



**EDUCATION
AFRICA**
Incorporated Association not for gain

Education Africa GLOBAL NEWS

DECEMBER 2010

Education Africa would like to wish all our donors, friends and supporters a happy festive season.

Our offices will be closed from 15 Dec until 3 January 2011

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Oh what a night!

US Gala Dinner a resounding success

The 2010 Education Africa Gala Awards Dinner was held at the Loeb Boat House in Central Park, New York on 21 October this year, and it was truly a night to remember. The venue was spectacular, the food excellent and we were thrilled to meet many new friends in New York who came out to show their support for Education Africa. "This is the first Gala Event we have had in New York," says James Urdang, Executive Director, "and I can confirm that plans are already underway for the 2011 event."

The highlight of the Awards Dinner was the presentation of our Awards which this year went to:

- The Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, who needs no further introduction, received the Education Africa Lifetime Achievement Award for Africa in recognition of all he has done to alert the world to some of the problems that face some of the poorest Afri-



We were honoured to have music sensation Gloria Gaynor perform her hit song "I will survive" with the backing of the Thakozza Marimba Band.

can nations.

- The Education Africa Allegiance Award was presented to Matthew Bosrock, who resides in Canada. Matthew has been a supporter of Education Africa for many years in his capacity as a Trustee, Global Ambassador and all-round friend and advisor who has opened many doors for us – enabling us to grow our delivery and sustainability. Since relocating to Canada, he has been instrumental in helping us to get registered in that part of the world. We

are enormously grateful to Matthew, whose contribution to the success of Education Africa is beyond question.

For the first time ever we presented the Education Africa Humanitarian Award, which was awarded to Herb and Joy Kaiser. This Award recognises outstanding commitment and unwavering support for humanitarian work and efforts in Africa, and gives recognition to unsung heroes who often go unnoticed. Herb and Joy Kaiser were honoured for establishing▶



Gloria Gaynor assisted Geraldine Nager of Sotheby's at the auction of her hand painted Venetian Mask

Awards Dinner cont.

◀ Medical Education for South African Blacks in 1984 which provided financial aid and guidance to 10 000 doctors, dentists, nurses and other health professionals over a period of 23 years.

Once again, we would like to congratulate all three Award winners for their unbelievable work and commitment. You are true heroes.

On a lighter note, we were enormously privileged to have Gloria Gaynor, international music sensation per-

form her hit single *I Will Survive* at the Awards Dinner. What made it even more special was the fact that she was accompanied by the Thokoza School Marimba Band who saw to it that even a number 1 hit which is listed in the International Dance Hall of Fame can be spiced up by the beat of African Marimbas.

The Thokoza School Marimba Band, which comes from a township near Alberton in Gauteng, stole the hearts of their American audience and were very well received in New York. Their trip was part of an Education Africa International Arts & Culture Tour and besides performing at the Gala Awards Dinner, we were also able to take them on some educational outings and make sure they had time off to have some fun and see the beautiful sights of New York City. Our sincere thanks must go to the South African Consulate General in New York who assisted us with tour arrangements for the

children.

One of the objectives of the Dinner was also to raise some funds for Education Africa, which was done through a Charity auction run by Geraldine Nager of Sotheby's. We auctioned off "The Vienna Experience" – an incredible holiday package to the beautiful City of Vienna - as well as a number of hand-painted Venetian masks which form part of our "Make a Face / Transform a Life" campaign. These masks were painted by celebrities including Gloria Gaynor, Sting, Gary Player, Paris Hilton, Retief Goosen, Edwina Sandys, Lauren Hutton, Freddie McGregor, Jason Newsted and Jonathan Green, amongst others.

Finally we would like to acknowledge all who worked tirelessly to make the event such a success, particularly our committee of volunteers in New York which included many of our Education Africa Inc Trustees and Sir Bob Geldof, who acted as Honorary Chair of this year's event and who has agreed to do the same next year. "We are enormously grateful to Sir Bob Geldof's ongoing commitment to Education Africa," says Executive Director James Urdang, "and we look forward to working with him again next year." ●



Matthew Bosrock (2nd right) received the Education Africa Allegiance Award.



The Education Africa Humanitarian Award was presented to Herb and Joy Kaiser. Looking on are Dan Fisher, President of Education Africa Inc, James Urdang, Dr Saul Levin and Michelle Miller.

The SAMUN Cape Town International Conference

attracts entries from UK and Kenya

Our SAMUN Cape Town International Conference which took place from 6 – 10 October attracted entries from the City of London School, St Georges School and the Aga Khan Academy in Kenya as well as the Nairobi Academy. They were joined by the winning teams from each of the nine South African provinces, and despite adverse weather conditions which resulted in us having to evacuate delegates off Robben Island, the conference was intense and hotly contested.

There were three components to the Conference:

1. Teams had to participate in two Model United Nations General Assembly debates representing their allocated country. The topics of the two debates were: *Funding of HIV Drug Therapy in the Developing World* and *Economic Sanctions versus Free Trade*.

2. Individual interviews with each participant. This section of the Conference was restricted to South African delegates and assisted the judges in selecting a team to represent South Africa at an International Conference in the US next year.

3. Delegates were taken to Robben Island where they were scheduled to spend the night and experience life as a prisoner in the company of some former inmates. This was to be followed by our prize-giving luncheon. However, due to gale force winds and unusually dangerous weather conditions, we were forced to evacuate delegates early and had to continue with proceedings on the mainland. Although this was somewhat disappointing, there was certainly no shortage of excitement! The Education Africa team came through with flying colours as, in a matter of hours,



There was much excitement when it was announced that the above learners were selected to represent South Africa at an International SAMUN Conference in the US next year

they successfully and professionally moved the prize-giving function off the Island to a new venue with no glitches.

Linda Gould, Operations Director commented that “The level of debating was once again excellent, and it was particularly pleasing to see the level of camaraderie that prevailed throughout the Conference”. In the end though, there could only be one winner and the overall prize went to the debating team representing the province of Mpumalanga. there was huge excitement as it was announced that all four would be travelling to the US next year to participate in the International Debate in New York. They will be joined by one learner from each of the remaining eight provinces. The following learners were selected to represent South Africa at this event:

Mpumalanga: Nomathemba Dladla and Stuart Aston (St Thomas Aquinas School); Ayanda Koza and Miriam Nkosi (Pine Ridge High School). Eastern Cape: Patrick Hannan (Hudson Park High School). Free State: Tshepang Afrika (St Joseph’s CBC). Gauteng: Ms Shaakirah Madhi (Parktown

High School for Girls). KwaZulu Natal: Anele Nzimande (Ridge Park College). Limpopo: Ms Shruthi Thomas (Capricorn High School). Northern Cape: Ms Samantha Bekebeke (Northern Cape High). North West: Ms Bontumelo Likhetho (Potchefstroom Secondary). Western Cape: Ms Rachel Bolton (Rhenish Girls’ High School).

Other results of the conference are as follows:

Best Speakers Award:

1st place Gold: Anele Nzimande (Ridge Park College – KZN) and Rachel Bolton (Rhenish Girls’ High School – WC). 2nd place Silver: Ed Stroud (City of London – UK). 3rd place Bronze: Ted Elgar (City of London – UK) Honourable Mention certificates were also presented to Rishad Kabar (Aga Khan Academy – Kenya) and Alex Brown (City of London – UK)

Team Awards:

1st - Mpumalanga Province

2nd - Free State Province

3rd - Western Cape Province ●

Excitement in KZN as Hlahlindlela High School receives bicycles from Cycle Aid for Africa

Even the rain could not dampen the spirits of the learners of Hlahlindlela High School on 9 November as a delegation from Education Africa travelled to Kwa-Zulu Natal's Valley of a Thousand Hills for the official hand-over of 50 bicycles. These bicycles are part of the Education Africa Cycle Aid for Africa project which aims at distributing bicycles to disadvantaged schools to enable learners, who frequently have to walk vast distances (and in this case, many hills!) in order to attend school.

The bicycles are allocated to learners as part of an incentive scheme for good school results. They remain the property of the school provided they are well looked after and maintained. Schools who are allocated bicycles are also given a lock-up container in which they bicycles can be safely stored, as well as helmets and a maintenance kit. Experience has shown that learners who are relieved of the burden of having to walk long distances to attend school are more attentive, more focused and produce better results.

Also present at the hand-over were representatives from Kearsney College who is Education Africa's partner on this particular project. Learners from Kearsney will come too Hlahlindlela High School to help train the teachers and learners on bicycle maintenance and bicycle safety.

Mr Kim Johnson of Johnson Cycle Works also attended the hand-over, and he was delighted to see the joy on the faces of the learners as they saw the custom-made bikes which he has specifically produced for the Cycle Aid for Africa project. The bikes are



Cycle Aid for Africa—"Changing the lives of learners"

reinforced to make them more durable and they feature solid tyres to ensure that there can be no punctures.

A wonderful day was had by all as we were treated to song, dance and poetry recitals by the learners, as well as some wonderful refreshments. We left Hlahlindlela High

School with the assurance from both the Headmaster and a member of the School Council that these bicycles are going to change the lives of their learners. Our sincere thanks go to Chris Brown at Friends of Education Africa in the UK who secured the necessary financial support for these bicycles. ●

BDC Travel lends a helping hand



Kananelo Makhetha (2nd left), MD of BDC Travel visited Masibambane College recently to hand over a cheque to James Urdang, Executive Director of Education Africa. The money is being used to fund the after-care programme for vulnerable children at Masibambane College. Looking on are Andrew Monageng of Education Africa as well as teachers and children of the aftercare facility. ●