

Mawuvio's Outreach September 2011

MOP Welcomes New ISEP Student Volunteers



Pictured:
Eric Kwame Agoe stands with ISEP's
Jennifer Precht during her June 2011
visit to Ghana

The International Student Exchange Programme (ISEP) is an organization that allows students the opportunity to study abroad all over the world. Each semester approximately thirty ISEP students travel to the University of Ghana in Legon.

Mawuvio's Outreach Programme's Renee Farwell initially came to Ghana as an ISEP student and later became involved with MOP. This spring, Mawuvio's Outreach created a strong relationship with ISEP's African Programs coordinator Jennifer Precht who visited Ghana in June, as well as the University of Ghana coordinator Theresa Quatchie.

Many students come to Ghana to experience more than simply the University atmosphere; a lot are interested in volunteer opportunities that open them up to the lifestyle outside of campus. To offer this opportunity to all incoming ISEP students, Mawuvio's Outreach wrote a letter introducing ISEP students to MOP and letting them know what kind of

opportunities would be available to them. In addition, each semester Kwame Agoe and some MOP students travel to Legon and talk to them about what MOP does and how they can help during their stay in Ghana. The Legon ISEP coordinator Theresa Quatchie arranges each talk so that students can know what is all available to them during their stay in Ghana.

On August 25, Agoe made his fifth trip to Legon and presented to the ISEP students for Fall 2011. "It went very well," Agoe said. "Many of the students expressed interest in wanting to come to volunteer with us." A few days later, the first group of three ISEP students ventured to Kissema and, although students were still on mid-year break, visited the school as well as saw the village.

"Each semester approximately five ISEP students volunteer on a regular basis," said Farwell. "They are all a huge help to us at MOP."

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World of Children Awards:

In April 2011, Mawuvio's Outreach Programme's Renee Farwell applied to receive the annual World of Children Award.

The World of Children organization recognizes selfless individuals who have dedicated their lives to improving the lives of children in need. Every year since 1996, the World of Children Organization has recognized 84 people who are creating significant change all around the world and awarded them with \$25,000 - \$50,000 to continue their work. This year 5 people were awarded. Unfortunately, Mawuvio's Outreach Programme was not one of these. "MOP has yet to receive any large grant from a foundation like the World of Children, but we will if we continue to try, hopefully one day we will" said Renee Farwell.

MOP Jewellery Featured at Chicago Farmers Market



Dominique Davis sits at the MOP bead table at the farmers market. Each Sunday in Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood on the corner of 18th Street and Halsted is a local farmer's market. This year, Mawuvio's Outreach Programme sold the beaded bracelets, necklaces and earrings handmade by MOP students and staff to

raise funding for the Aiykuma building project. Several Chicagoans ventured over to the colorful table very interested in the beads. This is the second outdoor event in which MOP has sold the beads, the first was at the annual spring craft fair in Clinton, Iowa.

"It was interesting selling the beads in a big city" said MOP treasurer Barb Farwell. "People were mostly interested in the jewelry and not as much the cause behind them." MOP fared well at the farmers market but wished the community would have been more interested in the work MOP does. "It is always good to sell the beads, but it is best when people realize the purpose behind them as well."



Above: Pilsen Farmer's Market

Below: MOP Bead Table



News from Aiykuma:

Funding for the Aiykuma building project has continued to increase throughout the month of August. During September, Eric Kwame Agoe, Renee Farwell and other students and members of the MOP community are working hard to cement the floor of the building. "We spent the summer

saving as much donations and funding as we could." said Farwell "so that now we have enough money to cement the entire floor." "It is much better that we saved and can do all at once" agreed Agoe. "Now I know that very soon MOP will be moving into our new facilities!"

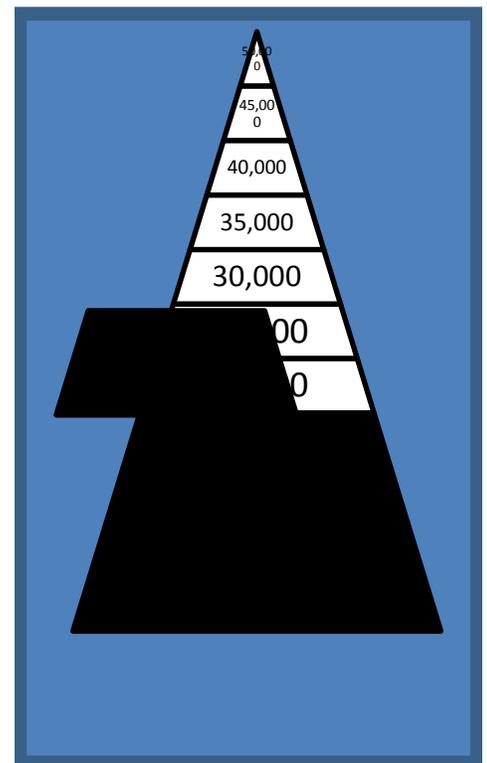


Eric Kwame Agoe stands on the finished foundation inspecting the filling.



Barb Farwell (left) & Kaitlyn Gitter (right) stand at a summer fundraiser for the MOP building project.

Funds Raised



UPCOMING EVENTS:

September:

Classes resume

ISEP students arrive

ongoing bead sales

ongoing canvassing for MOP support

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MOP Child Sponsorship Programme

The Mawuvio's Outreach Child Sponsorship Programme currently has 12 MOP supporters that are child sponsors. "It is the way that MOP will be able to financially support itself." said Renee Farwell "and being able to support yourself when you are teaching and caring for over fifty children is crucial."

The Mawuvio's Outreach community is very impressed to find child sponsors coming from all different parts of the United States. "Our main support is my home community of Eastern Iowa however Elena Arosema from Atlanta, Georgia has been a great advocate for the programme and has signed up sponsors from both the Southern and Western parts of the U.S. It is great to see MOP's mission really spreading!"

Child sponsorship is currently the best way to support Mawuvio's Outreach. Sponsors sign up to give a donation each month. It is encouraged that they give \$30 each month to support the children with the following:

Educational supplies:	5
Clothing:	2
Boarding:	12
Food:	8
Medical Care:	<u>3</u>
	\$30



MOP students in need of sponsors. There are currently 34 children awaiting sponsors.

To sponsor an MOP child please visit:

<http://www.mawuviosoutreachprogramme.org/sponsor-a-mop-student.html>

download the sponsorship form, fill it out and send it to the MOP U.S. address. Your donation is 100% tax deductible and you will receive a receipt, photo and biography of the child you are sponsoring.

Please contact Renee Farwell with any questions you may have about becoming a child sponsor.

Student Spotlight

Name: Godsway Amentonu
Age: 6
Class: Kindergarten Prep 1
Best Game: Football
Best Food: Ackble

What do you want to be when you grow up? Pilot



Name: Akos Gatche
Age: 10
Class: Primary 1
Best Game: Ampe
Best Food: Jollof

What do you want to be when you grow up?
Nurse

