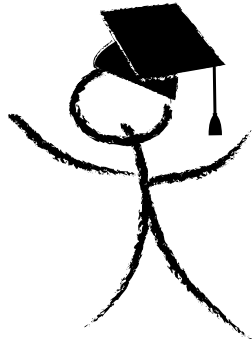


Helping Youth Through Educational Scholarships

# HYTES



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### Mission Statement

**T**o help youth in developing nations to better themselves, their families and their communities by providing educational scholarships for secondary education.

### Second Annual Summer Fun Fundraiser

**H**YTES will host its Second Annual Summer Fun Fundraiser on July 23, 2006 from 2:00pm to 6:00pm. This is a family event featuring face painting, silent auction, Japanese drumming, membership drive and good food.

Please visit [www.hytes.org/fundraisers/](http://www.hytes.org/fundraisers/) for more information and a list of silent auction items.

### HYTES Announces Scholarship Programs for Zambia and Guatemala

**H**YTES granted scholarships and paid school fees for ten students in Zambia during the months of June and July 2006. Lisa Stewart single-handedly raised all the funds for these students and Deouse Kanyanta is acting as our country representative in Zambia. Our sincerest gratitude goes out to both Lisa and Deouse and to our donors for your contributions.

Olimpia Boido volunteered at a rural school in Guatemala and was so moved that she and her mother, Graciela Boido, approached us to help raise funds for the school. The Instituto Mixto Técnico Bilingüe offers a form of education that is based on the needs of rural indigenous students of limited economic resources. We are very pleased to have Olimpia and Graciela working with HYTES to help these students.

### HYTES at the Calgary Folk Music Festival

**P**lease feel free to drop by our booth in the community exhibitors section at the Calgary Folk Music Festival on July 29 and July 30.

Spin the wheel of trivia for opportunities to enter draws for CDs, T-shirts, and more.

Please visit [www.calgaryfolkfest.com](http://www.calgaryfolkfest.com) for more information.

### HYTES on CBC Radio One

**J**anet and Harold Pliszka were interviewed live by Ken Lima-Coelho for the Homestretch on June 5, 2006.

Please visit [www.cbc.ca/homestretch/](http://www.cbc.ca/homestretch/) and [www.hytes.org/news/](http://www.hytes.org/news/) for more information.

### Garage Sale Trail September 9, 2006

by Mona Csada

**D**on't miss the HYTES "Garage Sale Trail" Fundraiser coming up on Saturday, September 9, 2006. Several families in the Garrison Woods area will be hosting sales and donating the majority of their profits to HYTES. If you live in the area and would like to host a sale, or if you have items that you would like to contribute to another family's sale, please contact Mona by August 15 at [monac@hytes.org](mailto:monac@hytes.org) or (403) 852-8135. And of course, even if you don't participate as a seller, you are welcome to come out and shop the various sales on September 9. Check the HYTES website closer to the sale date for details on participating households.

### South Africa and Zambia: a personal story

by Lisa Stewart

**I** first experienced Africa in 2001, when my girlfriend was getting married in South Africa. She is of Dutch origin and her husband is South African. The wedding was to take place in Soweto, just outside of Johannesburg.

I had been warned, by a number of well-intending people back home, not to go to Soweto as a “white girl”. My experience was far beyond what I could have imagined and quite the opposite from what I had been cautioned against.

was met by my girlfriend at the airport, was always accompanied by herself, Charles, or friends of theirs, and the people we met were healthy, enjoyed meals and a home, and most of them had jobs.

Our primary focus while there was doing Home Based Care. This is normally conducted solely by a team of community volunteers, many whom have AIDS themselves, and they go from home to home, visiting the ill. We accompanied them during our stay there, handing out over-the-counter medication that we had brought (i.e. Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Gravol, Tums, Polysporin, Vitamins), counseling the patients on nutrition and home remedies (we worked with a book called “Where There Are No Doctors”), and simply encouraging them.



Despite the suffering, and absolute dire circumstances that they live in, I was overwhelmed by their joy, hope and thankfulness. I was extremely humbled to meet such a grateful people, and to be able to participate in their lives, even if just for an hour.

On their wedding day, I couldn’t prevent the tears from welling up when we drove down the street that Charles used to live on, and all the women and children, dressed in incredibly vibrant colours, started cheering in a very high pitch, what sounded like the words “Lay, lay, lay, lay, lay...” Words cannot express the joy I felt in seeing two groups of people of very different origin come together to celebrate the union of two people in love. (Note – this could not have happened just a few years earlier when Apartheid ruled in South Africa. Both Dominique and Charles, as well as many of their friends and family, fought against Apartheid, and celebrated when it was finally legally abolished between 1990 and 1991).

Over the next few years, over and over again I heard about the AIDS pandemic in Africa, of droughts, civil wars, and overall great suffering. I, like many people, could only watch the World Vision programs, or any documentary on many parts of Africa, for a very short period, as it wrenched at my heart and I felt the situation was hopeless.

For those of us who were “comfortable” in doing so, (that is certainly a relative term, but the whole trip was a stretch for each one of us, so comfort didn’t really come into play much) we also preached at different churches on Sundays.

One such Sunday, I was at a church that was led by a man named Deouse Kanyanta. After the service, as we were waiting for the bus to stop by and

After the wedding, all of the out-of-town guests were treated to a 2 day stay at a lodge in a game park. A wonderfully peaceful ending to a week steeped in much emotion.

So, when an invitation to go to Africa as a volunteer with a group of others came up at a church I was attending, my immediate response was “absolutely not.” I didn’t think I could handle seeing the poverty and suffering, particularly when it came to children.

**1/4 of the population in Zambia is orphans, just about an entire generation has been wiped out due to AIDS, and it is the 3rd poorest country in the entire continent of Africa.**

After some time, though, and much prayer, I committed to a month stay in Zambia. After several months of training (once a week from September through to just before Christmas), a group of 10 of us went over in January.

pick us up, we had an extensive conversation with Deouse. He shared with us some of his hopes for the community he lived in, Makalulu (the poorest shanty-town in Zambia), one of which included getting youth off the street. He had already started an afternoon soccer program for both young men and women, but had no resources to do anything more.

This trip to Africa was “safe” for me. I

That is when HYTES came to mind. I mentioned to Deouse that a colleague of mine, and her husband, had just started up a non-profit last year (in 2005), to raise funds to send youth to school in Tanzania and Kenya. I told him that I couldn't guarantee anything, but that I would speak to them when I returned home.

I am incredibly excited, and thankful, to announce that HYTES accepted Zambia as one of its next 2 countries that it was to lend its support to, and that 10 youth were sponsored to start school this past June in Zambia!

Thank you for your interest in HYTES! Your generosity is very likely to be the catalyst that will bring about great change in countries much less fortunate than ours as you contribute to the development of their future leaders!

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**HYTES Journey 2005-06**

by Eric Amulaku

**S**ince the organization was born last year, I have been given the opportunity to take up the responsibility of East Africa Representative for HYTES, and when I say East Africa I mean Kenya and Tanzania – with the exception of Uganda.

No responsibility comes without challenges. It was November 2005 when I received an email from Harold and the rest asking me to interview the first two Kenyan students who were to be awarded HYTES scholarships. I must admit I had a rough idea of what might be expected of the students, but the real dilemma came with knowing the background of my country and being aware that with the recent shift to free primary education, you now have nearly 100% of the population as eligible candidates for secondary school. This system created a kind of “mass disposal at the end of the tunnel” whereby so many are

completing primary school now, yet cannot afford to continue through to secondary.

I don't know if this is relevant but I have done my own little research... I might be wrong, but what I determined is that most students who perform very well come from financially challenged backgrounds. For students who are more well-off, education is just a “growing-up formality” that doesn't hold as great of a meaning. However, for those more disadvantaged students, they go to school truly motivated by the goal of uplifting their families from poverty, and really concentrate to achieve positive results.

So then imagine the horrible feeling when they sit for the primary exams, perform well enough to attain secondary entrance, and then hit the dead end. The best you can give such young scholars is to HYTES them!!!!

Knowing that the HYTES organization was young and unable to take up very heavy obligations for each scholarship recipient, I had to first start with those students whose parents could afford a portion of the secondary school requirements (uniform and books). Then HYTES would pay for their tuition fees in order to keep them in school. So I went to one of the schools and approached the Headteacher to ask which two of her students are most often sent home because they have not paid school fees? Then I asked her if she could schedule an interview with these two girls for me, and she agreed. I talked with them and asked them to come again with their parents. I gave the parents the application forms their daughters had filled, so

that they would also be aware of what was written before I sent the information on to Head Office (in Canada!) and by then I had not promised them anything - I just told them that if it works out, then you will hear from me soon.

After paying the fees for these girls and then two other Kenyan students, I was on my way to Tanzania (I call it TZ for short). This was the most challenging part for me because I had received three applications from TZ but one was automatically out because it was a request for college tuition and HYTES is focused on secondary education. With only two applications in hand, I was supposed to do some more recruitment “on location” because the fee in TZ is relatively low when compared with Kenya, and HYTES had raised some more funds in Canada. My second overwhelming challenge was that the majority of the guys in TZ do not speak English and all of our application forms are in English - thus for those who do not understand, I had to translate for them, and my Kenyan Swahili is quite different than their Tanzanian Swahili!



**From left to right: Eric Amulaku seated with one of the Tanzanian scholarship recipients, Freddy, his uncle and cousin.**

Luckily I had enlisted the support of a helpful young student called Fredy Fussi.

You know, many of these students do not have a home situation that is conducive to learning. All nine of the Tanzanian

students plus two of the Kenyan students selected for HYTES scholarships have lost one or both parents. Many of those parents still alive are suffering from different kinds of illnesses. Some have no income they are just depending on government housing. For some I don't even know if they would have a meal in the evening or not. Paying school fees is one thing, but there are so many other determinants of health and success for each child.

I managed to get one of the Tanzanian girls by the name of Lingasiku into a hostel. She had been living alone and struggling so much, but still maintained an interest in going to school whether with or without food. In her eyes you could see a very responsible girl who knows what she wants in life. She is driven by passion to help other people, other orphans like her. She wants to study law and that is her inspiration.

All in all, it has been fun interacting with the young boys and girls in Kenya and TZ, getting to listen to their requests, their ambitions, their future goals, and their family background until such time one gets so moved by their stories... I felt like if I lived closer I would just have some of them move into my home with me!

Over the past year, I have been fortunate to oversee the restoration of hope and smiles on the faces of these young ones... smiles that make me happy that I was and am part of this organization. HYTES is successfully injecting a dose of hope to Africa and the world, in its mission to uplift, inspire, and protect through education. It is a visionary mind that gave the lead. It is a visionary team that gave support, time and unity. Just like a hand has five fingers, HYTES has five letters - a sign of the need to all work together towards a common goal and to affect change in our local, national and international communities. A journey of a million steps begins with just one...

Bless he who had the brainchild for HYTES, and those who midwived it!

May HYTES reach new heights in the years to come!

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## **Right To Play: A Worldwide Win**

*by Allison Barry*

**A** child's right to play may seem only marginally important in nations battling poverty, disease, war and corruption; but not to those involved in Right To Play. They believe sport and play have the power to make the world a better place, simply put: 'When Children Play, The World Wins'.

Their mandate is to promote health, development and peace in disadvantaged areas all over the world through sport and play. Their successful efforts to date have helped to create empowered individuals and communities, healthy and educated children, cultures of safety and peace and improved healthy lifestyle behaviors for many.

Right To Play ambassadors travel to regions of the world where government funding can't provide for the basic needs of children. Even with the help of foreign aid, these regions struggle to provide adequate health care and education. Areas that are fortunate enough to have peace, often welcome refugees from neighboring nations ravaged by conflict, placing a further strain on the already stretched resources.

The state of these nations has a profound impact on the growth, development and joy of their children. Instead

of balancing homework, swimming lessons and chores; these children are faced with disease, malnourishment and poverty.

Using sport and play to turn these nations around may sound like an idealistic, even impossible, mission to some. But for the many athletes involved in this international humanitarian effort, it is an enlivening and rewarding experience.

Over 50 Canadian athletes, past and present, including Clara Hughes, Wayne Gretzky and Beckie Scott are ambassadors for Right To Play as well as many others from around the world. These athletes are striving to leave a legacy defined not only by their performance in international competition but also by their contribution to the international community.

Right To Play currently has programs running in 23 countries including Tanzania, Zambia, Rwanda and Ethiopia. Groups work both with existing education systems as well as in communities without formal education or sport infrastructure. Athlete ambassa-

sadors, coaches and volunteers implement and run two primary programs, *SportWorks* and *SportHealth*. Both programs are deeply rooted in the principles of inclusion and sustainability, and embody the philosophy of Right

To Play - 'Look After Yourself, Look After One Another'.

All members of the community are encouraged to participate and the hope is that communities will take ownership of the programs, become the teachers themselves, and cultivate continued growth and development.

**All members of the community are encouraged to participate and the hope is that communities will take ownership of the programs, become the teachers themselves, and cultivate continued growth and development.**



The *SportWorks* program promotes healthy physical, social and emotional child development as well as the development of sport and play infrastructure within the community. The *SportHealth* program includes a mandate to provide health education and encourage healthy lifestyle behaviors in addition to child and community development.

Lessons that would be daunting to teach, even in a classroom setting, are approached with innovative games. For example in Infection Protection, one child represents the body and stands in the middle of a circle of children who represent the immune system. Another child represents the virus and starts the game outside of the circle. The 'immune system' is tasked with protecting the 'body' from the 'virus' by keeping their circle strong and preventing the 'virus' from breaking through.

Infection Protection and other games are the cornerstones of the Red Ball Child Play (RBCP) and Live Safe, Play Safe (LSPS) training modules.

The RBCP module is based on a holistic approach to child development. A game or physical activity experience is designed specifically for five areas of development – the mind, body, spirit, health and peace. Each area represented by a different colored ball, corresponding to the colors of the Olympic Rings. The Red Ball represents the intellectual mind, the Black Ball the physical body, the Yellow Ball represents the emotional spirit, the Blue Ball represents social well-being or peace and the Green Ball represents overall health. The LSPS module is a health education program that uses games and interaction to teach children about the prevention of the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Important lessons taught through sport and play provide communities with skills and strength to help meet the challenges in their daily lives.

In Tanzania alone, over 120,000 children and adolescents have been impacted by the activities of Right To Play since 2001. Teacher councils in Temeke, Ilala and Kinondoni districts have received the RBCP workshop and are delivering it through schools. In Dar es Salaam the LSPS program is being delivered by a national Christian sport organization, and in Ngara LSPS is facilitated by the Volunteers Consortium To Support People With AIDS. The Tanganyika Christian Refugee Service has delivered both RBCP and LSPS workshops to teachers in Kibondo. With key implementing partners including UNICEF, Red Cross, Africare, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Right To Play has helped Tanzania gain a foothold on sustainable development.

Worldwide, Right To Play (formerly Olympic Aid) has raised funds to build schools and hospitals, as well as to support Refugees and disabled children. They have helped to vaccinate over 12 million children and have provided countless meaningful sport and play experiences through the *SportWorks* and *SportHealth* Programs.

Under the leadership of Johann Koss, four-time Olympic Gold Medallist in speed skating, Right To

Play is poised to continue as a world leader in Sport for Development. Further demonstrating the remarkable power of sport and play to help activate, educate and exhilarate children all over the world.

For more information, please visit [www.righttoplay.com](http://www.righttoplay.com).

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**Our Charitable  
 Registration Number is  
 828039545RR0001.**

*All articles written by Harold Pliszka unless otherwise stated. Many thanks to all who helped with this issue.*

## Membership and Donation Form

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Province:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Country:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership:** \$25.00     Yes     No

**Donation Amount:**     \$20.00                       \$50.00  
                                    \$100.00                      \$150.00  
                                    \$200.00                      \$300.00

**Other Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Payment Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Where would you like the bulk of your donation directed?**

Guatemala     Tanzania     Kenya     Zambia

Any or all of the above

**Please use one "Membership and Donation Form" per person.**

**You will be provided a tax receipt via email (or regular mail) if your donation is \$20.00 or more. Please note tax receipts are not provided for membership fees.**

Please contact me with any opportunities to volunteer with HYTES' initiatives.

I would NOT like my name published in any HYTES material (printed or online). Please consider this gift as an anonymous donation.