KUCETEKELA FOUNDATION



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UPDATE FROM THE KF FOUNDERS

End of school year success!

Dear Friends,

We hope this update finds you well. In December, the 2008 academic year concluded amidst many KF student awards, and activities to welcome a new group of KF scholars for 2009.

Our students in Grade 8 and Grade 9 finished the 2008 academic year with a flourish, which our program has come to expect. The KF scholars were decorated with many different awards, fully published in the following pages. The KF students have achieved success both in the classroom and on the playing fields, in the dormitories, and in their

relationships with teachers, mentors, family, and friends.

Our students in Grade 9 took the Zambian national examination for all Grade 9 students in November. The scores on this standardized, national exam, will be a strong indicator of the academic achievement of our scholars. We eagerly await these results, which will be discussed in the next newsletter issue.

In November, KF selected 6 new students (3 girls, 3 boys) to receive scholarships beginning in January 2009. This new group brings the total number of students supported by KF to 26. The selection process in 2008 was the largest and most competi-

KF students at Leopards Hill School

KF student with academic award

tive in our program's history. The quality of the applicants was overwhelming and the final decisions were difficult. We have high expectations for this selected group of scholars and hope they find exciting challenges and support at their new secondary schools.

Also in November, KF received a grant from the International Women's Committee of Lusaka, an organization that selects non-profit projects in Zambia to which they distribute grants. We are honored by the grant and hope to further develop our program's financial support from within Zambia.

Finally, we would like to thank all the sponsors who have continued their financial support of the KF students for the 2009 academic year. Your continued support is critical to our program's mission, vision and success.

We wish you a happy and healthy 2009.

Yours gratefully, Florence, Simasiku & Oliver

2008 ACADEMIC AWARDS

Congratulations to all the KF students!

At the end of the 2008 academic year, the following KF students earned awards:

<u>Name</u> Elijah Biemba Kayawe	<u>School</u> Chalo Trust	<u>Grade</u> 8	Award 100% in Information Technology
Justin Mushitu	Chalo Trust	8	95% in History
Edna Phiri	lbex Hill	8	Best Overall Student in Grade 8A
Mary Lubona Shisoleka	lbex Hill	8	Athletic Award (Track & Field)
Iwell Banda	lbex Hill	9	Best Overall Student in Grade 9A
Dennis Kayebeta	lbex Hill	9	Most Improved Student in Grade 9
Penius Mumba	lbex Hill	9	Best Overall Student in Grade 9B
Bwalya Kasanda	Leopards Hill	8	Best Overall Student in Grade 8 Ist Position in English, Math, Science, French 2nd Position in Civics, Geography, History, Information Technology, Office Practice
Edna Lungu	Leopards Hill	8	Ist Position in Geography, Religious Education, Information Technology, Office Practice, Civics 2nd Position in Math, Science
Abram Chima	Leopards Hill	9	Ist Position in Science, Religious Education, Physical Education, English, History, Math 2nd Position in Geography
Gaella Kabeya	Leopards Hill	9	Ist Position in Geography, Office Practice, Information Technology, French, Civics 2nd Position in Math, History, Information Technology
Jeffrey Kanyama	Leopards Hill	9	2nd Position in Math, History, Information Technology
Japhet Phiri	Leopards Hill	9	2nd Position in Civics

<u>Chalo Trust School:</u> Awards students with a 95% and 100% average in individual courses only <u>Ibex Hill School:</u> Awards students for 1st position and Most Improved Student only <u>Leopards Hill School:</u> Awards students for 1st & 2nd position in individual courses, as well as various general academic and character awards

2009 student selection process

Student selection process largest, most competitive yet

In August, the selection process began for the 2009 KF scholarships. We received the largest number of applications in our program's history - a total of **105 applications** from **7 different primary schools**. Below are the names and new schools of the selected students. Congratulations to the selected students and thank you to all applicants!

<u>Name</u> Ngosa Besa	<u>Primary School</u> Northmead Basic School	<u>Secondary School</u> Chalo Trust School
Joseph Chonza	Mumana Basic School	Leopards Hill School
Kate Mhango	Mumana Basic School	Ibex Hill School
Mailess Phiri	Ngwelele Basic School	Leopards Hill School
Edson Tembo	Ngwelele Basic School	Chalo Trust School
Martinho Tembo	Chibelo Basic School	Ibex Hill School

STUDENT UPDATES

Update:

Edna Phiri

Grade 9, Ibex Hill Secondary School

Edna completed Grade 8 in December, and is currently a student in Grade 9, her second year at Ibex Hill Secondary School. She lives with her aunt and uncle who are her guardians. When she applied to KF, her primary school teachers felt that behind her shy and reserved personality was great academic potential.

Edna is learning new things now that she is at Ibex Hill - soccer, basketball, and public speaking in the debate club - all of which are boosting her confidence. In the classroom, Mathematics, science and French are her favorite subjects, and she has earned top positions in those classes.



Edna Phiri

Edna hopes to become a journalist. She wants to tell the world what is happening in her community and her country.

"I am so happy to be a member of the Kuce-tekela Foundation because most of my friends don't manage to get into good schools...I have learned how to mix with others and learn from them...Being a KF member has enabled me to develop self-discipline

and has helped me become a more responsible person because of its principles."

Meet:

Edson Tembo

Grade 8, Chalo Trust School

Edson is new to the KF program in 2009, and we are proud to introduce him to you.

Edson has faced many challenges in his life – losing his mother at an early age, then, feeling mistreated by his father's new wife, he moved in with his aunt, who is burdened with caring for five other children in a home without electricity. Edson can often be found studying by candlelight at night



Edson Tembo outside his primary school

in his home. These challenges did not prevent Edson from aspiring to hold first academic position in his class at his primary school, Ngwelele Basic School. In early January, Edson began his secondary school at Chalo Trust School after being awarded a scholarship from the Kucetekela Foundation.

In his application, Edson's teachers called him the most outstanding pupil in his class. Throughout the selection process, Edson proved himself as an excellent candidate for a scholarship and the Kucetekela Foundation is proud to help him attain his goal to help others.

"The greatest challenge I have ever faced was when my mother died in 2004. It was difficult because I was very sad for my youngest brother who was only four years old...time has healed my brothers and me."

New Zambian grantor!

2009 Grant from International Women's Committee in Lusaka

In November 2008, Kucetekela Foundation received a grant for the 2009 academic year in the amount of **ZMK 5 million!** (approximately \$1,500) from the International Women's Committee of Lusaka (IWC).

The IWC is a non-profit, grant-making organization. Each year, the IWC raises money through various fundraising events. At the end of the year, the IWC identifies and selects non-profit organizations operating in Zambia to which they award grants of varying amounts. In 2008, the



Florence receiving the grant from the IWC

IWC selected 24 charities, one of which being KF.

We are enormously grateful for the support of the IWC, and strive to garner further financial support from within Zambia in 2009 and beyond. It is particularly meaningful for our program to receive support from other Zambian organizations as a validation and encouragement of our efforts.



International Women's Committee of Lusaka

KF support needed

KF students need your help

KF is looking for sponsors!

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



KF student and his mentors

We welcome and encourage donations of any amount, and all donations will make a difference in the lives of our KF scholars.

Kucetekela Foundation is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible.

GET INVOLVED

Please consider making a donation or getting involved as a volunteer

2009 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

<u>To donate online:</u> 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@ kucetekelafoundation.org