



Berlin, Germany, Europe, World - August 2014

Dear students all around the world,

In 2013 you have again shown tremendous commitment and your ideas and activities have raised € 390,850.86! More than 230 Waldorf schools from 35 countries participated in last year's WOW-Day. This has enabled the Friends of Waldorf Education to support 60 educational institutions in 27 countries. We would like to thank you whole-heartedly on behalf of all children and young people! In this document you will find many letters from the various projects that would like to thank you for your support.

And there is more to celebrate: This year marks the 20th anniversary of the WOW-Day campaign! Since its creation in 1994, Waldorf students from many countries do a great deal to enable children around the world to benefit from Waldorf education. In fact, you are showing that you care about our world situation and as you can see: your dedication pays off, for your participation in the WOW-Day campaign is an essential support for Waldorf Education worldwide! The WOW-Day campaign supports Waldorf initiatives, which face a difficult financial situation. With no government subsidies WOW-Day funds enable many facilities to admit children from particularly difficult backgrounds and give them access to Waldorf education: A unique opportunity for many children.

In these 20 years, 400 Waldorf schools from 35 countries have collected nearly € 3 million that benefited over 110 Waldorf initiatives in more than 40 countries. Last year, for the first time schools from Japan, Peru, Lithuania and Australia joined the WOW-Day campaign, so that it reached now all continents!

The Friends of Waldorf Education would like to extend a sincere thank you to all the students, teachers and parents at Waldorf schools worldwide for their incredible commitment to helping children and young people around the world. In line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which celebrates its 25th anniversary this year, this is a contribution to the realisation of children's rights, as it furthers the implementation of a holistic education, to which all children are entitled to. As a matter of fact you, as children and adolescents yourselves, have made a strong statement to support those rights!

We would be delighted if your school decides to participate once again in this year's WOW-Day anniversary event. What is new is that from this year onwards WOW-Day will take place in a period from 29 September to 29 November 2014 instead of a specific date. Each school determines their own date for their WOW-Day campaign.

It would be amazing if especially for our anniversary even more children and young people would join forces on WOW-Day to actively support a child-oriented education in the world.

At this point again our heartfelt thanks!

We look forward to your participation

With kind regards from Berlin,
Olivia Girard



Waldorf One World
20 years pupils' commitment for children worldwide

Your initiative counts!

Freunde der
Erziehungskunst
Rudolf Steiners

www.freunde-waldorf.de

Brazil

São Paulo, ACOMI

“A sincere thank you”

Dear Freunde team,
Dear WOW-Day activists,

We here at ACOMI were deeply moved when we received your donations from WOW-Day 2013. We admire the event and its organisers, as well as all those who participate with so much enthusiasm and dedication and commit themselves to the common good.

Your contribution will allow us to continue with our project “being and becoming”, which exists since 2011. With this project our aim is to offer a curative educational program to the children of Jardim Boa Vista and surroundings, inviting them to participate in artistic and cultural activities. Indeed, here at ACOMI we provide Waldorf education to children, who otherwise would not have access to quality education. Children participating in “being and becoming” go through two distinctive phases. Phase I is intended for kindergarten children aged 4-6 years, while Phase II (first and second year of primary school) is for children aged 7-8 years. Both phases take place as a supplement to regular school classes. On behalf of the participating children and their families, we would like to express our gratitude for your help and send you a sincere thank you!

Warm regards to you all,
Antonio Marcos Tibério Vallim



Embu-Guaçu, São Paulo, Aramitan

Dear students,

We would like to thank you for the generous WOW-Day donation to Aramitan Association. Because of you, we could hold most of the activities during the year and with our mission “creating trust and hope for the future” we could continue the work we are developing since 2005.

We are really lucky to have you as donors. Thank you for investing and trusting in the work we do. On behalf of all volunteers, direction, staff and specially the community, youth and benefited children, thank you again. Your generosity and commitment are invaluable to Aramitan.

Yours faithfully,

Estefania Momm de Melo, General Coordinator
Marcio Inacio da Silva Pirillo, President

Barra Grande, Bahia,
Escola Comunitária Jardim do Cajueiro

Dear students,

Thank you so much for your generosity and willingness to help. Our school currently has 110 children, divided into two kindergarten groups and four elementary school classes. We are located in a beautiful coastal village called Barra Grande, in the state of Bahia, in northeastern Brazil. Our mission is to offer a new education opportunity to children in the community and to promote the full development of our students, leading them towards a conscious attitude towards the world through Waldorf education.

There are many challenges to maintaining our school and involving parents in their children's education. More than 47.2% of people in the county are illiterate and 75% of the children attending our school are from vulnerable families. However, with determination and help such as yours, we have been able to move forward.

Last year, we started construction on our new school building, which is being paid for by donations, and work has progressed as new money is raised.

Until now, the school has been operating on the ground floor, which has bathrooms, a kitchen, a refectory and three classrooms. Both our administration office and the 4th grade class are working in improvised wooden huts, until the next stage of the construction is completed.

Our best wishes to you all and may you continue to carry in your hearts the willingness to help your neighbors. Rest assured that here, in Barra Grande, many families are extremely grateful for your generosity!

Warm regards,
Rodrigo Gomes de Magalhães



Capão Bonito, CREAR

Dear students, dear teachers, and everyone involved in the WOW-Day campaign,

I would like to thank you very much for the funds you have raised for us through WOW-Day. We are delighted, as donations and financial support are very important for our work. Indeed, they are even necessary, but not easy to get.

Your gift has immediately triggered a number of questions among our staff: What did you do? Are there any pictures of your activities? Why did you decide to support us?

It would be nice, if one of you could answer our questions and maybe send us some photos. Perhaps you are also interested to learn more about our work – to establish a closer contact... (of course this is up to you...) – anyhow we would be very happy to hear from you.

Once again, our heartfelt thanks to you!

Best regards,
Peggy Rische Lederer



Salvador, Projekt Salva Dor

Dear students,
 Dear teachers,
 Dear parents,

the students, educators, parents and friends of Projeto Salva Dor, would like to sincerely thank you for the trust and support, which you have given us through the WOW-Day campaign!

Such a commitment motivates us and gives us a lot of strength to carry on. I am sending you our semi-annual report on the current state of our work and some recent photos:

“Projeto Salva Dor currently offers two full-day toddler groups (children aged 1-3) and a kindergarten group. Furthermore, we also offer two half-day care groups in the morning and afternoon, which are a supplement program to regular public education. Overall, about 56 children attend our facility between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Moreover, the collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Culture of the city of Salvador continues to develop positively and we expect to receive more financial support this year. Currently we are subsidised with 900 reais (about € 300) per year, per child below age five. This will lead to increased financial security with regards to the payment of our employee salaries. At the same time, however, we have to meet the requirements of the authorities and rebuilt and renovate our premises, toilets and showers. Fortunately, a number of foundations are willing to help us in these endeavours. As a result of this positive development we are able to take in more children this year, which is a great help for the residents of the district. Nonetheless, we continue to face great financial difficulties, which we are only able to overcome thanks to the donations of the Friends of Waldorf Education. At this point, I would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all donors in Europe, who continue to support us.

In January our new school year began. It was a great joy to see all the children again and observe their development over the holidays. We also welcomed the “new” children, who at first faced the general difficulties in adapting to their new surrounding, but have overcome this phase quickly and are now well settled in. Furthermore, our staff participated in various seminars on important educational topics organised by the Ministry of Education and Culture. We have also made successful trips with the kids to the zoo and celebrated the long-awaited carnival festival at the end of February. Other



annual celebrations include “Mother’s Day”, Easter and Midsummer.

With gratitude we have received various donations such as food, cleaning material, gas cylinders and even Easter eggs. At the end of March we hosted a big summer farewell party - a wonderful experience for everyone, as even the teachers joined the fun, participating in games and water activities.

At this point we would like to thank all of you who continue to support us in good times and bad, who accompany us and believe in our work, all of which is really important for our local children.“

Please forward this letter to the teachers, classes and students who have participated in the WOW-Day campaign.

I am sending you our semi-annual report on the current state of our work and some pictures.

Kind regards,
 Andrea Naka Marinkovic
 and the children and teachers of the project

Link >> Video Project Salva Dor: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOzWWiX3njw&>

São Paulo, Associação Comunitária Ponte das Estrelas

Dear WOW-Day students,

Our little circus “Ponte das Estrelas” is going on tour again. The story has been written and the artists have come up with new tricks and feats, which now have to be rehearsed and put together as coherent choreographies. These are tasks, which we face every year that’s for sure... what is not sure, however, is if we can fund all four weeks of our tour. Indeed, such a tour requires a number of expenses such as flour and sugar for the bread we bake ourselves, fruit and lunch packs for the daily trips to the venues, the fabric for our animals that we make every year, the stage set – for which we need plywood, screws and wood glue – spare parts for our unicycles, oh yes... and patches and ointment for the little scratches and scrapes of our artists....

Thanks to your efforts, and other spontaneous donations, we are able to cover the costs for this year’s tour. So off our students go, rehearsing their juggling, tightrope walking, unicycling, rope jumping and clown performances. We practice every day in our day care centre, before and after school, and every other weekend all of us go on a retreat with overnight stay. By July, we have to be ready. Then we take our bus and a small trailer to the schools, theatres and cultural centres in São Paulo and surrounding areas. Meanwhile, our circus is known even outside of São Paulo. How fortunate we are this year! And next year? We will start practicing again...

A big THANK YOU to all of you!
 Circo Ponte das Estrelas



Georgia,
 Tbilisi, Day Care Centre

Dear Waldorf students,

The day care centre for social therapy in Tbilisi, Georgia, would like to thank you most sincerely for your donation from WOW-Day 2013, for your interest in us, and your active help.

Just now, some 54 adults and young people with special needs, who work in our nine workshops and also participate in artistic and cultural activities, visited us. They were very happy when I told them that young people from a foreign country have put up a great effort to support their work. We appreciate this sympathy very much. Working in our day care centre provides a sense of purpose and meaning to the assisted people: here they have their own jobs, here they have their friends and here they can simply be human beings.

We thank you for your solidarity and wish you good luck, happiness and progress in life.

With warm regards from Tbilisi
 Marina Bulia



Tbilisi, Michael School

Dear friends,

The Centre for Independent Education began its work in 1991 and today includes a curative educational kindergarten, the curative educational Michael School, a vocational training program for young graduates, a training seminar for curative educators, a rehabilitation centre and a day care centre. The curative Michael School was founded in 1994 for children with intellectual and physical development disabilities and children with severe disabilities. All children come from disadvantaged families and their parents are not able to pay the tuition for their children's education. This is the reason why our school is only able to operate thanks to donations. Between 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. our students attend school and receive two meals. On the basis of Waldorf education they study the core subjects and in high school they also receive vocational training in our workshops (bakery, wood workshop, sewing workshop, cardboard workshop). Special attention is devoted to the crafts and arts: painting, music, drama, puppet theatre, and a choir. Exhibitions are organised and performances take place. Moreover, we offer therapeutic help to our children in our rehabilitation centre: eurythmy, speech therapy, play therapy and therapeutic riding.

Our school hosts traditional folk festivals, theatre performances, sports events and organises class trips to other countries such as the Olympic Games. Children may choose a country for their graduation, which they hold in their own country. They get to know the geography, culture, customs, as the songs and dances of these countries. In addition, they have to know the national anthem and prepare a short performance of a country specific folk tale. Our school exists only thanks to donations. In fact, the government subsidises us with only € 12 per month, per student. With this money we are expected to cover municipal costs (which are high) and operating costs, pay the salaries of our teachers and buy food. As you might guess this is impossible and therefore we are only able to survive thanks to the support of our friends.

We want to thank everyone for their support and express our special gratitude to the Friends of Waldorf Education, because they have always helped us in the 20 years of our existence, and stood by our side.

With gratitude on behalf of the College,
Marina Schostak



Guatemala,
San Marcos La Laguna, Escuela Caracol

Dear friends,

Thank you so much for your donation! It came as a big surprise. We greatly need this support, and I cannot tell you how much it means to us to know that students and teachers across the world care about our work here.

Un abrazo,
Joshua



Israel,
Tivon, Ein Bustan Kindergarten

Dear friends,

On behalf of the Ein Bustan bi-lingual and multicultural kindergarten and school we wish to once more send a huge thank you to the students and families for the generous donation raised during the WOW-Day activities. We were impressed and very grateful!

The donation will be used for several essential and urgent needs: among them, school equipment and supplies for our multi-age bi-lingual class (ages 7-9 years old) and kindergartens and to supplement the salaries of our handwork and English teachers.

Ein Bustan is helping bring Arab and Jewish children and their families together in a warm and nurturing educational environment that helps to bridge the divisions that set us apart. We are delighted and proud to have you as our partner in this project, in actions that lay the foundation for mutual respect, friendship and peace.

Thank you very much once again!

In friendship and peace, Shalom and salaam!

Amir Shlomian, Director
Rachel Gottlieb, Development Officer

Shfar-Am, Tamrat el Zeitoun Waldorf School

Dear valued friends,

Thank you very much for your donation to our school in Shfar-Am, Israel. We greatly cherish and appreciate your efforts as part of the WOW-Days. It truly warms our hearts and raises our spirits to have your support, as valued colleagues, students and friends. This support comes at a crucial time for the school as it struggles to continue with its vision for social change.

The Waldorf school in Shfar-Am, named Tamrat el Zeitoun meaning the "fruit of the olive tree", is much more than just another school to its pupils, students and involved parents. It is a platform for social mobilization in Shfar-Am, to effect its vision of social change. This vision strives for equality and understanding among the different cultures and backgrounds and for a unique education based on freedom, honesty and love with the Arab community and between Arabs and Jews in Israel.

With your continued financial and moral support, Tamrat el Zeitoun is confident that it can plant the seeds to spread this vision within the entire Arab community in Israel and to other Arab communities in the Middle East. We consider you essential partners in these efforts and much welcomed guests at our school and in our town. We hope that one day we will be able to participate ourselves in the WOW-Day, after the school gets on solid footing in Shfar-Am, and contribute towards the success of other Waldorf schools.

Thank you once again for your valuable support and all the best!

Tamrat Alzitoun



Kenya, Nairobi, Mbaghati Rudolf Steiner School

Dear pupils and friends,

Greetings from Kenya. We wish to thank you from the bottom our hearts for all your efforts to raise funds for our school. Your financial gifts have been extremely important for the development of our school. We wish to convey to you that your work has a direct effect here in upgrading the living standards of our children. We could make developments this past year which needed desperate attention and which would otherwise not have been done without your support. These areas of improvements would not have been possible without the donations from your efforts for WOW-Day:

Work done:

- Two stores were built from small stages adjoining the two classrooms to allow for the teachers to organize/store their materials. One store is for the music and art department and one store for the sports and first aid. This allows for us to take care of our materials. Shelves were made in the stores.
- Boys boarding floors: Three floors of the boys boarding were re-done. They were in a poor state. The boys boarding rooms were painted and the boys boarding up-lifted.
- Boarding stairs repaired and new washing lines put in place for all boarding children. New sink/drainage placed around the boys boarding.
- Safety gates were placed around manholes at the kindergarten for protection against underground water tanks.
- Tiles were placed in the kindergarten around the sinks. Five gates were made and placed in the kindergarten.
- Girls shower doors were repaired and the shower walls re-done.
- Wooden slide safety rail replaced with a metal one.
- Much work was done on the compound with the help of many casuals. Areas were cleared, large trees cut that would damage the building foundations and darken the classrooms. Old stumps moved and old fences replaced.

We are able to help many children who have been rescued from terrible life conditions and we can offer them a safe and beautiful place to be. Therefore we wish to encourage you to keep up your good work, as it has a great effect.

We are in the middle of the long rains and the month of May has the highest rainfall in the year – but so far, we have had very low rainfall this season, so we are eagerly waiting.

Best Regards,
Judith Brown



Colombia,
El Carmen de Viboral, Jardín el Nido

Dear friends,

Thank you very much for the effort and enthusiasm you put in this beautiful campaign to support Waldorf initiatives in the world!

The Kindergarten and Cultural Association El Nido de las Golondrinas, that means the swallow's nest in Spanish, is located in El Carmen de Viboral, town settled in the beautiful chains of hills in the great Andes mountain range, in Colombia. Now we are enjoying constant misty rains that refresh the land after been through a sunny time of hot and dust.

Four years ago, the kindergarten began with six children in a small garage and now we are 30 children in the kindergarten and almost 80 kids that enjoy the workshops of music, painting, theatre, handcraft and gardening. We are growing with the joint work of families, teachers, collaborators, volunteers and with all of you!

Thank you friends for support,

Best regards,
Cultural Association El Nido de las Golondrinas



Moldova,
 Kishinev, Waldorfschule Kishinev

Dear Waldorf students from around the world,

From the Friends of Waldorf Education we had the pleasure to learn that many Waldorf schools have raised funds for our school on WOW-Day 2013.

All children, teachers and parents from our school and kindergarten would like to express their deep gratitude for your commitment and for your valuable support. The funds raised by you will be used for remaking our schoolyard and for setting up the classrooms for first graders.

From the reports we understand that you have organised your fundraising campaign with much enthusiasm, imagination and kindness. This has also motivated our students. Although we ourselves still face many difficulties, our school has participated in the last two WOW-Days and proved its solidarity with all Waldorf schools in the world. We decided to forward our donations to a school in Africa. With such a campaign our students get the feeling that they are friends of many children and young people and this is very important.

We would like to invite all friends to our country and to our school!

Lidia Directorova

Nepal,
 Kathmandu, Shanti Sewa Griha

Dear friends,

With great pleasure we all send our sincere thanks for the overwhelming support that WOW-Day students have given our school. You help us to be able to admit children of extremely poor people, namely those of leprosy patients and people with severe disabilities and to give them a beautiful environment at our Shanti Waldorf School in Budhanilkanta. Indeed, many social orphans and abandoned children are part of Shanti. In fact, last December a whole group of 22 abandoned children joined us from Humla, which is located in Western Nepal in the mountains. Shortly after, officials brought two more children in need to us and so we created a new school class. The children had neither clothes nor shoes, nor anything else they owned. What they wore, was infested with lice and was extremely dirty. Quickly our tailors stuffed mattresses, duvets, pillows, and covers and sewed clothes. Then a bunch of happy and excited children moved into a small house next to our school.

They have experienced their first school festival a few days ago and we were so happy to see their faces beaming with joy. Afterwards, everyone got a piece of delicious homemade caramel with sesame, which they all thoroughly enjoyed.

On the occasion of the school festival we also said goodbye to the class 5 and many tears were shed by students and teachers alike. Indeed, our school is loved so much because the public schools are horribly dirty, with broken furniture, unkempt sites and dark classrooms. To make things worse, they operate under a system that favours pure memorization. There are no handicraft lessons or artistic subjects, children study by heart and nothing more.

And then yesterday the beaming proud former 5th graders came and told us: at public school where our children go after class 5, it is known how well they are prepared. And so they offered them to make the entrance exam for class 7. All 15 have passed and therefore are allowed to skip class 6. We are delighted and happy for them. At the same time, however, we do everything we can to keep our Waldorf school running. As a result your funds from WOW-Day are more than welcome. We thank you very, very much.



Once again we thank you for the help and solidarity!

To all you creative, enthusiastic, and imaginative WOW-Day participants a warm greeting from the roof of the world,

God bless you!

Marianne und Heiko Grosspietsch



Foto: Annette Bopp

Emergency Education, Philippines and Kakuma

Dear students,

We are delighted to hear that you have collected donations for the emergency education program of the Friends of Waldorf Education on WOW-Day 2013. We would therefore like to take this opportunity to thank you for your outstanding support and your commitment! Surely you have all heard about the great famine in East Africa and the terrible war in southern Sudan and know that thousands of people are fleeing from there; or you have seen the news on TV about the devastating

Typhoon Haiyan, which caused a lot of damage on 8 November 2013 in the Philippines, and has taken the lives of many people.

As you might imagine, leaving behind such an experience does not only cause external pain and suffering, but also results in psychological wounds for those affected. Especially for children, such experiences can have dramatic consequences.

For this reason, there is an urgent need to help children and young people in processing their traumatic experiences. And this is exactly what the emergency education team of the Friends of Waldorf Education does: it helps people to process horrific experiences so that they will not continue to suffer emotionally. Painting and drawing, for example, can help to process the experience, because it allows for those affected to express their feelings in pictures. A regular daily rhythm with morning circle, lunch and closing circle helps them to recover their inner balance. For many children movement is also a big help in overcoming the initial shock. Therefore, rope jumping, eurythmy and other physical exercises or games are important activities during emergency educational missions.

As you can see, your commitment has made an important contribution to ensuring that we can help the many children in the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya or build a child protection centre in the Philippines, where we support more than 200 children.

On behalf of our team in Kakuma, in the Philippines and in Germany, I would like to thank you very much!
 Warm regards,

Michaela Mezger



Peru,
Pisac, Kusi Kawsay

Dear students,

Thank you so much for your support of our school in the Peruvian Andes, Kusi Kawsay, which means happy life in our native language Quechua. We value our friendship with you, and hope you are well and are enjoying the beginning of summer time there.

Our school is located in the district of Pisac in the Sacred Valley of the Incas (Cusco-Peru).

Here the dry season has started so it is sunny and hot during the day, and very cold at night. The corn has been harvested and has been extended in the fields to dry.

We just celebrated our 5th anniversary, which was very special. We all prepared songs and dances, and shared a meal together. Our anniversary is on May 3rd, which is when the Southern Cross constellation is in its highest point in the sky. This is a very important moment in the southern hemisphere, and it is beautiful to see the stars shining up in the sky at night. The Southern Cross has four bright stars that our ancestors used as guidance, and from the mathematical dimensions of these stars, they were able to derive the squared cross, which is called the chakana. This is a very important symbol for us, which helped our ancestors create exact calendars for agriculture. Our school follows this Andean calendar for festivities and celebrations. The stars also represent a lot of important values practiced in our culture, especially the importance of community, interrelatedness, and interconnectedness. We understand these practices, as well as respect and reciprocity, as key to a happy life, which is what Kusi Kawsay embodies. We will have our first all school exposition of the school year this Friday, which is like a final exam for us, so we are very busy getting ready and studying. We will have oral presentations in front of the whole school community, and will share all of our advances since school started in March.

Yesterday we made bread for the first time in our new oven up at the school! There was festive music to celebrate as everyone enjoyed the delicious freshly baked bread made by the kindergarten!

We had a Solstice event coming up in June, when many nations from Peru, Bolivia, and even from the United States and Canada visit our school, sharing their beautiful songs and dances. This makes us all feel very proud of our indigenous heritage, and we can all see how rich our

culture is by celebrating our traditions together. Take care and we hope to stay in better touch with you in the future.

Again, thank you so much for supporting Kusi Kawsay, and we hope your hearts are filled with joy by knowing that you are an important part of our school life.

Urpillay Sonqollay (expression for thank you in Quechua)

From the students, teachers and parents
of Kusi Kawsay



Südafrika

Madietane, Lesedi Waldorf Centre

Dear children,

Our school wants to say a heartfelt “THANK YOU” to you. On the 2013 WOW-DAY you worked so hard again to support our school and bring joy to the children of Lesedi.

Lesedi means ‘light’ and through your hard work you certainly have brought some more light to us.

Our school is 300km north of Johannesburg and 60 kilometers away from the next bigger town. Cattle and goats still roam free in the village and from the big boulders the baboons often come to visit the school.

Many families are eking out their existence, but more and more are supported by members who work in the cities. For this reason the boarding house at Lesedi is an attraction.

By now 12 teachers are employed to teach the approximately 220 children from Nursery School up to Class 7. Every year two volunteers help with reading, crafts and other activities for the children.

Lesedi Waldorf Centre is now 23 years old and was founded by Emily Moabelo under a big fig tree. It quickly grew to 120 children and from there went to become a school.

Different people have supported the school over these years and helped it through the hard times. After Emily Moabelo’s death the school’s existence was in danger. But somehow the teachers gave it their all and it pulled through.

Often the management has to deal with maintenance problems, such as no running water, inadequate electricity, old septic tanks and staff problems etc. Thanks to the continuous support of the Waldorf community these can slowly move into the background. The focus is now once again on good quality teaching and nurturing the children!

There are a lot of plans for Lesedi this year: Class 10 children from the Waldorf School in Johannesburg will come in August and make a playground for the nursery school. So by the time they are finished we will see, what the children will need to really enjoy their playground fully and then we can go and get some useful and joyful things for the little children with your money. We hope that you like that idea???

We also would like to put up two really strong goals on

the (dusty) ‘soccer field’ and buy some nets, so that the boys can practice to become superstars! We think that your money will then really make our Lesedi children happy! And once it is all installed we will send you some pictures!! Thank you for your support! Until then we say “Ke a leboga”, which means “Thank you” in Sepedi, the language they speak at Lesedi!

Gabotse! Goodbye! Your Lesedi Team!

Kiki Sanne



Südafrika,
 Kapstadt, Educare

Dear friends,

Thank you once again for your generous WOW-Day support this year. I have told the other schools who supported us, about Zanele and her group, who are studying to become kindergarten teachers in the Masiphumelele township. I can tell you though how much they are enjoying the training. Going to a Steiner school yourselves, you know how great it is to learn to use your hands and your imagination. Being able to knit socks, make a wooden bowl or do all the other things you learn to do, gives us a sense of success and self-esteem. We experience that we can learn to do anything we choose to engage with. Sadly, not everyone has that confidence. Most of our students have never made anything with their hands, not even drawn a picture. You can imagine how amazed they are when they see they can sew and knit, that they can draw pictures - that they can in fact stock their kindergartens with toys, can decorate them and make them beautiful for the children they teach. This is such a rewarding part of the training and I hope you can feel the same. With your support you are part of this, you make this happen as much as we do and we thank you for it.

Warm regards,
 Johanna Oltmanns



McGregor, McGregor Waldorf School

Dear students,

Everyone at McGregor Waldorf School (Primary school) and McGregor College (High school) wants to express their gratitude for the efforts you made to raise funds during your WOW-Day action 2013. Because of your efforts we will be able to make the front of our school more beautiful and more secure. Most of our students live in families who can only afford a small contribution to school fees, which means that we rely on effort such as yours to upgrade our school building. South Africa is a society where the gap between the rich and poor people is wide. A lot of the previously disadvantaged people (Black African and Coloured) are still living in poverty. The consequences of this are often no proper education, alcohol and drug abuse, violence and criminality. Although McGregor is a small village and we are spared the more violent aspects of crime there are people who violate the houses and properties through breaking in and stealing which has at times been violent, leaving people hurt. Our school has in the past also been victim to groups of youngsters breaking in and vandalizing classrooms. There is a hostel on the property of the school where 20 students live so the school needs to ensure their safety at all times. Our school wants to have this kind of fence (height 1,8m) all around the property and your donation will assist us with the front area of the school. The front of the buildings will furthermore be painted to that our school building presents itself neatly and beautifully to the outside world.

Many thanks for your support!

Katleen Verschoore
 Funds Facilitator



Onrus River, Puppetry in Education

Dear school children of WOW-Day,

Thank you so much for your donation. It is an inspiration to us all at Enlighten Education Trust in South Africa that you raised this money. You may be glad to know that this money even grew in South African currency. We will be using the donation to continue to pay stipends to our seven puppeteers who work so hard to bring interest and wonder to the children in their communities; the communities they call 'townships', where the poorest people in SA live. These puppeteers perform puppet shows to about 2000 children every month, at Kindergartens, Primary Schools and Churches. These puppet shows are often the only stories the children hear, either at school or in their homes.

We have been doing our best during this past year to create puppet shows from African folk stories. These stories survived for hundreds of years by being told around the village cooking fires by the village storytellers, like so many of the European stories did, before they were written down... and yet they are almost unknown now in the families where we do our work. So your donation is helping to introduce stories back into what once was a story-telling culture... and so you help to delight and heal some children in Africa. Thank you.

I would like to share with you the latest story they have been performing. The puppetry brings joy and colour in the otherwise drab lives of these people. It was also told to Nelson Mandela when he was a child, as he mentions it in his book.

With warmest regards,
 Lila Nicholson on behalf of Enlighten Community
 Puppetry



THE TWO SISTERS

Once upon a time there were two sisters. The eldest was called Nogquashu and the youngest was Nomvume. Nomvume was sweet and loving to everyone, but Nogquashu was selfish and bossy, always wanting her own way. They lived in a village by the river with their parents and their tribe. Their food for every meal was mealie porridge, unless their father managed to kill a wild animal, then they had meat. Everyone in the village grew mealies, in fact they still do in the country areas. Today there are shops, but in the time of this story there were no shops, and if there were no mealies the people starved.

The two girls had to work very hard planting, weeding and harvesting the mealies. They had to fetch water from the river to water them as well as for cooking and washing. They also had to find wood to make the fire for cooking, so they were always busy. They ground the mealies in a big pot before adding water and cooking them, and they used to sing this song:

The mealies are growing, are growing so tall
 The mealies we're grinding, we're grinding so small.
 The mealies make porridge, make porridge for all,
 When porridge is ready, the family we'll call.

One day when they were busy grinding the mealies, Nomvume stopped working and said: "I want to see more of the world than the fields where we grow the mealies, the bush where we look for firewood and the river where we fetch water. I want to see what is beyond those distant hills."

Nogquashu tried to stop her, because there were wild animals around who might have eaten her up, but Nomvume was determined to go, saying "I can't stay in one place all my life just because it's safe!" Then Nogquashu realised that if Nomvume did not return, there would be all the more for her at home, so she agreed. Nomvume set off on her journey singing to give herself courage. After some time she met a poor old woman with sore eyes and greeted her kindly, saying "Good morning, mother, where are you going?" The old woman replied, "Far, far, please wipe my eyes". Nomvume did so, and the old woman went off happily saying, "You are a kind girl. Do to everyone as you have done to me!"

Soon Nomvume met another old woman carrying a large bundle, who begged for help. Nomvume carried her bundle for her until they came to a place where many paths

met. The old woman said, "I must go now. Thank you, you are very kind. Do to everyone as you have done to me." She gave Nomvume a bag of salt for a present before going off.

Nomvume continued to wander until she heard a loud croak, "Kwaak kwaak". There was the biggest frog she had ever seen and she was a little frightened, but she greeted him kindly saying, Good morning, frog, where are you going?" He answered, "Far, far, but I am hungry. Make umphotholo for me" (This is the same as mealie porridge). Nomvume made it for him, adding some of the salt. The frog ate it greedily and nearly got stuck in the pot trying to get the last drop. Then he said, "That was delicious umphotholo and I want to reward you. Take this bag of mealie meal and follow that path. It will lead to the cave of a huge snake called Namba. Do not be frightened, he will not hurt you. Make umphotholo for him and see what happens."

Nomvume followed the frog's advice, and she had just finished making the porridge when she heard a loud "Puff puff" and quickly hid. Namba was delighted with the nice umphotholo and called out in his big voice "Who has made this delicious umphotholo? Come out, come out!" Nomvume came out trembling with fright but Namba told her not to be afraid and asked her name. Then he said, "Well, Nomvume, you have made delicious umphotholo and so you may go to the back of the cave where you will find beautiful clothes and jewels. Take as many as you can carry, for you have pleased Namba." Nomvume went and helped herself to a beautiful dress, necklaces, bracelets and earrings. She thanked Namba and returned home with a promise to come again soon and make more umphotholo.

Meanwhile, Noquashu was at home doing all the work and complaining that it was too much. When Nomvume returned with her beautiful dress and jewels, Noquashu asked, "Where did you get those presents, Nomvume?" "From a huge snake called Namba," Nomvume replied. "I am also going to get myself some presents like that!" said Nogquashu excitedly, and rushed off without letting Nomvume tell her where to go and what to do and not to do.

On the way, Nogquashu met the old woman with sore eyes who asked her to wipe them. Noquashu refused, saying, "I am on my way to find the snake's cave to get presents." The old woman shouted, "Unkind girl. Do to everyone as you have done to me!"

Next she met the old woman with her bundle. "Old woman, where is the snake's cave?" she shouted rudely. The

old woman replied, "I don't know but I am very tired. Will you please carry my bundle?"

"Who do you think I am, your servant? No, I will not spoil my nice dress!"

"Unkind girl, do to everyone as you have done to me!" shouted the old woman, and went off.

Noquashu did not know how to find the snake's cave so she was pleased to meet the frog. She shouted, "Frog, where is the snake's cave?" The frog replied, "Kwaak kwaak, I am hungry, make umphotholo for me!" "Who do you think I am, that I should feed frogs?" she asked.

"Won't you make umphotholo for me if I show you the way to the snake's cave?" said the frog.

Nogquashu quickly made porridge so that she would find out the way to the snake's cave, but the frog tasted it and spat it out. "This is disgusting umphotholo. It is full of lumps and there is no salt in it! But I will keep my promise and show you the way to the cave of Namba." He gave her a bag of mealie meal and she grabbed it and rushed off. The frog laughed and laughed. "I gave her yellow mealie meal and Namba only likes porridge made with white mealie meal. Serves her right, unkind creature!"

Nogquashu reached the cave and made the porridge carefully so that she would get presents. But she had no salt and the mealie meal was the wrong kind. When she heard Namba coming, she hid. Namba was delighted to smell umphotholo, but when he tasted it he spat it out. He shouted, "Who has made the umphotholo? Come out, come out!" Nogquashu came out and told Namba her name.

"Well, Nogquashu, you did not come here to be kind and make nice umphotholo for Namba. You only came to get presents, and I am going to eat you up!"

Noquashu rushed from the cave, and did not stop running until she reached home. She was so ashamed that she could not speak for two weeks. But when she recovered she had changed, and was kind and loving to everyone.



Khayelitsha, Zenzeleni Waldorf School

Dear Students,

We greet you from a very hot land. Recently it was so hot we thought we should close the school because it was too hot to think, while we heard that schools in the north closed because the snow was too deep.

News arrived when we were away on our long summer holiday that you had participated in the WOW-Day and that you had, AGAIN, chosen to support our beloved school. This was wonderful news. You will see from the photos that we have - thanks to your efforts in 2012 - been able to erect about eighty metres of fencing. It is not beautiful to look at, but it is beautiful to us anyhow because we feel much more secure. Now, because of your work on WOW-Day 2013 we will be able to surround our little school.

For those of you who may not know much about Zenzeleni - we are about thirty kilometres east of Cape Town and are situated in a vast and ever-growing township. Most of the adults living in Khayelitsha grew up in the Eastern Cape which is a very rural place of hills and rivers and it is the children who were born in this sandy place of no trees, wind and many shacks made of iron and wood. And yet, even though this is a hard place to grow up with not much to do after school - some children do not know what a river is - there is much joy at Zenzeleni. Recently we were given some grass, about twenty by thirty metres to cover the sand and the children roll and chase, and read books on it. It can seem like a large green swimming pool with all the expressions of delight. Where you see grass in the photos you can imagine that less than a year ago it was sand, bright glaring sand, and if the wind rose sand was in eyes, food and hair.

Presently four young Germans who have just left school (three went to Waldorf schools) are here helping with tutoring, building, sports, making popcorn and much more. You can see two of them building a swing for the children.

We thank you very much for thinking of us. And you should know that another wonderful Waldorf School is making its way in the world. Maybe one day some of you will visit us.

With many good wishes,
Belinda Fellion on behalf of Zenzeleni



Vietnam,
 Ho-Chi-Minh, Vietnam Children's Project

Dear Pupils of WOW-Day Project,

On behalf of the Vietnam Children's project thank you for all your efforts to raise such a generous donation as part of WOW-Day project. To care for the welfare of other children so far away in Vietnam is truly a wonderful expression of how to make the world a better place. Many of the children the VCP helps live under difficult circumstances, some children have lived in the Dieu Giac orphanage since being abandoned there at birth and others attend Tho Trang and Thanh Lan Childcare Centres. The children are mainly from disadvantaged backgrounds and minority groups that would not be able to afford to attend the centres without financial assistance. The schools are situated in Ho Chi Minh City in the south of Vietnam, a very big and crowded city full of motor scooters as the main form of transport. It is very hot most of the year in Vietnam and the country is still very poor and struggles to overcome the legacy of past wars and political unrest. The Waldorf kindergartens, you can imagine, are like a little haven in the midst of this bustling city where the children are cared for in a creative environment, the toys are hand made and healthy meals are served.

We are only able to continue developing the training of teachers and growth of the schools with the help of many hands and hearts, your donation will help to purchase art materials, play equipment and help with the every day running of the schools.

We deeply appreciate the WOW-Day support.

Regards,
 Shirley Bell
 Kindergarten Sponsorship Coordinator



Zimbabwe,
 Harare, Nyeredzi Waldorf School

Dear children and teachers,

We thank you from our hearts for the sign of friendship and care you have shown to Nyeredzi School in Zimbabwe, Southern Africa!

We want you to know that your WOW-Day donation means very much to us – our movement is still small, our school too, and it is so exciting to be connected to you – so far away!

This school year we have 28 children: twelve in a combined first and second class, 6 in a combined third and fourth class, and 10 children in Kindergarten. Three teachers and a hand full of friends and supporters living in Harare want to make sure these children grow up in a joyful and happy learning environment, and happy they are! Kindergarten opened in 2012, a first class in 2013, and our classrooms are in the home of a parent, because our funds are not nearly enough to rent a house. Therefore your help is most welcome! Most of our children come from farming families living in or around Kufunda Learning Village. Twelve years ago several young poor people from rural villages joined hands to change their lives in a troubled country in troubled times. They founded this village situated on a farm and invited teachers to train them in managing their resources, the land and nature, more carefully, and how to live healthier. They received help in finding out who they were, what their strengths and weaknesses were, what they wanted to achieve in life, how to lead, how to listen, how to solve conflicts. How to build earth houses and compost toilets and firewood saving stoves, and how to preserve rich soil with permaculture gardening and how to harvest water in times without rain – which is between April and November! These young people grew into a community and are our parents today. Whatever they learnt they took back to their villages of origin so that the families there could benefit from all the lessons and experiences to better their lives. And they are still poor and in no way able to pay the school fees of a private school! Some of Kufunda's neighbors don't send their kids to school at all – they don't earn enough as simple farm workers. Kufunda culture has produced wonderful children, growing up in the bush, surrounded by caring adults and occasional visitors from far away countries, who bring fun activities and friendship. By the time they had to enter school, disillusion sank in and disappointment, because

the conventional curriculum with very early intellectual pressure, overcrowded classes in ugly buildings and regular beatings turned these kids into fearful, quiet and closed souls. You can imagine the relief and hope and joy that accompanied the opening of a first class Waldorf School – not in Kufunda, but in town in the home of a parent who also wanted Waldorf education return to Zimbabwe. In this home we now occupy four rooms and a lovely garden and we drive the kids to school every day. Our first school year was so successful, and the parents so surprised to see their little ones flourishing and starting to speak English confidently, that they decided to take their older kids out of conventional school and also register them in Nyeredzi. And a few town kids joined us as well as slowly word goes around that there is a school aiming not at early intellectual excellence but age appropriate learning and exploring with joy and creativity. So – this is where we stand today – full of hope that this school will survive and grow, in a still troubled country in still troubled times...!

We want to share a bit of Africa with you – pictures of our homes and families, of Kufunda and our school! Enjoy! And would you like to tell us a bit about you and life? A big hug the size of Africa for all of you!

With much love,
Nyeredzi School and Kufunda Learning Village



You supported 60
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 tional initiatives in 27
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Distribution of the money from WOW-Day 2013

Argentina

Cultivarte, Sozialarbeit

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Salvador, Projekt Salva Dor, Social work
 São Paulo, AC Micael, Social work
 Sao Paulo, Aramitan, Social work
 Sao Paulo, Guainumbi, Social Therapy
 São Paulo, Monte Azul, Social work
 Serra Grande, Dendê da Serra, Waldorf School-
 Capão Bonito, CREAM, Social work
 Barra Grande, Jardim do Cajueiro/ Kindergarten
 Vale de Luz, Nova Friburgo, Waldorf School

Bulgaria

Roma Music Project

Estonia

Elagu-Elu, Pupils project for street children

Georgia

Tiflis, Michael School
 Gremi, TEMI, Social work
 Tiblisi, Day Care Centre

Guatemala

Escuela Caracol, Waldorf School

Haiti

Haiti countryside schools

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Hyderabad, Diksha, Waldorf School

Israel

Shef' aram, Arab Waldorf School
 Tivon, Ein Bustan, Kindergarten

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Verein Herzenskinder Kambodscha e.V.

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 Nairobi, Gentiana Primary School
 Emergency Education/ Kakuma

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Kishinev, Waldorf School

Namibia

Windhoek, Waldorf School

Nepal

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 Kathmandu, Volunteer for Change, Social work
 Kathmandu, KRMEF, Social work

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 Sauce, Estrella de Sauce, Curative Education
 Taray, Kusi Kawsay, Waldorf School

Philippines

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 Emergency Education/ Philippines

Zambia

Sodalis, Heidelberg, Social work

Sierra Leone

Freetown, Goderich Waldorf School

Zimbabwe

Harambee, Mtenzi, Social work
 Harare, Waldorf School

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 Fischhoek, Imhoff Waldorf School
 Cape Town, Manenberg, Ikwezi Lokusa, Kindergarten
 Educare ECD, Kindergarten Training
 Cape Region, Puppetry in Education, Social work
 Cape Region, Nyanga Vulamansango, Social work
 Cape Town, Luvuyo-Projekt, Kindergarten
 Khayelitsha, Zenzeleni Waldorf School
 Madietane, Lesedi Waldorf School
 Masiphumele, Kindergarten
 McGregor, Waldorf School

Tajikistan

Chudsand Waldorf School

Tanzania

Dar es Salaam, Waldorf School

Vietnam

Ho-Chi-Minh-City, Tho Trang, Kindergarten
 Ho-Chi-Minh-City, Dieu Giac, Kindergarten





Diese Schulen waren am WOW-Day 2013 dabei!

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Escuela San Miguel Arcángel, Buenos Aires

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Lappeenranta steinerkoulu
Marjatta-koulu
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Steinerkasvatuksen liitto Ry (Finish Federation)
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Vantaan seudun steinerkoulu

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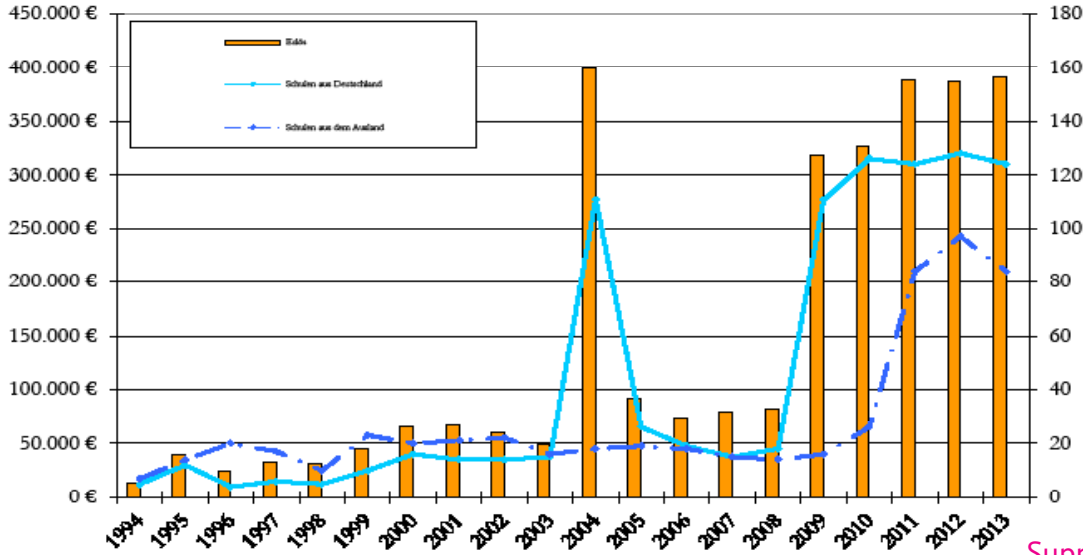
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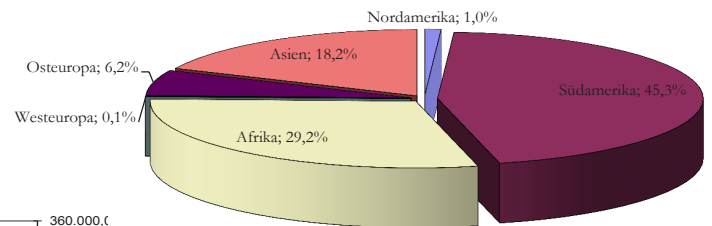
Revenue 1994-2013:
 2.966.748,99 €

Revenue 2013:
 390.850,86 €

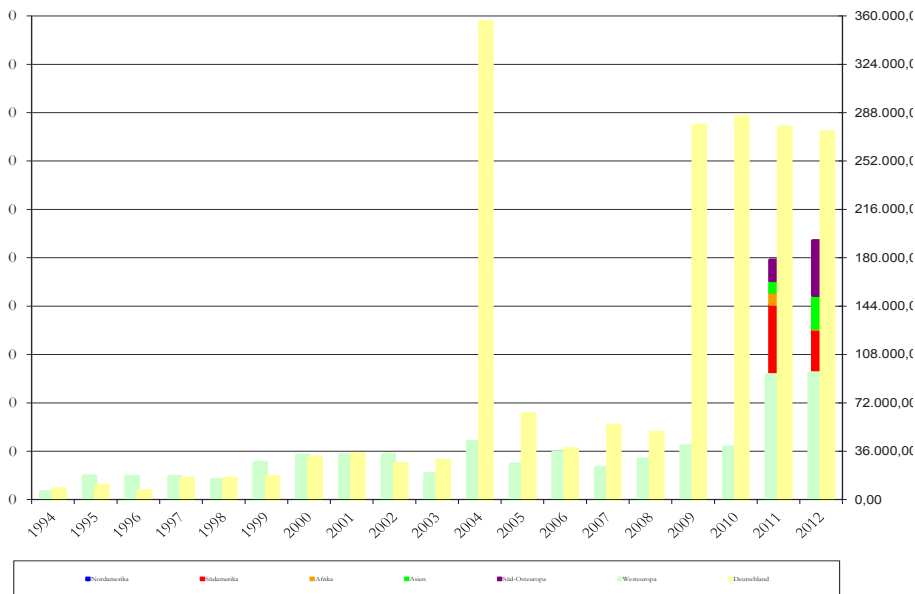
Revenue and participant schools 1994-2013



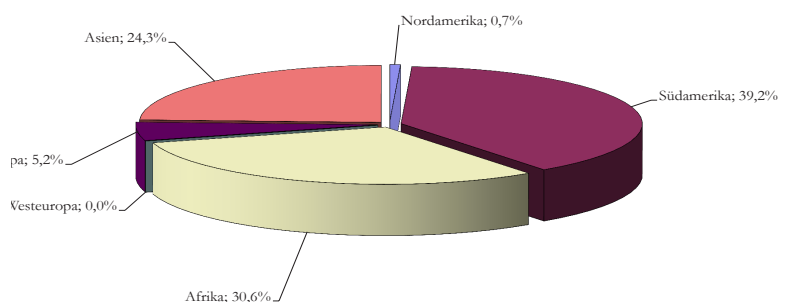
Support from WOW-Day 2013



WOW participation 1994-2013 per region



Revenue and participant schools 1994-2013



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A global campaign and all of you may participate: children and students in grades 1-13 at Waldorf schools as well as people in curative education and social therapy facilities. To register simply fill in the [online form](#) with the name of the contact person of your school/institution.



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