

KUCETEKELA FOUNDATION



UPDATE FROM THE KF FOUNDERS

Strong finish, new activities

Dear Friends,

We hope this newsletter finds you well. In December, the 2009 academic year in Zambia concluded, punctuated by many KF student awards, achievements, as well as a period of several new activities and exciting partnerships.

In the 2009 academic year, KF sponsored 26 student among three different private secondary schools. Our students are active participants in the classroom as well as in many extra-curricular activities including arts and athletics. At the end of the year, each school holds an awards ceremony and many of our KF scholars were given much deserved recognition. We are incredibly proud of all our students for their hard work, positive attitudes and many successes.



KF students with academic awards

Our Grade 9 students took the Zambian national Grade 9 examination in late November and we look forward to sharing these results when available. Last year, KF students earned the highest individual scores at all partner schools.

There were several new program activities which took place in the final term of 2009 which were highlights for our students. Several of these activities will be described in more detailed later in the newsletter and on our website. First, the KF students in collaboration with Student Partnership Worldwide (SPW) participated in a World AIDS Day celebration on December 1st. The festivities included drama, dance, film and many speeches, all of which focused on HIV/AIDS education, prevention and treatment. The second notable highlight was the initiation of a work internship program for KF students. In December, while on school holiday, the 10 KF students who completed Grade 10 volunteered as interns at several companies and organizations around Lusaka. These experiences were outstanding successes for both the students and the host organizations. We will be sending a full report of this valuable activity separately.

KF is excited to announce the selection of 5 new students to receive scholarships beginning in January 2010. All 5 students are female, making this the first all-female class of scholars! The selection process was the largest, most competitive yet, and the quality of the applicants was outstanding. Our program has high expectations for this group and hope they find exciting challenges and support in their new secondary school environments.

We are grateful for your continued support of our program and we hope you will consider supporting our students during the 2010 school year.

Yours gratefully,
Florence, Simasiku & Oliver

KF STAFF

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2009 ACADEMIC AWARDS

Congratulations to all KF students!

At the end of the 2009 academic year, many KF students earned awards. The following is a list of several of the major school awards earned by KF students.

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Award</u>
Ngosa Besa	Chalo Trust	8	Best student in Science
Edson Tembo	Chalo Trust	8	Best student in Mathematics
Justin Mushitu	Chalo Trust	9	Best student in Information Technology
Kate Mhango	Ibex Hill	8	Best student in French
Iwell Banda	Ibex Hill	10	Selected as senior prefect
Dennis Kayebeta	Ibex Hill	10	Selected as senior prefect
Penius Mumba	Ibex Hill	10	Most Disciplined Senior Student Selected as senior prefect
Joseph Chonza	Leopards Hill	8	Best student in Geography, Agricultural Sci., Civics
Mailess Phiri	Leopards Hill	8	Best student in Religion, Environmental Sci.
Bwalya Kasanda	Leopards Hill	9	Best student in English, Math, Religion, Environmental Sci., Civics, Office Practice
Edna Lungu	Leopards Hill	9	Best student in History, Geography
Abram Chima	Leopards Hill	10	Best student in Mathematics Selected as senior prefect
Gaella Kabeya	Leopards Hill	10	Best overall student in Grade 10 Best student in History, Religion, French, Info. Tech., Biology, Environmental Science
Jeffrey Kanyama	Leopards Hill	10	Best student in Physics, Chemistry

Chalo Trust School: Awards students for top academic position in individual courses only

Ibex Hill School: Awards students for 1st position and Most Improved Student only

Leopards Hill School: Awards students for 1st & 2nd position in individual courses, various general academic and character awards

2010 Student selection process

New students selected after record-high number of applicants

Beginning in August, the KF staff members in Lusaka undertook the application and selection process for new KF scholars. We received an astounding **120 applications** from **8 different primary schools** - a new record for number of applications. Knowledge and reputation about our program is spreading quickly around Lusaka and the demand for our services is overwhelming. We are proud to announce the names and primary schools of the selected students. This is **our first all-female class!** Congratulations to all new students and thank you to all applicants!

<u>Name</u>	<u>Primary School</u>	<u>Secondary School</u>
Rosa Dabulu	S.M. Kapwepwe Basic School	Leopards Hill Secondary School
Grace Jere	Kaunda Square Basic School	Ibex Hill Secondary School
Barbara Kifokolo	Northmead Basic School	Ibex Hill Secondary School
Vivian Lihonde	Kaunda Square Basic School	Leopards Hill Secondary School
Margaret Ngoma	Chibelo Basic School	Chalo Trust School

STUDENT UPDATE

Martinho Tembo

Grade 9, Ibex Hill Secondary School

Martinho has truly flourished in his first year as a KF scholar, now attending Ibex Hill Secondary School. In the third and final school term, Martinho earned top academic position in Grade 8! His favorite subjects this past year have been science and French. He is often commended by his teachers for his strong work ethic and curious intellect. Martinho seeks out teachers every day after class for extra lessons and other students frequently ask Martinho for help, especially in math and science.

Outside of the classroom, Martinho has been an active member of the school's football and cross-country teams. For the coming school year, Martinho has been elected dorm captain and will be responsible for keeping order and cleanliness in the junior boys' dormitory. He shared recently that his goal as dorm captain will be to treat every student equally.

During his first year at a new school, Martinho has benefited from the guidance of older KF students and staff, particularly Penius Mumba [current Grade 11] and Libby [our Princeton-in-Africa Fellow]. Libby and Penius helped Martinho to improve his academic marks each term, leading to his triumph as top position in the latest term.

Martinho is interested in wildlife conservation and wants to be a veterinarian. Recently, Martinho was invited by his mentor, who works as a vet, to assist at the clinic, where Martinho assisted in the care of several sick and injured animals. The experience confirmed his career interests and Martinho envisions animal care as a way to help his community.

Martinho has expressed tremendous gratitude for his opportunity through KF, stating in a recent letter, "KF has changed me to a new person who not only dreams but believes he can achieve the dreams."



INTRODUCING



Rosa Dabulu

Grade 8, Leopards Hill Secondary School

Rosa is an only child and lives in a two-room home with her mother, aunt, uncle and two cousins. Her father died when she was 1 year old. Rosa's mother is the primary caregiver and supports Rosa by working as a teacher at a private Catholic school in Lusaka.

Rosa attended Simon Mwansa Kapwepwe Basic School for Grades 1 through 7. She excelled in basic school, consistently earning the top academic position in her class. Rosa did note in her interview that she was bullied by other students in basic school because of her small physical stature. However, thanks to supportive friends and teachers, Rosa learned to stand up for herself and did not let the bullies get to her. Outside of class, Rosa loves to dance (and even gave the KF staff members a brief performance during her interview!). She belongs to a dance group at church which is very important to her. Rosa also loves to read.

She aspires to be an accountant and strives to help her community. Rosa dreams of building an orphanage in her community someday with money she would earn as an accountant. Recently, Rosa worked with many other community members to fix a leaking water pump.

Rosa started Leopards Hill Secondary School in January 2010 and our program has high expectations for continued success and achievement!

Mentor Luncheon 2009
Students connect with Mentors

In December, KF hosted an afternoon meeting for all KF students and their mentors. Following a delicious meal shared together, there were many different activities that took place. First, the students demonstrated their gratitude to KF and to their mentors through group performances. They performed wonderful songs, dances and poems. Several individual students prepared speeches and spoke about how the KF program has impacted their lives and families.

Libby, our Princeton-in-Africa Fellow, followed the students and gave a detailed presentation about mentoring which helped to generate new ideas and taught important lessons about mentoring activities.



Students performing for their mentors

The day ended with many different games and an introduction to baseball! The afternoon was an outstanding way to further connect the KF students with their mentors and develop these important relationships.

World AIDS Day 2009
KF students celebrate World AIDS Day

On December 1, World AIDS Day worldwide, all KF students attended a program called "Dance for Life" which was hosted by Student Partnership Worldwide, a non-profit, international organization using a peer education



KF boys enjoying performances at World AIDS Day

model for HIV/AIDS education work in Zambian schools.

The KF students enjoyed dance and musical performances and heard personal accounts of life with HIV from several young speakers. The day ended with a showing of "Sugah", a movie produced by MTV chronicling a group of Kenyan students who are confronted with the temptations of drugs, alcohol and sex. The effects of these activities on the lives of the Kenyan students told a powerful, moving and emotional tale.

The day was an enormous success for the KF students who enjoyed wonderful entertainment while learning important lessons about this deadly disease.

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

2010 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**

**To donate online:
www.kucetekelafoundation.org/donate.html**

**Make checks payable to
 Kucetekela Foundation**

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

Thanks for your support!

**WANT TO GET INVOLVED AS
 A VOLUNTEER?**

**Please contact:
 oliver_barry@
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