



Dispatch

The newsletter of Education without Borders

August 2006 – Issue #4

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Education without Borders (EWB) is a Canadian non-profit and charitable Foundation. Our mandate is to foster educational opportunities and provide educational facilities in disadvantaged regions of the world. Our primary current goal is to help create a better future for Fezeka School, South Africa, and for Fezeka students.

Building leadership skills at Fezeka



EWB's 'on the ground' group in Capetown, EWB Connections, is working closely with Fezeka staff to help develop their leadership and management skills. After much consultation, lack of leadership has been identified as the school's single largest stumbling block. The school's teachers are enthusiastic, but overworked, and no-one has formal or informal management training. Thus progress on many fronts has been slow.

Starting with team building workshops, attended by sixty teachers, staff have now formed seven working groups, or 'commissions', to follow up on a number of initiatives. For instance, one group is working on wider implementation of "Information Technology" within the school. Although the school has a very good donated computer lab, it is not fully utilized by staff, let alone students.

Connections members are helping the groups identify 'active champions' who can help move them from discussion to action to actual implementation. In addition, they are exploring management training opportunities that could be available to interested Fezeka staff.

EWB Board member, Bonny Norton visits Fezeka

Visiting Fezeka High School in Guguletu, close to the modern developed city of Capetown, was enlightening for Bonny Norton, her husband and mother-in-law. Bonny, born in South Africa, but a long-time resident of Canada, was one of EWB's early board members. A UBC professor of Language and Literacy, Bonny has worked extensively in the developing world.

At the school, she had the opportunity to hear presentations from student leaders about the visit of motivational speaker, Sibusiso Vilane, and to tour the school. As well, she met members of the EWB Connections group, staff members and students.

They discussed the need for more advanced level mathematics instruction, how to make better use of the school's resources, how to improve school/community relations, and how much the development of the adjacent soccer field would mean to the students.



Bonny observed that the staff and students of Fezeka really appreciate the support and input from those associated with EWB. She also commented that post-apartheid South Africa, as represented by this school, still has a long way to go.

'For Art's Sake' - Grade 12 students at St. George's School

Grade 12 student, Zach Speert, helped to conceive the notion of St. George's students raising money to encourage artistic creativity at Fezeka. By funding art supplies and art teaching, the Canadian students hope to provide the African youth an outlet for their vibrant, artistic energy.



Zach explains that they held an art auction which raised over \$1,000. The funds will be managed by EWB Connections. Zach's passion shines through, "*My impression is that they have to make art with all they have:*

their bodies. They dance to no music, play tables like drums and find the true potential in their voices. Since these people are so creative with nothing, think how amazingly creative they could be with true artistic tools."

And more Canadian schools pitch in...

A student group at Vancouver's York House School raised \$127 through their community service program.

Grade two youngsters from Ecole South Park raised \$82 for Fezeka, by collecting and recycling juice containers and bottles from their lunches.

And you, too, can make a difference

We're pretty impressed with the efforts of these young people. We're sure you are, too. And it's amazing how far our dollars can stretch in Africa.

If you're already a donor to EWB, we are grateful for your past support. Won't you please consider making another contribution today? Or perhaps you'd be interested in attending one of our upcoming special events this fall. See below for **WOZA AFRIKA** and **Wine and Art Auction**.

If you'd like to make a gift today, please use the form on the last page of the newsletter. Thank you.

Making a 'sweet' difference

On April 25th, sugarandsugar, held a hip benefit cocktail party to raise money for Education without Borders. The theme, Orange Crush, was part of a series of such events held by sugarandsugar, a unique art gallery specifically designed as a venue for social functions and private parties.



Orange Crush was well-attended and raised a few thousand dollars for EWB through voluntary admission donations and a silent auction.

New EWB board member, Terra Sweet, appropriately named, was the Foundation's liaison with sugarandsugar.

Upcoming Events for EWB - Mark your calendars!

Benson's World Series of Poker Tournament

Sunday August 27, 2006 @ The Shark Club (180 W Georgia St)
6.00 pm - Register from 5.30 pm

Beginners and weekend players are welcome (no pros!). 100% of all money raised after prizes goes to EWB.

Contact Michelle: 604-255-6150 ext 200
michelle @danicaimports.com

WOZA AFRIKA: An Evening of Music, Dance and Story

Saturday October 14th, 2006 7:30 pm
@ Kay Meek Theatre, West Vancouver

Songs, dance, music and stories of South Africa and Zimbabwe with guest of honour, **Pamela Gien**, (actress, playwright, author) reading from her novel, *The Syringa Tree*. Featuring the music and dance of Zimbabwe's **Feso** and Vancouver's own **Pro Arte Dancers**.

Tickets: \$50 (with tax receipt) Under 12 - \$25
For tickets call Ruth at 604-224-3077.

Wine and Art Auction

Saturday November 25th, 2006
@ the new VanCity Theatre, 1181 Seymour St, Vancouver

Plan to attend this fun evening. If you have a wonderful bottle of wine or quality art that you'd like to donate, contact Ruth at 604-224-3077.

Giving to the Education without Borders Foundation

Thanks for giving to the Education without Borders Foundation. There are three ways you can make a donation:

1. **BY FAX:** (604) 732-5913. Simply print and then fill out the form below, include your VISA number and then fax it.
2. **ONLINE:** www.educationwithoutborders.ca . Click on 'Donate Now' and follow the instructions.
3. **BY MAIL.** Print, then fill out form on the next page and send your cheque or visa number to:

Education without Borders
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For our American friends, please visit our website: www.educationwithoutborders.ca for instructions on how to make a donation through the Tides Foundation.