

A child's vision for the rebuild

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Every earthquake-ravaged city needs a superhero and a six-year-old boy made sure Christchurch got one.

Hundreds of people have spent the day constructing a cardboard version of Christchurch as part of the TEDxEqChch event that was held at the weekend.

Children with paint smeared across their faces ran around happily while their parents manipulated glue guns, scissors and coloured paper.

The fictional representation of Christchurch featured everything from storm clouds to the Avon River, to spaceships and community gardens.

Benson Geary, 6, made a superhero "to save the city".

"Making the cape was the best bit and now I just have to wait for the paint to dry...we're going to hang it [from the ceiling] above the city," he said.

His father Simon said the event was "a fantastic idea".

"It's really creative and people are rebuilding the city with what they think is important."

He said his daughter Alice had made him a Father's Day ring.

"It's a great way to spend the afternoon with the kids and with other people too...it's not very often that so many people come together to do arts and crafts."

Event coordinator and Californian artist **Kiel Johnson** said he was "totally overwhelmed" by the number of people who attended the event.

"We've got people waiting outside and it's just incredible that so many people have got involved. There's some cool ideas coming out too."

"If the rebuild is anything like this project then you've got nothing to worry about."

Hagley Park, Cathedral Square and the planned green frames were included in the cardboard blueprint.

Source: <http://www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/news/7597125/Christchurch-gets-its-superhero>



3D Cardboard City being constructed by the public run by Californian artist, Kiel Johnson, on the 7th floor of Press House. Alok Pradhan with sons, Rico, 6, left, and Marli, 8, check out the progress so far after adding a building of their own.