



Lubuto Library Project

Bringing knowledge and enlightenment to Africa's street kids, orphans and other vulnerable children and youth



Lubuto Library Project Newsletter No. 19 – April 2011

Ngwerere Library had 7,025 visits in its first month!

The second Library in Ngwerere saw an astounding number of visitors during its first month of operations - a testament to the needed expansion of Lubuto's services. The Library staff mentioned that many of the first visitors were school children drawn to the rich book collection and naturally comfortable using the Library's resources. However, our greatest challenge at Lubuto is reaching the most vulnerable children and youth in the community.



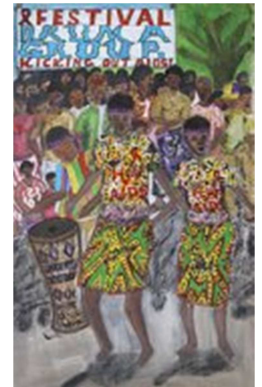
Analysis and experience from the first Lubuto Library indicates that targeted, developed programming is essential to drawing disadvantaged kids to the Library. Offering and bringing together a great collection of books is only part of our work. Our *LubutoLiteracy*, *LubutoMentoring*, *LubutoDrama*, and other programs bring kids to the Library and keep them coming back.

Drexel i-School professor Denise Agosto confirms that the key elements for serving children and youth are universal, as important in Africa as in the U.S.: "A successful library offers a great collection, relevant educational and cultural programming, and effective outreach, all based on the specific needs of its community. Lubuto is doing a great job in all three of these areas."

Lubuto staff and volunteers implemented a successful combination of outreach and programming to connect both school children and the most vulnerable street kids with Lubuto's resources. With ongoing support, we will be able to continue offering these much needed services and reach more disadvantaged youth. To read more details about the programs offered at the Fountain of Hope and Ngwerere Libraries, visit our Web site [here](#).

LubutoArts Needs Your Support

Lubuto is excited for the North American premier exhibition of paintings by participants in our LubutoArts program, showing during the month of June, with a special opening on June 25th during the American Library Association's annual conference in New Orleans. Stella Jones Gallery has kindly offered their space and if fundraising is successful, we will have 4 artists joining us for the opening, along with Mulenga Kapwepwe, Chairman of the National Arts Council of Zambia. If you will be in New Orleans for the conference please join us to celebrate the work of these talented artists and the continuing success of the LubutoArts program.



We are seeking support to bring four of the artists to New Orleans for the opening. This opportunity would dramatically broaden their horizons and foster their growth as artists and people in the rich artistic and educational environment of New Orleans, Stella Jones' community, and the ALA conference.



Please send checks to:
Lubuto Library Project
5505 Connecticut Ave., NW, #368
Washington, DC 20015-2601

Jennifer Campbell's Work with Lubuto

Jennifer Campbell's time as a Lubuto volunteer in Zambia has come to an end – but her work to help Lubuto establish successful programming will be lasting. During Jennifer's ten-month stay, she played a key role in implementing the LubutoLiteracy program,



funded through the [EIFL Public Library Innovation Program](#). This grant allowed us to create early reading lessons in seven Zambian languages using One Laptop per Child computers. Jennifer has also worked tirelessly to train library staff to continue this and other essential programming efforts that are so important to Lubuto's mission of serving vulnerable children and youth.

Read about Jennifer's experiences in her own words through her [Lubuto blog](#). Thanks Jennifer for all your work on behalf of Lubuto!

Lubuto and Innovation

Fulbright scholar, Mary Wagner continues her work in Zambia and with Lubuto to strengthen the LubutoReading programming. She has collaborated with Jane Meyers, president of Lubuto, and Stacy Langer, on the chapter, *Lubuto Library Project: Bringing Enlightenment to Zambian Children*, in the forthcoming International Federation of Library Association's (IFLA) Publication Series, no. 148, *Global Perspectives on School Libraries: Projects and Practices*.

As described on the IFLA Web site, "This book will feature creative and innovative school library-related projects and practices from around the world ... These case studies will provide best practices that can serve as a guide or "how-to manual" for others facing similar challenges."