

Mawuvio's Outreach August 2012



Wisconsin to Ghana Culture Exchange Begins



A group of COA Milwaukee youth writes letters to students at MOP

The summer culture exchange that began in mid-June between the Children's Outing Association (COA) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and MOP is going very well for both groups of youth involved. Throughout June and July COA youth attending Camp Helen Brachman (CHB) have been participating in Vanani, a program at camp led by MOP director Renee Farwell. Vanani means come and sit down in Ghana's Ewe language. "I teach the campers what life would be like if they were kids in Ghana, chores, games, food and the struggles they would face.



9 year old, Na'Quaviera eats Ghanaian jollof rice while wearing traditional dresses

MOP students are involved in the programme by participating in letter writing to campers as well as bi-weekly skype conversations between smaller groups of MOP and CHB campers.

"All the children look forward to skyping and talk a lot about the Americans they get to see on the computer," said MOP director Eric Kwame Agoe. Both groups of children are learning a lot about a culture totally opposite from their own.

"It's weird how none of the girls in Ghana grow their hair out like we do. I wouldn't like that," said one camper.

"A lot of the children at camp look a lot older than they say they are. They look almost like adult," said a MOP student.

While both groups could name many differences, they also noted similarities. The biggest similarity...

"I hope I get to meet them in the future, because I know that they are my friend."

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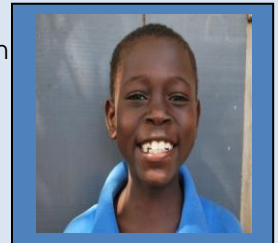
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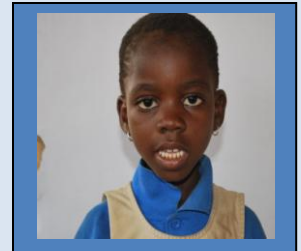
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Happy Birthday! Mawuvio's Outreach August Birthdays:

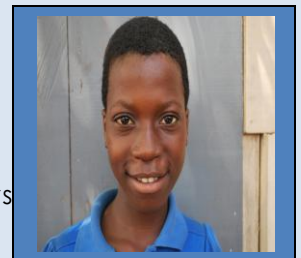
Jonathon
Nugah
10 years



Yvette
Ankrah
6 years



Mabel
Kumah
13 years



Mawuvio's Outreach 2011 – 2012 School Year Ends

July 27th was the last day of the 2011 – 2012 school year at Mawuvio's Outreach Programme. Students spent the last week and a half writing their final exams. "Most of the students did very well in the exams." said KG teacher Lawrenda Dzadey.

Mawuvio's Outreach Programme follows the Ghana Education Service suggested school year which starts in early September and ends in late July. The year is divided into three terms. At the



Mawuvio's students write their third term final exams

end of each term, the school goes on break for approximately two weeks, but at the end of the third term schools take the long vacation for four to five weeks in the month of August.

What separates Mawuvio's Outreach Programme from many other schools in Ghana is even though the school is on break, MOP directors and volunteers facilitate vacation classes for students to participate in to keep them off the streets. Vacation classes will begin August seventh and go through the thirty-first of August. The purpose of having vacation classes is not only to give students a place to go but also give those students who may be falling behind a chance to catch up before the start of the next term.

As the 2011-2012 school year has come to an end, MOP directors and staff have already begun to prepare for the upcoming school year. The 2012-2013 school year will start on September 5th at Mawuvio's Outreach Programme. 89% of all Mawuvio's students will progress to the next grade at the start of the school year. "It is so great to see all of them learning so much and succeeding a lot." said director Eric Kwame Agoe.

Building Progress Report:

Cement flooring and walls of the 6 classroom, 2 dormitory ground floor of the future home of Mawuvio's Outreach Programme have been completed. Builders will spend August casting support pillars in the walls, roofing the ground floor and laying all necessary electric wiring and water pipes.



Grass seed and trees have also been planted around the building site to prepare it for the move in of MOP students and staff.

pictured (left) arial view of the ground floor classrooms and dormitories (right) front of building that has been leveled and grass seed planted



Letters from CHB

During this summer's culture exchange between MOP and Camp Helen Brachman, campers got the opportunity to learn how kids the same age as them are living half-way across the world in Ghana, Africa. MOP is currently working on compiling all the letters written by campers at CHB into a book so MOP students can cherish the encouraging letters. MOP hopes to establish a pen pal programme with CHB campers who expressed interest in doing so.



Campers at CHB hold the pictures of the MOP students they wrote letters to

Special Thanks to the Craft-Edmunds Foundation

All the students, teachers, staff and volunteers of the Mawuivo's Outreach Programme extend a special thank you from their hearts to Craft-Edmunds foundation of Atlanta, GA for supporting and funding the \$25K match earlier this year. "We are forever grateful to Kimberly and Keith Edmunds for the financial support provided by their foundation" said Kwame Agoe and Renee Farwell. For every dollar raised up to \$25,000, the Craft-Edmunds foundation matched every dollar. Because of the support from many donors Mawuivo's reached the matching funds goal and the school in Aiykumah is becoming a reality, brick by brick, wall by wall.

Thanks for believing in Kwame and Renee and thanks for your support of the children. *Kimberly and Keith from Ghana and from our hearts, Mawuivo's sends you greetings and many thanks. Come visit soon !!*

Student Spotlight



Name: **Natasha Donu**
Age: **10**
Class: **Primary 2**
Best Game: **Ampe**
Best Food: **Ackble**

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



Name: **Randolf Adjanor**
Age: **14**
Class: **Primary 4**
Best Game: **Football**
Best Food: **Fried Rice**

What do you want to be when you grow up?
Sign Teacher

UPCOMING EVENTS:

2 MOP & COA Intercultural Exchange Programme between Ghana and Wisconsin ends

3 MOP School year ends

7 Vacation classes begin

31 Vacation classes end

Ongoing bead sales on esty.com and local representatives

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