

# KUCETEKELA FOUNDATION



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## UPDATE FROM THE KF FOUNDERS

### Our first graduation!

Dear friends,

We hope this update finds you well. The academic year in Zambia concluded in December with an enormous achievement for our program. All ten of our original group of KF scholars graduated from secondary school! KF is proud to report a **100% graduation rate** and a **0% drop-out rate** over the past five years. These ten students have been sponsored by KF since 2007 and supported for all five years of secondary school.

So what happens next for KF's new alumni? One student, Jeffrey Kanyama, has already been accepted and enrolled at African Leadership Academy (ALA) in South Africa for a two year International Baccalaureate (IB) program. ALA ([www.africanleadershipacademy.org](http://www.africanleadershipacademy.org)) is a prestigious program for elite scholars from all over Africa and has a vision to develop the next leaders of Africa. For the nine other alumni, they now begin a gap year, which is undertaken by all Zambian secondary school graduates due to academic calendar conflicts. KF has chosen to coordinate various activities for our alumni during this gap year in order to guide them towards further education and career opportunities. The alumni will be assisted in preparing their applications to colleges and universities in Zambia, South Africa, and even the U.S. All our alumni hope and expect to attend college or university. Additionally, KF will coordinate community service projects with these alumni and work internships to foster career development. Our alumni have also become peer tutors for current KF students in order to boost academic achievements and provide extra academic help when needed.

The end of the 2011 academic year also brought several important changes to our program in Zambia that we wish to share with you. First, we are proud to announce a new partnership with Pestalozzi Education Centre (PEC), a private school in Lusaka founded in 2009 and managed by an international non-profit organization called Pestalozzi World ([www.pestalozziworld.com](http://www.pestalozziworld.com)). Second, we decided to end our partnerships with Ibex Hill School and Leopards Hill School at the end of the 2011 year. KF has benefited greatly from these partnerships over the past five years but for academic, administrative and financial reasons, KF has decided to move forward in a different direction. Therefore, all KF students will be attending either Chalo Trust School (our partner since 2008) or Pestalozzi Education Centre. Administratively, we believe that these changes will allow KF to spend more of every donation towards scholarships and in the long-term will elevate the number of students in our great program. The students and all staff members are excited by the changes and look forward to another successful year!

In the midst of these major achievements and transitions, we selected 3 new students to receive scholarships and welcome them to the program! 2 girls and 1 boy were selected from this year's applicant pool. As always, the selection process was extremely competitive and the quality of applicants was tremendous.

Yours gratefully,

**Florence, Simasiku & Oliver**  
**KF Co-Founders**

# THOUGHTS ON GRADUATION

## Feelings and thoughts from the first group of KF alumni

“ I feel so great that I have graduated from secondary education. I am now looking forward to doing my university courses and the things I have always dreamt of doing. I am so happy that I am the first person in my family who has graduated from high school. Now everyone at home is happy for me that at least I have made it. But thanks to KF, because without them I wouldn't even have written this. God should continue blessing KF; that is my wish. “

- **Japhet Phiri**, *Leopards Hill School, Class of 2011*

“ I never imagined that I would graduate. Thank you to KF who made it possible. I have graduated and now the battle is mine to put a smile on someone's face. Thank you! “

- **Mercy Chisala**, *Leopards Hill School, Class of 2011*



“ An achievement I shall call it. A realization of a dream so long awaited. A bridge to a new life. Bright with opportunities all opened by KF. I am happy to have been a part of an organization as awesome as KF. With all the value I have gain, I hope to be a valuable asset to society. Thank you KF for being a guardian, friend and companion on this journey called life. “

-**Gaella Kabeya**, *Leopards Hill School, Class of 2011*

“ Being part of KF has been a great experience. I am able to look into my future; I have learned how to be responsible, honest, helpful and how to be a hardworking student. This is one of my life experiences that I will live to remember. As a graduate with good morals learned from KF, I will also lend

my hand to others in society. Thanks to KF for the support. “

- **Abram Chima**, *Leopards Hill School, Class of 2011*

“ When I was signing the five year contract with KF, I was anxious, scared and shaky. At the time of my graduation, I looked back to what I felt and laughed. I should have been confident and given it my best from the start. I am glad to have been part of KF. “

- **Penius Mumba**, *Ibex Hill School, Class of 2011*

“ When you know that graduation is seconds away, you develop an overwhelming feeling that you have achieved your every goal. But then, you realize that you have just made your first step once the graduation ceremony is over and that you are miles away from achieving your dreams. I have chosen to make my dreams a reality through self-discipline and determination. I hope all other graduates and KF students will do the same. “

- **Iwell Banda**, *Ibex Hill School, Class of 2011*



## Working at Nkanza Laboratories

By **Martinho Tembo**

*Grade 11, Ibex Hill School*

Every year the Grade 10 students of Kucetekela Foundation have a week of Work Experience. They work as interns at various institutions to get a feel of upcoming real work. Work Experience enables to students to examine their abilities in terms of communication, hard work, and concentration. It also helps them ask questions on what kind of job they should take in the near future.

This past year, as a Grade 10, I went to the Nkanza Laboratories in Lusaka for my Work Experience. There, they test samples provided by patients for anything that is requested, including cancerous infections done in the Histology Laboratory. During my days of work I was assisted by the Laboratory Technicians in the main lab. After I had learned a lot about how some procedures were done, they allowed me to test some of the samples all by myself. I felt like a scientist. I was. The people working with me were all very kind and they even helped me with advice about my choice of a job after school and discussing certain things.



*Martinho (left) working with a Laboratory Technician*

Work Experience helped me analyze myself about how hardworking I am and ought to be, and on how much concentration I should put in whilst working. All this has shown me what work really is and with all this and with all this I think that I have come to a conclusion that most children in Kucetekela Foundation should be exposed to work experience when they are still young because it has a lot of advantages. It is really a helpful experience.

## Meet our new students

THREE SCHOLARS JOIN THE KF RANKS!

### JESSY NJUNGU



**Age:** 13  
**Primary School:** Kaunda Square Basic School  
**Favorite subjects:** Science and English  
**Secondary school:** Chalo Trust School  
**Career interest:** Doctor

### ANDREW SCHUMBA

**Age:** 13  
**Primary school:** Ng'ombe Presbyterian Community School  
**Favorite subject:** Social studies  
**Secondary school:** Pestalozzi Education Centre  
**Career interest:** Engineer



### KAREN ZULU



**Age:** 13  
**Primary school:** Simon Mwansa Kapwepwe Basic School  
**Favorite subjects:** English and science  
**Secondary school:** Pestalozzi Education Centre  
**Career interest:** Journalist

*Welcome and good luck!*



## MEET A KF MENTOR - MRS. MARGARET MWILA

Mrs. Margaret Mwila is the mentor to Margaret Ngoma who is in Grade 10 at Chalo Trust School. Mrs. Mwila was born in Northern Province. Her father was the Minister of Education, a position which required him to move around - thus Mrs. Mwila has lived all over Zambia, finally settling in Lusaka. She attended Chipempu Girls for secondary school, then received a diploma from Evelyn Hone College in human resource management, and an MBA from Cavendish University. She has worked for Shell, BP Zambia Limited, the National Wildlife Authority, and Albidon Zambia Limited. She is currently an Administration Manager at African Energy Resources, an organization which explores for energy resources in Africa.

In terms of her family life, she is the mother of two and grandmother of four. Her first born is married and works for Standard Chartered Bank. Her second born is studying computer science in Baltimore Maryland. Mrs. Mwila became a mentor because as a grandmother and mother, she is nurturer - she would love to provide guidance and leadership to a student in need in the same way she has to her own children and grandchildren.



*Mrs. Mwila and her mentee, Margaret Ngoma*

### Events in Lusaka

## Alumni Luncheon



In January, there was a luncheon held in Lusaka with all Zambia-based KF alumni to celebrate their recent graduation and to discuss plans for the coming year. The luncheon was held at The Queen's Calabash restaurant in Lusaka and was generously sponsored by Mrs. Juanita Kashoki. Mrs. Kashoki, an American living in Zambia for over forty years, is a valued supporter of the KF program as well as a mentor for a KF student, Bwalya Kasanda, currently in Grade 12 at Chalo Trust School.

KF had another special guest at the lunch-

eon. Rev. Frank Strasburger, one of the founders of Princeton-in-Africa, attended during his visit to Lusaka. Frank was visiting KF to check on current Fellow, Mark Adams and see KF in action!

Our alumni all shared updates about what they have done since graduation and their plans for 2012. In particular, our alumni shared their visions and activities for service projects within their own communities. In just the time since graduation, the alumni have achieved great things. Several have found space to rent in their  
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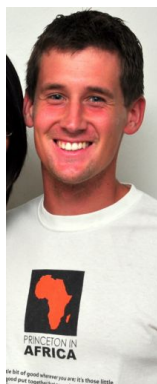


**Events in Lusaka (continued)**  
**Alumni Luncheon**

communities and have started literacy programs to teach students who cannot afford to attend school how to read and write. Some are even teaching French! All the alumni are eager to prepare their applications for college and university.

**Princeton-in-Africa Program**  
**Welcome Mark!**

KF sends a belated word of welcome to Mark Adams, our third Fellow from Princeton-in-Africa! Mark, who arrived in July, was born and raised in Topsfield, Massachusetts and graduated from Tufts University (B.A., 2010) where he majored in French and International Relations, focusing on Economic Development. Mark had educational and work experiences in South Africa and Senegal while at Tufts. These experiences shaped his focus at school and his future plans. After graduating, he worked as a Research Assistant



in the Economics Department at Tufts before applying to Princeton-in-Africa.

In his role at KF, Mark assists in running certain programs, such as the work experience internships and the mentor program. He is also working to create a program for the first group of KF graduates during their mandatory gap year combining community service projects, internships and applying for further education. On a day to day basis, he helps monitor the students and provides academic assistance wherever possible.

**Support our students**  
**Donate!**

**We strive to increase the number of KF scholarships offered and we need your help!**

**We urge you to consider sponsoring a KF student for one academic year (\$5,100) or half the academic year (\$2,550). As a full or half-year sponsor, you will receive:**

- School reports from your student
- Extracurricular achievement updates
- Personal correspondence from your student



**GET INVOLVED**

Please consider making a donation or getting involved as a volunteer

**2012 SCHOLARSHIP COSTS**

**\$2,000 - Tuition Fees**

**\$1,300 - Boarding Fees**

**\$800 - Dormitory needs**

**\$650 - Uniforms & books**

**\$200 - Attendance at KF events including orientation and mentor lunches**

**\$100 - Tutoring sessions during school holidays**

**\$50 - Exam fees**

**Total scholarship costs:**  
**\$5,100**

**Make checks payable to**  
**Kucetekela Foundation**

**Send to:**

**Kucetekela Foundation**  
**1220 Park Avenue, Apt 1B**  
**New York, NY 10128**  
**USA**

**Thanks for your support!**



**For more information, visit [www.kucetekelafoundation.org](http://www.kucetekelafoundation.org)**