



# Kucetekela Foundation Student Newsletter



Term II, 2015



Dear readers,



As the editor, I would like to warmly welcome you all to the Term II KF Student newsletter. The KF students use this platform every term to communicate the different experiences they have inside and outside school to our mentors and sponsors, but most of all to entertain the audience.

In this edition, you can expect to find well written stories intended to attract your attention, entertain, and at the end of it all educate you. We have put together a lot of interesting stories for your reading pleasure.

The Yale Young African Scholars program, Careers Day at Pestalozzi, a talent show at Chalo Trust and more experiences with KF are some of the eye-catching pieces of work in this newsletter, all put together by the marvelous works of the KF students. With a guaranteed satisfactory feed, thank you for choosing to read this newsletter.

Yours truly, Andrew M. Shumba, Grade 11 Pestalozzi

# Term II Events

What the KF Scholars have been up to Term II



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## My Journey from Diana Kaimba to Chalo

by Emmanuel Banda, Grade 8 Chalo



It has been more than half a year since I came to Chalo, but despite this short time, I can differentiate between my former school and Chalo. I went to at Daina Kaimba for the last three years of primary school. There were sixty-five students in my life, which made it difficult for me to talk to the teacher. We only had one teacher to teach us all the subjects, so I was unable to tell the teacher the difficulties I was facing in my subjects. When it came to taking tests, it was difficult to pass because we were too many to hear what the teacher was teaching, so we had to rely on our own knowledge to write the correct things on the tests.

When I came to Chalo, everything became different. It was totally different from my former school, starting with the way they teach, the school's environment, the clubs like Jets club and communication forum, and events like the talent shows. I think the clubs and events are very important, especially talent shows, because they help us exhibit our talents and also discover them because even though you group up and have a nice job, you also need something that you can do in your free time.

For all these things, I am very happy to have the chance to come to Chalo. When I went to visit my old school, they were astonished. They couldn't believe it was me. Even myself, I can see that I have changed a lot. I am one of the fastest pupils at Chalo. I never knew I could run, but I participate in the sporting activities at Chalo and came out number 3 in the 100 meters race last term. It is not just sports, but also in academics. When I came to Chalo the first time, they were giving awards for those who did great during their end of term test, so I was encouraged and started studying hard. From that time, I am always number one in my class. Lastly, I will just say thanks for KF for bringing me to Chalo. I am really grateful.

## Chalo Talent Show

By Cararise Lubamba, Grade 9 Chalo



Everyone was waiting for the day of the talent show. I myself was very excited because I had practicing and practicing my acts for this day. I had told my friend that I was going to sing and she agreed that we would sing together. On Friday, the night before the long-awaited day, everyone went to bed late because we were all busy preparing for the day.

Finally it was Saturday. To lead off the talent show, I sang the national anthem in front of the school. After that, the whole school sang the Chalo Anthem and everyone danced to their best. After the anthem, a dancing group performed on stage, and everyone was amused by their dance. Then it was time for the Scripture Union dance. For this dance, we were all dressed in white. It was awesome because we looked like angels. Then Joshua and Malumbon sang a touching and wonderful song by When they were singing, I was nervous because I was next.

When I was called, I was scared and sad because my sister did not come. I went on stage, but sang in a low tone. I closed my eyes and when I opened them, my sister walked in. I was very happy and I sang my best, which left the crowd excited and touched by our song, Jesus Take the Wheel.

Up next was a poem by Kellyson and Nawia. Then the rappers were called. I was still dressing and so I told the boys to go on stage. When I was done, I joined the boys on stage and rapped one verse of their song. It was all exciting and wonderful. After the rappers, the joyful voices sang. Then Fortress, a group that I formed this year with my Grade 9 girls performed a song called Shooting Star.

After all the acts were performed, it was now time for the surprise package, which was turned out to be a funny play called "Bad Influence" in which I played the role of a misbehaving girl. At the end of the play, everyone was happy even though it had been a long day. Then the talent show came to an end and indeed, it was a show with different talents.

## Careers Day at Pestalozzi

By Faith Mulenga, Grade 9 Pestalozzi



Careers Day at Pestalozzi, which was held on May 29<sup>th</sup>, was so interesting and educational. Everyone enjoyed this occasion because we had lots of entertainment from our fellow talented students at Pestalozzi. Some people gave dance performances, Others mimed, rapped and sang. We also had a meaningful poem recited by some KF students, Ased Chipangano, Emmanuel Sakala, Martin Milanzi and Jackson Kakwenya. Their poem was titled "One Leg in Water and Another One in Fire" and the moral behind their story was indecision.

People from different companies and work places also came in to give us a talk about their careers. Mr. Chungu spoke about agricultural farming. He owns a very big farm called Chico Estate Limited. He talked about the importance of agriculture and how interesting it is to become an agriculturalist. We also had an economist who mainly talked about how Zambia's economy can be improved. A police officer gave us a talk about intellectual property. He said it is better to be rich in the brain than the physical.

There was also a biomedical doctor who encouraged us not to give up on ourselves. She said she never thought she would become a doctor. Her career used to be a teacher but today she stands as a biomedical doctor. Things had not gone well for her in the beginning until she became what she is now because she never gave up.

Lastly, we also had an engineer who talked about engineering in general. He talked about different types of engineering and their importance. Everyone enjoyed this day and was happy about it. We all had to put on our career attires. I personally dressed up as a journalist going out into the field because I want to be a journalist. With the lessons I had on this day, I will never give up on myself until I become someone great in the future.



## Sports Day at Pestalozzi

By Martin Milanzi, Grade 10 Pestalozzi

Sports Day of Term 2 involved two other schools, Crested Crane Academy and Leopard's Hill School who came to Pestalozzi to play us in football, chess, volleyball, and basketball. In football, Pestalozzi played against Crested Crane as the opening game. I was not on the starting lineup, but I was put into the game in the last 5 minutes. The game ended 2-all. The following game was between Leopard's Hill and Crested Crane. Leopard's Hill dominated the game and won the match by 2 goals to nil. The last game was Pestalozzi versus Leopard's Hill. In this game, I was on the starting lineup and played midfield. I assisted 2 goals. In basketball, Pestalozzi was victorious in all the games and Ased, a KF scholar, was one of the goal scorers. In chess, Jackson and Nathan, two more KF scholars, played for our school. Everything was in God's grace and it went out smoothly.

The activities of Sports Day brought joy and we met different players in certain fields. I personally learned that my play in a game brings great results and teamwork in a game of football is the key ingredient.



## Community Service Club Term II Activities

By Mercy Mulenga, Grade 9 Chalo

I am involved in a lot of programs and activities at Chalo. One of my favorite is the community service club. I had done community service for KF at Lubuto library before during the term holidays, but I decided to join the club this year at school to do more. The community service club is held every Thursday afternoon for one hour. In June, before we went for our midterm break, someone made the suggestion that members of the club should try to raise and donate items like clothes and groceries to a certain orphanage called Jesus Cares, which is near Chalo anything. After midterm break, many people, even non-members of the club, donated items.

On Friday afternoon, we visited the orphanage as a club with our items. The orphanage director was very happy. She said that we were an answer from God because she was worried about how she would take care of the children. We had come exactly when she was at a point of need. Some of the children at the orphanage were picked from the streets. The orphanage tries to take the children to school and find people to adopt them. We socialized with them and got to know them.

For me as a KF student, participating in the community service club is one of the ways that I can give back to my community, and I was happy to have the opportunity this term.



## Jets Club Term II Activities

By Vincent Muyine, Grade 9 Chalo

Jets is one of the most interesting clubs that we have at Chalo Trust School. In Jets, my fellow club members and I are given the challenge of coming up with science projects. In addition to this, some Chalo Jets members participated in the Science Fair Quiz at Rhodes Park School during Term II.

Our school did very well although we were not told what position we scored. This quiz was only for senior secondary students with each doing biology, physics, and chemistry. Afterwards, our students who participated shared their experience and said they had faced challenges because they had never competed in this kind of quiz before. On the bright side, they learned that competition helps you get to a dream.

The quiz has been one of the most interesting things that Jets has done. Having learned from the challenges our first team faced, we have been now divided into groups better prepare for another Science Fair Quiz. I am very assured that our group will come out the best even if we do not, we will still strive hard.

# KF Student Reflections

## My High School Experience

By Titani Sumaisi, Grade 12 Pestalozzi

High school has been a series of events for me. From the day I walked into class in tenth grade, I knew that a lot of things would change besides the subjects. In high school, you get to know yourself and you would be surprised how much you don't know about you. Hence it is safe to call it a 'journey of self discovery' My academic experience in high school cannot translate into a smooth gradient but has been quite a rollercoaster. When I began grade 10, I was a little relaxed because of the mentality that I am a brilliant student. However, my grades soon dropped, and I had to step up my game. I learned I had to study and study because good grades would not appear from nowhere.



### My KF Experience

by Terry Chishimba, Grade 8 Pestalozzi

Coming to Pestalozzi is the best thing that has ever happened to me. Since I came here, everybody treats me so nice, and the other KF students help me when I have problems in schoolwork. I have enjoyed being a KF student every second. I especially liked the mentors luncheon in May because I met the other KF students at Chalo. Every student was with her or her own mentor. Then I was introduced to my mentor, who was very kind to me. I also enjoyed the KF reunion and meeting the alumni who told us to work very hard and never give up. Being part of the KF family has been so nice.

My most ecstatic memory from high school was flying to Ghana for the Yale Young African Scholars program last year. I definitely had the best time of my life. In addition to that program, I have been involved in being a Climate Ambassador, work experience at Legal Aid and workshops. These experiences have been fruitful and made me a better person, so they will surely make good chapters of my success story.

One of the most valuable things I have learned in high school is the art of choosing the right friends or 'crowd'. Your friends define you and your friends are often the reasons why you think or act a certain way. In addition, I have learned that one should not make friends, parents or even goals the center of their life but we all ought to live by principles. For if principles are the center of your life, then we shall not be shaken and shall always remain steadfast. During my years I have used seven guidelines from a book called 'Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teenagers'.

Among the principles I borrowed: 1) beginning with an end

in mind, 2) being proactive 3) putting first things first 4) thinking win-win among others. I have decided to take these with me into the future and beyond. My high school experience, I feel has prepared me to step into the future with confidence, knowing full well I have what it takes to make it in life.

## My Mentor

by Nathan Musweu, Grade 12 Pestalozzi

Diane Weisz Young is my mentor. She has been very supportive and encouraging in as far as schoolwork is concerned. I am very proud and very grateful to have her as my mentor because she is an amazing person to be with. From the time I met her, I knew that she would be that source of inspiration in my life I needed most. There have been some moments when I felt like school was useless and almost gave up on my studies, but she encouraged me to study hard and wished me good luck in my subjects. Our relationship is more like that of a mother and a son. Since the time she became my mentor, my life has changed positively. For example, I didn't like reading novels, but she was good enough and made me start reading novels. Thus, appreciation is due to her for making me start to like novels. On weekends, we have gone out for movies and we sometimes to go watch basketball at the American International School of Lusaka. It is a great experience being with her.



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual KF Reunion

On August 3<sup>rd</sup>, Kucetekela Foundation held its third annual reunion. The event drew all but one of the 35 current KF scholars at Pestalozzi well as the majority of the now 30 KF alumni who have graduated during the past four years. The day-long gathering reunited all the classes of KF scholars from the “first-borns” originally recruited in 2006 to the “last-borns” selected last November. The students greatly enjoyed catching up, sharing their different experiences, and giving words of encouragement.



## KF Reunion 2015

By Margaret Ngoma, KF Alumna

The reunion this year was fantastic as ever! I had the opportunity to be part of the behind the scenes planning the event. It was exciting for me because after being part of the organizing, I was eager to see if the event would live to my expectations, which were a joyous, interactive and inspiring day.

The program kicked off with an acknowledgement of several absent students. I am proud to say that their absences were due to the fact that they were in school overseas or doing other valid things. We remembered people like Martinho in Costa Rica at EARTH University and Gaella in the US at the University of Rochester. Even if they were not around, our hearts were with them.

The program continued and we had spirit-lifting tales, which I will remember throughout the years. Through his story, Elijah took us on a journey of perseverance and courage. He spoke with conviction, of how he had entered the fierce and rather intimidating competition to start the journey to Arizona State University. He had given it his all and had not looked down on himself. Elijah is one person that I know who is full of humor and in his humorous telling of his story, he pointed out strongly that hope, courage and hard work bring out the best successes stories.



*Margaret speaking at the reunion on her Russian*

Kate gave us the pleasure of listening to a folk tale. For most of us Africans, this has been a way of learning for many years. Her story was about an eaglet in the midst of chickens. The eaglet knew it was different and that it could fly higher, but it remained camouflaged until it saw one of its kind up in the air. So the eaglet decided to fly. I came away with the lesson that when you are in the wrong company, you may find it difficult to reach your full potential. Pennious hit us with a poem in which he expressed with passion, his disgust for people's slavery to their phones. He talked of how it had brought him into contact with phony people who talked to him only because they were bored. It was an interesting piece that exposed his creativity as a poet. His love for poetry, psychology and Chinese make him a broad-minded thinker and a fun person to speak with.

A lot can be said about the presentation made by the all KF scholars, but for the sake of your time I will conclude now. The day had met my expectations and even exceeded them. All that transpired on the day of the reunion added value to our lives and I am grateful for all the presentations, both from alumni and current students.

## Hosting the KF Reunion

By Mailess Phiri, KF Alumna

The Kucetekela Foundation like any other family needs to meet and share stories with one another. I had not seen some KF students in 3 years and it was a marvelous feeling like seeing family after a while. It was amazing to see how far my KF class has gone from mentor luncheons in grade 8 and work experience in grade 10 to now us talking about universities. The KF family has also grown 30 students when I was in grade eight to now 60 students.

The program ran smoothly, starting with opening remarks from Mama Florence and an introduction from David, the new fellow. There were also speeches from most of the alumni and we played a few fun games while waiting for lunch. We also had entertainment from the Pestalozzi boys with a glorious poem and the Chalo girls with a magnificent song as well as a play from other students.

When we finished everything we took a group photo and said goodbye to Elijah who was leaving on Wednesday for America to start school at Arizona State University.



*Mailess speaking at the reunion on her experience at the UK Pestalozzi A Level program*

## Work Experience August 2015

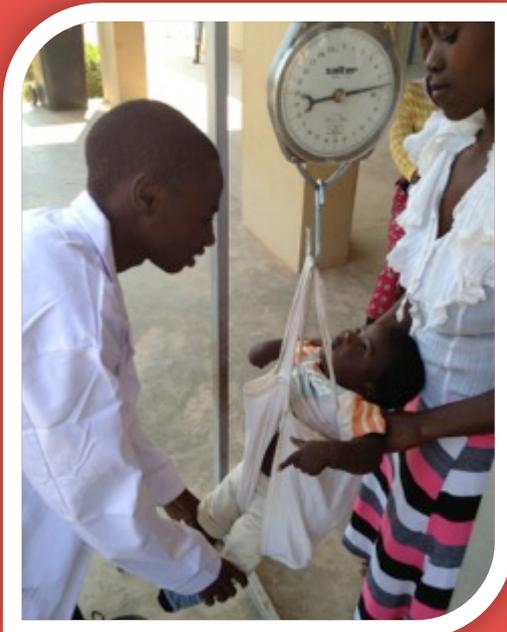
During the Term II holiday each year, Grade 10 KF students participate in the Work Experience program, which gives them an opportunity to shadow a person that works in their desired career field and carry out duties for the company or organization, all gaining exposure to what job in that field might be like. This year, six KF students worked at the Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia, Nkanza Laboratories, Beit Cure Hospital, Zulu Burrows, and Legal Aid Board. We would like to thank these partners for their time and willingness to take on our students. To learn more about the Work Experience Program, turn to the next page to read what our students wrote about their experiences.



*Rebecca Ndhlovu with Mrs. Mukwala,  
Technical Manager at Nkanza Laboratories*



*Simangele Magodi with Mrs. Mundia,  
Advocate at Legal Aid*



*Kellyson Siamunjo weighing a baby at CIDRZ*



*Martin Milanzi with Mr. Mukwata,  
Engineer at Zulu Burrows*

## Zulu Burrows

By Mutinta Mubita Grade 10  
Pestalozzi

This holiday, I have been interested in civil engineering because I've observed in Zambia, we have a poor road system in most places. This interest made the company where I did my work experience, Zulu Burrows Development Limited, an engineering and consulting company, a perfect fit for me. I got to see how one engineer, Mr. Chilongoshi, takes on projects dealing with road and bridge construction. In particular, I was privileged to visit the weigh bridge project in Chongwe along Great East Road. The bridge is being constructed so as to reduce the damage that trucks and bus make on the road.

Apart from the weigh bridge in Chongwe, I also learned some life skills from Mr. Chilongoshi and Mr. Banda. I learned that hardwork is what makes people who they are and not what one gets at grade 12.

My work experience made me realize that life is like a road, which always has a speed bump. And it is important to accept whatever comes your way. And what's important is doing what you do to your very best.



## Legal Aid

By Simangele Magodi, Grade 10  
Pestalozzi

I did my work experience at Legal Aid, a law firm in Zambia that appeals cases for citizens in Zambia that cannot afford to hire a lawyer. On the first day, my supervisor, Mrs. Mundia, took me around and introduced me to her working mates. After that, she gave me some work to type for her on her computer. On the second day, I sat in at a court of law at High Court where I observed how things work in a court and I learned how lawyers address judges.

On the third day, I went to the Zambia Central Police. with a lawyer who was going to get some information from some prisoners. When I came back from the prison, I had an opportunity to ask Mrs. Munida some questions about law. Finally, on the fourth and last day, I went with three lawyers to the Magistrate Court to hear the judgment of the person charged with rape. One of the lawyers I went with was the lawyer of the man accused., but he was found guilty and was sentenced to 20 years in prison.

During my work experience, I learned that a lawyer needs full evidence to win a case. I also learned that justice is important because offenders have to pay for the wrongs committed and change for the better.



*Future Lawyer Simangele*

## Beit Cure

By Nathan Mayembe,  
Grade 10 Pestalozzi

I did my work experience at Beit Cure Hospital. It has been a great experience in my life. To start, I went to Beit Cure Hospital on Monday morning and spoke with the Human Resource Manager who showed me the departments where doctors work and finally took me to the children's ward. The ward is divided into two the neuro section, which is for babies less than a year who suffer from various diseases like Hydrocephalus and tumors, and the ortho section, which for children and teens suffering from diseases like rickets or have injuries.

Most doctors are very busy. I observed what they were doing and took down some notes if necessary. Many nurses gave me words of encouragement, told me to be focused and determined. I was told I could end at 12:30, but I stayed and helped the nurses to admit and discharge patients, the assistant nurses to make beds, and the ward clerk to photocopy documents.

All in all, I enjoyed the experience. I felt like one of the doctors working there at the hospital. It made me realize if I really want to excel in life, I must be determined, goal-oriented, and focused. The people there also told me the necessary steps needed for me to achieve my goal and I shall remember until I finally succeed in life.

# Work Experience My Teacher

by Kellyson Siamunjo, Grade 10 Chalo



Being very excited to do work experience, I woke up early in the morning. After being dropped CIDRZ Kalikiliki Clinic in Ibex Hill, I literally had no idea of what to do, except experiencing how it feels like working at a health center.

Upon arrival, the doctor I was left with took me around to all departments, introducing me to other staff members. He then assigned me to deal with under five children. Here I weighed babies on a scale and plotted the data in their cards. It was a long queue of about 100 mothers and small children. From there, I started dealing with the reception patients. Here I took blood pressure, temperatures, heights, and head circumferences of patients who came to the clinic. I also went into their laboratory where I was taught how to do some blood tests like HIV and malaria. This was one of the best days of my work experience because I learned and experienced a lot. First, I learned how to do HIV and

malaria tests. I learned how to plot weights in under five children and how to interact with patients. Patients gave me a name, "Baby Doctor" and were excited to be attended by me.

On the second day, I worked at the same clinic, CIDRZ Kalikiliki Clinic. This was another interesting day because I got to learn things I did not know such as filing and enrollment of OPD patients. Most of the time on this day, I worked in the registry department where I entered patients' complaints and prescriptions given to them by the doctor. I also had a chance to go in the laboratory. Here I observed how HIV tests are done. There are two types of test, determine and unigold. Determine is done first, but if the person is found negative, unigold test is not done. However, I did not like working while seated for the whole day. I also had a lot of problems reading the doctor's handwriting. Despite having these challenges, I enjoyed helping to do HIV tests and interacting with patients.

The third day was another unique day due to the different experience I had. First, I understood the medical procedures for ART patients. On this day, I worked at Kanyama ART clinic, the biggest in the southern region of CIDRZ. This clinic deals mostly with patients who have HIV/AIDS. I witnessed how counseling of HIV patients is done, and how CD4 tests are done. The job I was introduced to was enrollment of ART patients. This means opening a file for a person who has discovered that they are HIV positive. This was not so easy as it needed some training. However, with time I got to learn how to do this job. I also took time asking registrar officers questions about HIV/AIDS. All in all, the day had been good.



*Dr. Kellyson preparing to measure a baby's head*

The fourth and last day of my work experience was a day when I needed to finalize everything I had been doing from the beginning to the end. On this day, I did not stay at one place, but moved from one clinic to the other. We delivered test kits for HIV at Ng'ombe and Mtendere clinics. Despite not doing much work, I had an opportunity of witness how medicine and clinical equipment were being delivered at clinics. It is for this reason that I even enjoyed this day also.

In conclusion, my work experience was great because it spurred my zeal to study medicine someday at university. It also gave me a desire of to start up my own medical center in the future. Not only did it do the above mentioned, it also made me understand medicine more than I used to. For these reasons, I am now certain of going into the field of medicine after my final exams.

## Yale Young African Scholars Program

In Term II, four KF students were selected out of hundreds of applications to participate in the Yale Young African Scholars program. The prestigious leadership program draws high school leaders from across the African continent to come together to recognize and understand global issues, strategize responses, and innovate solutions while learning from Yale faculty and African undergraduate and graduate students who attend Yale. The demanding academic content is designed to improve students' analytical thinking, intellectual flexibility, and written and oral communication skills. This August, Kellyson Siamunjo and Jackson Kakwenya attended the YYAS program in Kigali, Rwanda, while Lydia Njobvu and Rabbecca Ndhlovu attended the YYAS program in Harare, Zimbabwe. KF is immensely proud of these students for their hard work and intelligence that earned them this incredible opportunity. The students were greatly impacted by their experiences and would like to share their thoughts with you.

### The Unforgettable Experience

By Kellyson Siamunjo, Grade 10 Chalo

Amazing, great, and entertaining are all terms that can best describe the wonderful experience of being part and of this program, which took place in Rwanda. As for me, every aspect and element of the program was incredible and indeed unforgettable. If I was to write everything, I think I could finish a whole ream of paper.



*Jackson and Kellyson ready to fly!*

To begin with, the flight was so amazing seeing that it was my first time traveling by air. I enjoyed looking through the window and seeing the wonderful scene of clouds and the ground.

Upon arrival in Rwanda, we were well welcomed by the YYAS staff. We were driven to the venue of the program, Riviera High School where we were given files, t-shirts, and pens. This day was a special day to me because we were given more time to socialize among ourselves. We were also honored to have the presence of the Honorable Minister of the East Africa Community Rugwabiza who officially opened the program.

One of the most interesting aspects of the program was the lectures. This was like a class where professors from Yale taught about global matters such as poverty, politics, languages, etc and other issues like leadership and career. I enjoyed the lectures because they provided an opportunity to learn and understand these global issues. We had lectures twice a day and were given time at the end to ask the professors questions. My favorite lectures were Strength-based Leadership in which I learned how to discover and develop my talents and Political Transition and Democracy where I gained more knowledge of politics in Africa. After every lecture, we participated group discussions on the lectures. This was where vigorous debates would take place. I enjoyed the discussions because it was a chance for me to express myself fully. It was here where I met brilliant students who often challenged me whenever I gave my opinion. The

other interesting aspect was the seminars. The seminars I chose were Foreign Aid in Africa, Biofuels, and The War in the DRC. Here the instructors would go into each topic in detail. We dealt with things like the role of young people in the future development of Africa. These seminars were very educational and interesting. We dealt with causes and solutions to these problems.

Finally, my favorite part of the week: a group project called Afrotopia, an activity done by groups of ten students through stages. In the first stage, we were given pamphlets containing five articles that we studied. Each pamphlet was about a specific type of people. The second stage we got a group number where there were different people from different groups. Here, we discussed and came up with five types of people who would make a new African society if everyone in Africa died. In the last stage, we had to go and make presentations on the final day and give reasons why we chose the people we chose. This was not so easy, but so interesting.

*(Continued from page 11)*

Some of the things that spiced up the program were the food, people, and the venue. The food was so amazing and nice that I could not afford to miss a meal. People were friendly and funny. Meeting people from all over Africa was a great experience by its own. I made sure I made connection with my new friends. The place, Rwanda and Riviera High School, was fantastic. The accommodation was great and awesome. The staff members were very good that I will always keep in touch with them.

In conclusion, I would like to say that the Yale Young African Scholars program is the best program I have attended in my life so far. I believe and feel that such programs should be organized if we are to build a successful and better Africa tomorrow.

## My YYAS Experience

by Jackson Kakwenya, Grade 10 Pestalozzi



Like a farmer waiting for raindrops, I anxiously waited for the day when I would leave Zambia for the Yale Young African Scholars (YYAS) program in Kigali, Rwanda. As the day drew closer, we chose the seminars to attend. It was quite difficult to decide because all of them looked interesting. I finally chose three: Development

and Inequality in World Politics, Environmental Economics, and Energy and the Environment. With this done, I was certain that I was ready to go.

The day of departure to Rwanda came and Kellyson, another KF scholar and I boarded the plane. When we reached Rwanda, the first person I saw was Roy, one of the YYAS instructors, who later became my favorite staff member. He took us to the bus and introduced us to some other scholars as well as YYAS staff members. The environment changed when we reached the high school where the program was held. Everyone was different, speaking different languages, looking strange and different. All these people came from about 15 countries in Africa, and we were in total 50 scholars. Among the 50, only 2 were Zambians: Kellyson and I. At least I did not feel left out because I had Kellyson with me.

The days that followed were interesting. People opened up and talked to everyone. I also made some friends, which was great. We had our seminars, workshops, and lectures. I enjoyed my Environmental Economics and Energy and the Environment seminars. I really liked two of the lectures that taught us about strength-based goals and language policy in Africa. All my workshops put together changed me by shifting my thinking capacity from someone closed to someone open.

My best moment was the talent show. I had a chance to see other countries' cultures. I also had a chance to showcase my talent, which is acting. I collaborated with some friends who helped me perform my play.

The overall experience of the program can be described as excellent because the results they brought are excellent. They changed my secondary thinking to a university well of thinking.

## My YYAS Experience

by Rabbecca Ndhlovu, Grade 10



Attending the Yale Young African Scholar Program (YYAS), which was held in Harare, Zimbabwe, has been of the most interesting thing I have ever participated in. YYAS is a program founded by Yale University students that offers the opportunity to

young Africans from different countries to meet and share knowledge about their continent Africa. It also gives an opportunity for them to learn more about each other's country and its tourism, economy, culture, development, and population, which is very important. I made many friends who are from different countries. They are all nice, talented, and confident young Africans with very good personalities. They are young people who stand up for what they feel is right. They are very passionate about our mother Africa and really want to develop it.

During the program, we had seminars, lectures, group discussion and also workshop and project groups. We had different instructors and lecturers for each activity. I really enjoyed all the activities. The seminars were held in groups according to the topics each person had picked prior to the start of the program. Each one of us had three seminars led by an instructor. I had the following topics: biodiversity and tourism in Africa, water, water everywhere, and Africa and the United Nations. What I enjoyed learning during the seminar is how difficult it is to make a decision which is to the interest of all the groups affected.

My favorite lecture was by Rachel Nyaradzo Adams from South Africa. She spoke to us on strengths-based leadership, which was a very powerful and motivational lecture. I learned that if you can see something, you believe, and if you believe it, you can achieve it.

*(continued from page 12)*

My second favorite lecture was by Sandra Sanneh on Language in Africa: Opportunity and Challenges. She spoke about the trends in the way African languages are used, reasons why African native languages are losing their value, and how we as Africans can solve this problem.

YYAS is a wonderful program because it educates the young African generation, which is the future generation that will address issues that affect Africa and solve them. It mainly concentrates on the need to develop Africa and it can surely be developed if we Africans can remain united and focus on it.



*Rabecaa and Lydia awaiting their flight to Harare*

This fascinating program would not have been complete without all the lectures we had every single morning. The lectures were all about different matters including political issues, poverty, education, technology, population, health and more, most of them concerning Africa as a whole. It was during these lectures when I received the lecture of my life by Rachel Adams, a Zimbabwean woman who has achieved great dreams in her life and also studied at Yale University. This woman studied social sciences and she gave us various examples of people who did not study science, yet came out extremely successful. Her lecture was so deep and touched my heart, so I decided to take that great opportunity to have dinner with her. During that amazing dinner, she continued inspiring us and teaching us about life, personalities, dreams, weakness, and strengths. One thing that she taught me was that you can never achieve anything if you don't know who you really are. It is therefore very important that you know yourself or you will live other people's lives. This helped me broaden my insight, and I sat down after the lecture and started scrutinizing myself deep within and almost changing my career.

I also met funny, crazy people from all around Africa and made bonds. We also had the Yale Mixer night where we got to talk to different people from both Yale University and other universities like Harvard. They shared with us how they got into those great universities and I for one was inspired to apply to one of them.

Other important things that we learned were; how to apply to colleges and universities, essay writing, choosing schools/colleges, taking part in extracurricular activities, and the SAT. I met really intelligent young people and we worked together to build one another. I would be really glad if more people could get to know about this amazing program and take part because it really built my inner strength. I can say I am not the same because most of the activities we did involved critical thinking, so I got to also build my intellect.

## I Got to Know Myself Better

by Lydia Njobvu, Grade 10 Chalo



I would first of all like to thank KF for giving me this vast and rare opportunity to attend the Yale Young African Scholars (YYAS) 2015 program. When I heard about the program, I thought it was all about having fun, but I was proven wrong because it was way better than what I anticipated.

We started off on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015. I was excited as this was my first time on a plane. When we reached Zimbabwe, we were warmly welcomed. We found everyone else in the hall playing games, and we quickly joined the fun. We introduced ourselves and we easily fit in because despite everyone coming from different countries, they were all friendly and it was just like we had been together for some time.

By the next day, we had completely settled in and we started enjoying every bit of the program. We got to interact with different individuals from different backgrounds. I had three seminars: Women in Science, Why Do We Sleep, and the Refugee Crisis in Our Globalized World. The one that I enjoyed the most was "Why Do We Sleep?" I really got to understand the scientific views as to why we sleep and the different processes involved in sleeping.

# Shots from the Term



KF Alumni Margaret Ngoma, Grace Jere, and Kate Mhango with the Director of the Russian Center and Mrs. Nkowane upon graduating from their Russian classes



Kate Mhango receiving a special award from the Director for her outstanding results in her Russian classes



Kellyson reciting a poem



KF students with Mr. Mulenga, Superintendent of Public Health at City Council, who led a tour of operations at the Lusaka landfill



Faith Sakala acting in a sketch



Lydia and Jessy Njungu singing at the talent show



Mr. Mulenga teaching the KF students



Emmanuel Sakala and Ased Chipangano after the Barefeet musical performance

## KF Alumni Take Flight!

August was a bittersweet month for KF as eight alumni boarded planes to fly abroad and begin tertiary programs. We salute these courageous students who are leaving the nest and aspiring to a greater future. May you continue to fly the flag of KF with pride, determination, and success.



Rosa Dabulu is now studying at Phuket Interational Academy, an IB program in Thailand.



Elijah Biemba telling his story of never giving up at the reunion. Elijah is now beginning his first year at Arizona State University in the US through a MasterCard scholarship.



Dalton Munkombwe is starting at Rochester University in New York where he joins KF alumni Gaella Kabeya and Jeffrey Kanyama.



Justine Mushitu and Bwalya Kasanda leaving to begin their studies at the University of British Columbia through a MasterCard scholarship.



Joseph Chonza will join fellow KF alum Martinho Tembo at EARTH university in Costa Rica.



Mailless Phiri returned for her second year at UK Pestalozzi, an A levels program.



Jeffrey Kanyama returned to Rochester University for his third year.

Founded in 2006, the Kucetekela Foundation (KF) is a non-profit organization that provides scholarships to Zambian boys and girls who are academically promising, but financially disadvantaged to attend excellent secondary schools. This holistic scholarship, combined with KF's mentorship, work experience, and community service programs equip KF scholars with the skills to be leaders in their schools and communities and contribute positively towards Zambia's future.

## Our Team

Oliver Barry  
Co-Founder and President

Florence Nkowane Lutale  
Co-Founder and Executive Director

Simasiku Mukena  
Co-Founder and Finance  
and Programs Manager

David Lunde  
Programs Coordinator

Office Location  
Pestalozzi Education Centre  
Sub A of Sub 1 of Farm 378  
Ibex Hill Off Twin Palm Road  
Lusaka, Zambia

Mailing  
PostNet Box 214  
P/Bag E891  
Manda Hill Centre  
Lusaka, Zambia

Stay up to date with KF! Follow our blog "*Beyond a Quality Education*" to hear from our students and alumni at [www.kfstudentstories.blogspot.com](http://www.kfstudentstories.blogspot.com)



If you were encouraged by our KF students and would like to contribute towards their education, please contact Mrs. Florence Nkowane at +260 971594959 or [kucetekelafoundationzambia@gmail.com](mailto:kucetekelafoundationzambia@gmail.com) to make a donation to KF.

**“Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world”**

—Nelson Mandela