

Mentor and Sponsor Newsletter

Kucetekela Foundation

Term II, August 2014



Letter from a KF Scholar

Dear Readers,

I warmly welcome you to the Kucetekela Foundation newsletter. Before going any further, I would like to extend my word of thanks to everyone who has helped in making this newsletter a success. This newsletter covers a diverse range of topics and successful events that have taken place at both Chalo Trust School and Pestalozzi Education Center. Such experiences like careers day, sports day, and Chalo's talent show have proven to be positive influences on the KF students during Term II.

I hope you will find the admirable experiences shared by the students as exciting, and that you will enjoy reading our newsletter.

-- Tony Chisenga, Grade 11 PEC





Term II Events:

What the KF Scholars have been up to Term II

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CAREERS DAY AT PESTALOZZI

By JACKSON KAKWENYA, Grade 9 PEC

Pestalozzi had people working in different areas and fields come and talk to the students about their jobs and career paths. It was held during Term II, on the 13th June 2014. This was one of the most amazing events! All the students had a lot of fun, especially when it came to people performing dances, raps, and poems. Luckily, I was one of the few made to dance.

A person from Forum for African Women Educational in Zambia (FAWEZA) spoke about FAWEZA's role in the nation. He said FAWEZA is an NGO that is mainly focused on providing girls with an education. In addition, we also heard from a lawyer, an accountant, a computer engineer and a teacher at Pestalozzi. The lawyer mainly talked about the qualities of a lawyer and how long it takes to become one. She reminded us that not only men qualify to be lawyers but women also. She also said that law studying requires hard work and patience. The computer engineer talked about what his job requires and about computers. The Pestalozzi teacher who spoke happened to be my favorite teacher at PEC, and said he started teaching at the age of 17. He also said that he initially wanted to work as a ZAF officer, however found his path as a teacher. Lucky for me, as he is one of the best teachers I've had for History and Civics. Lastly, we had a presentation from Namusali and his performing group.



All the KF students were in attendance, except for one who was sick. This was one of my most interesting days at school.

Chalo Talent Show

By Cecilia Banda, *Grade 8 Chalo Trust*



Cecilia performing

Although the talent show was on the 28th of June, we started preparing on Monday the 23rd. We spent a lot of time practicing and perfecting our talents. Mrs. Chileshe and the teachers were there to judge our performances.

Because I was going to sing, I had to keep away from certain foods like sweets. I was advised to drink lemon juice so that my voice would be perfect on that special day. I practiced everyday that whole week, until Friday. Friday was busy with both practicing and preparing the Hall for the show.

I really enjoyed that day, as many different talents were showcased one after the other. My turn came and I walked up to the stage. I was very nervous about singing alone. I felt my legs shaking as I started to sing my song. I believe people enjoyed the song because before long, I saw the audience nodding to the melody. After seeing the audience's positive reaction, I finally found the courage to walk around the stage. The day of the Chalo Talent Show was by far my favorite day in Term II.

By Mercy Mulenga, *Grade 8 Chalo Trust*

On the 28th June we had a talent show here at Chalo Trust School. We started practicing on the 23rd June. Mrs. Chileshe and some of the teachers were the judges of the performances. Not all students participated, but many were eager to showcase their talents.

Mrs. Chileshe wanted us to do our best on the final day. Even though I love to sing, I don't know how to do it well. So, I'd consider dancing and sports to be my talents.

On the final day, visiting weekend, the parents came to see our performance. I participated in a dance with Faith, Ruth, and others. We danced to a rumba song and it was amazing.

Many groups performed very well, but the Grade 12s did the one I liked the best. They impersonated many of the teachers and the heads of Chalo, which was very funny and interesting!



Students gather after the talent show performances

Sports Competition

By **Lydia Njobvu**, *Grade 9 Chalo Trust*

After qualifying for nationals for the 400-metre race under 16 years at the Olympic Youth Development Center in Lusaka, the ISAZ came up with a list of people to represent Lusaka district in the Ndola competition. When I heard the news that I was selected, I had mixed feelings. On one hand, I was excited to travel to the Copperbelt again after a very long time. On the other hand, I was scared for the fierce competition I was sure to meet at the races.

We started off on the 28th of June at around 14:30 hours and I was thrilled. Finally, we arrived in Ndola at around 20:40 hours. We all went for supper at Simber International School, where we also spent our night. I became nervous when I saw the people who were also running in my race, since they looked like big and strong competition.

When the day finally came, we woke up very early to prepare for the event. Since we were staying a bit far from where the competition was being held, we left for the Levy Mwanawasa Stadium around 9:30 hours. The event started around 10:00 hours. There were a lot of schools present at the stadium. I was motivated for my first race because a boy from my school had just received second place in the under 14 group, which meant Chalo Trust had started on a good note.

When it was time for my race, I started shivering and comparing myself to the taller and stronger-looking competitors also in the race, which drained me even more! I planned to start the race very fast, in order to create a big enough gap between us so when I became tired they would still not be able to catch up with me.

Immediately as I heard the starting gun, I ran as fast as my legs could take me. Without looking behind me, I could tell I had made a large gap from the cheers of my classmates. I could not believe I was first until I reached the finishing line and was handed the card for position number 1!

When it was award-giving time, Chalo received about 10 medals. However, the Copperbelt won the competition overall. Still, I was very proud that another Kucetekela Foundation student, Faith, had also received a gold medal. Other KF students, Mercy and Vivian, had fun competing as well.



Lydia Njobvu won a gold medal



Congratulations to all the KF student participants in the 2014 ISAZ Ndola competition!

From left to right:

Faith, Mercy, and Vivian.

Yale Young African Scholars

By Armand Yambisa, *Grade 11 PEC*

The Young African Scholars Program is organized by Yale University, a prestigious tertiary education institution in the United States. It is aimed at preparing young leaders all over Africa who are currently in secondary education for college and university life. The program includes two seminars, one in Ethiopia and one in Ghana, at their respective country's university. Applying for the program is free, and if chosen, accommodation is provided for. The only thing the student is responsible for is transport to the location.

Two KF students, Titani and myself, were selected to attend the conference in Accra, Ghana from August 11th to 15th. This summer program includes seminars in global issues such as global public health, waste management, electricity and energy, politics, and conflict and wars. Titani attended sessions on GMOs, informal waste management, and local bush meat. I attended international fishing, electricity and energy, and pastoralism development. Yale faculty came to lead the discussions on these issues.

This has been a blessing and miracle, as I never thought I would have the opportunity to fly at this age. Being selected to this competitive program has taught me that life is about proving yourself and being the best that you can be in everything you do. I encourage my fellow KF students and peers to continue to set high standards and strive for excellence. This includes being involved in co-curricular activities and community service, in addition to academics. We should focus on coming up with new projects and ideas on how to improve our communities.

For me, my experience as a climate change ambassador certainly helped me get to the point where I am now, and into this Yale program. It started in August 2013, when I was accepted to attend a five-day climate change conference to be certified as a UNICEF ambassador and help unite climate change in Zambia. After this program and as an ambassador, I felt I needed to share this knowledge and sensitize my peers on the important issue of climate change. The most challenging part to trying to apply my knowledge in this way was a lack of interest and support. However, I persisted, and sensitization and a tree planting initiative have been successful.

Being a climate change ambassador has exposed me to a lot of successful people and organizations in our society. At the World Environment Day, I met people from the Ministry of Lands and connected with the Forestry Department, Zambia Environmental Managing Agency, and the Wildlife and Conservation Society. Such exposure has taught me how to relate with and communicate with different people, which have helped boost my confidence and self-esteem. These are important skills for both work and life.

Lastly, I wanted to say thank you to the Kucetekela Foundation and Mr. Oliver Barry. I enjoyed preparing for the conference with the KF Staff and Titani. I can't believe I'm going on a plane!



Armand and Titani with Mrs. Nkowane at the airport before taking their first flight!

2nd Annual KF Alumni Reunion

On August 9th, Kucetekela Foundation held its second annual alumni reunion event. Almost every current KF student, from Pestalozzi and Chalo, as well as the students from the three past graduating classes were in attendance. This event was a great opportunity to have all the classes of KF scholars together to meet and learn from one another. Students spoke on a variety of topics and experiences, which included:

- Living and studying at Rochester University (USA)
- IT skills
- Studying at Copperbelt University
- EdUSA program
- How to 'sell yourself'
- Goal setting
- and skits performed by Pestalozzi and Chalo Trust!



Student Remarks on KF's Impact

By Ased Chipango, *Grade 8 PEC*

I believe that becoming a Kucetekela Foundation scholar has been a substantial monument in my life. The organization has been a great encouragement both for my family and me. For my parents, the weight of paying expensive secondary school fees has been lifted

I clearly remember one KF student saying that once we were awarded the scholarship, everything was going to change about us. At first I didn't understand this- in fact, I didn't believe him. But after being awarded the scholarship I was proved wrong. KF is not only an organization based on selflessness, but a family- a great family, at that. It is an amazing thing to be a part of. I have learned a lot about living with different people from different backgrounds and developed the selfless love for others.

KF is made up of many activities. One thing that I have enjoyed is the novel reading policy. Reading books for fun has lead to improvements grammatically and socially. The organization has also oriented me to a more reality-based society. Knowing me the organization has really made my life worth living by virtue of giving my family a reason to smile.

The Kucetekela Foundation staff are very successful people. As a student, I am motivated by their achievements. I also admire KF students who came before me, like Titani, Armand, and Martin. Knowing what they've experienced is an inspiration to also move on a path forward through KF.



Ased at the KF Reunion

By Faith Mulenga, *Grade 8 PEC*



First of all, I would like to thank Kucetekela Foundation for what they have done for me. It is because of KF that I'm learning lot of things. I learned a lot about KF at the mentor's luncheon during Term I. I met a lot of people and I had my mentor beside me. I was very happy to find out that she is an Adventist and she can also sing just like I do.

I have learned a lot from my mentor since then. I really love going out with my mentor, as she is humble, kind, caring and loving. She is like a mother to me. I hope she will be my mentor forever because she is the best mentor I have ever had. She encourages me to work hard and put God first in everything I do.

I also like to thank the former fellow, Gordon, for what he has taught me and done for me. He was loving, kind, humble and a gentleman. He understood me though I never used to talk so much. I am also glad that we have Olivia as our new fellow. So far I can see that she is friendly, kind and caring to everyone. I like her very much and hope to be good friends with her.

Student Remarks on KF's Impact

By Emmanuel Sakala, *Grade 8 PEC*



Emmanuel (right) starring as Oliver in Pestalozzi's performance of Oliver Twist

Since I came in the organization, my life has changed in many aspects, both academically and socially. Being on the scholarship is such a wonderful blessing. Kucetekela Foundation is such a wonderful family with wonderful brothers and sisters who make sure we have no academic problems by helping us in various subjects. We have a wonderful mother who cares about us.

The KF staff always makes sure we are attended to even if they are busy. KF helps us with providing textbooks, novels, and computers to do research.

When you are being sponsored by KF, everything about you changes. I have learned on how to live and get along with people from different backgrounds. Your academic abilities

are taken to the next level with KF's support and dedication to a quality education. KF instills a passion for community service, and teaches us how to give back to our communities through

teaching or sports. The mentoring program provides the students with someone who can teach you about life, and my experience has been spectacular because I've learned a lot.

I believe KF and similar organizations should continue with the spirit of helping vulnerable children because to me, KF is like my new family now. It has been a savior, because without their support, I could never have been able to continue with my education. Our mother, Mama Nkowane, should continue being good to us, our KF brothers and sisters should continue helping us, and the staff should continue with the same heart. May the almighty God bless you in everything you do. Thank you for everything.

Spotted! *KF Students giving back to their communities through service*



KF Gap Year (GY) Students

Current students write about the KF Graduates of 2013

GY STUDENT: EDSON TEMBO

By Barbara Kifokola,

Grade 12 Chalo Trust

Edson was born on the 19th January 1994. He is a very hard working, determined, and focused young man. When he was at Chalo Trust School he was a sports and boarding prefect—but could also be considered the ‘entertainment prefect.’

He was excellent in academics, and an expert in information communication technology (ICT). He was a chairperson of scripture union. Throughout secondary school, he was never in any disciplinary cases. When he completed, the school felt his absence. Chalo Trust will forever remembers this young man and wish him the best.

GY STUDENT: NGOSA BESA

By Margaret Ngoma, *Grade 12 Chalo Trust*

I first met her on the 11th June 2010 and since then, she has been part of my life. She was popular at school as she undoubtedly had the best female voice. When she is singing, the audience keeps silent as her melodies were performed. Ngosa not only made a name for herself by singing, but also by being the deputy head girl in her tenth grade and then afterwards, became a head girl.

I admire Ngosa because although she was very popular, she was modest. It was common to see her smiling and talking to everyone around the school. Many came to her with their problems for her mature advice.

At school, she was a star participant in debate, due to her excellent English and acquired confidence. Although many know her for this talent, most people don't know that she is a good poet as well. I happen to be one of the lucky people who have had the pleasure of hearing her poetry. She writes from her experiences such that it appears real, moving and sometimes even humorous.

She is a proud Christian and a worshiper. Much of her talks are about God. Ngosa is a blessing.

GY STUDENT: KATE M'HANGO

By Rebecca Ndhlovu, *Grade 9 PEC*

Kate was friendly and social to everyone. She didn't discriminate, and always treated everyone equally. Kate was a hard working student who relied on herself to get things done rather than being dependent on others. She was intelligent, studied hard, and never lost hope in herself. If someone started behaving poorly, Kate would give advice and try to help him or her. Whenever we had problems, she was the right person to go to, as she was always there for all of us. Kate was like a sister. When we had difficulties with schoolwork she was there to help.

When we had some misunderstanding, among ourselves, she would help solve the problem. We developed a bond of unity for each other. She wanted the best for everyone. She encouraged us to work extra hard in our schoolwork. She would tell us to never lose hope because hope is the last thing to lose. Kate inspired us to work hard at school, and to be friendly and honest. We miss her here at Chalo Trust but wish her the best in her future endeavors.

KF Gap Year (GY) Students

Current students write about the KF Graduates of 2013

GY STUDENT: JOSEPH CHONZA

By Jessy Njungu, *Grade 11 Chalo Trust*

Though I only stayed with Joseph for only two years, I really enjoyed the time I spent with him.

In school, Joseph was extremely active. In Grade 11, Term III, he was elected as vice head boy of the school. That same term, he became head of the junior boys hostel. Joseph showed a lot of great leadership qualities and because of that, he was chosen as a scripture union leader and as the vice chairperson for the Chalo Christian Fellowship (CCF).

For his extra-curricular activities he was involved in the JETS club. Joseph was a publicity manager of the community service club. He also did a lot of sport. During his two years at Chalo, he had acquired about three to four medals and a lot of certificates. He was one of the best football players the school has had. Aside from sport he did a lot of singing. He was in the school choir and must I say he, has an amazing voice.

Furthermore, Joseph was also a brilliant student in his class. His grades were above average. He helped his friends who were academically challenged and this made him favorable among his peers. Joseph was one person you could talk to easily because he was very social with everyone.

All in all, I wish Joseph Chonza a fruitful life in society, I pray that God will guide and protect

GY STUDENT: MAILESS PHIRI

By Vivian Lihonde, *Grade 12 Chalo Trust*

Mailess became part of the Kucetekela Foundation family in 2008. In my opinion, Mailess has been one of the most outstanding students in academics. She was always topping in class- including her final examination in her secondary school. She has made a great impact in the Kucetekela Foundation because of her academic excellence.

Mailess is a talkative person and fun to be around. She always tries to create a happy environment around other people. There is never a dull moment whenever you are around Mailess.

She was very helpful in academics. She does not like seeing someone fail. Whenever someone needs help, she was always there to help and encouragement. Though good in academics, she didn't really care for physical activities. Even though Mailess was lazy when it came to sports, she was still very good at netball when she played. When it came to stage performance, she loved music and could really sing. Mailess is a very good public speaker, and was involved in debate at school.

To summarize, Mailess is a very good motivator and has had a great impact in Kucetekela Foundation. I know she will do great things at the IB program in the United Kingdom.



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