instability, prevailing violence, high unemployment and increased poverty levels. Many children have lost their parents to war and terror and could find no proper education. Thereby a certain lack of perspective has spread among the youth.

Skating is a sport that does not know religious nor political differences. The confidence of the children will be build up and a new sense of community will be established which is not based on some putative common enemy. Thereby Individuality and personal responsibility is developed, which will help the children later in life to make responsible and rational decisions without being steered by propaganda and hate.

A team of young artists from aptART (Awareness & Prevention Through Art) made the skate park into a colourful artwork. This was done together with the children which will raise the identification of the children with their park even more.

 (+4 rating, 4 votes, **rated**)

<http://www.archmarathon.com/skatepark-sos-childrens-village-bethlehem/?lang=it>