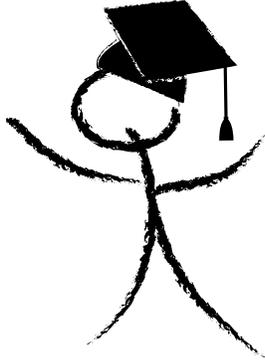


Helping Youth Through Educational Scholarships

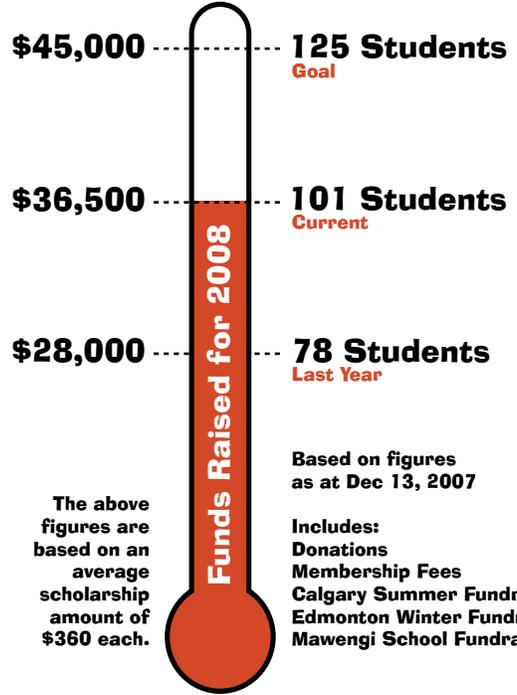
# HYTES



## Help HYTES Send Students to School

by Harold Pliszka

This year was a very successful year for HYTES. With the help of donors and volunteers, we awarded 78 scholarships for the 2007 school year and, based on our current bank balance, will be able to provide 101 scholarships for the 2008 school year.



If you are considering the gift of education this holiday season, please consider donating to HYTES so we can provide scholarships to as many qualified applicants as possible.

You will find a donation form on page two of this newsletter or you can donate online at [www.hytes.org/ch/](http://www.hytes.org/ch/).

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## How Much Does Secondary School Cost?

written by Harold Pliszka  
data by Scott Muzychka

According to our data from last year, one year of secondary school costs \$715 CAD in Kenya, \$239 CAD in Tanzania, \$296 CAD in Zambia and \$483 CAD in Guatemala. These figures are averages taken from small samples that, in many cases, include tuition, exam fees, uniforms, program costs, etc.

### Related Links:

- [www.hytes.org/resources/educationcosts.html](http://www.hytes.org/resources/educationcosts.html)
- [www.hytes.org/resources/statistics.html](http://www.hytes.org/resources/statistics.html)
- [www.unesco.org/education/](http://www.unesco.org/education/)

## Fun with Swahili

by Pam Amulaku

Swahili proverb: “Mvumilivu hula mbivu.” which translates into “The patient person eats ripe fruit.”

- Miembe = Mango
- Nasi = Pineapple
- Machungwa = Orange
- Zabibu = Grapes
- Papai = Papaya
- Ndizi = Bananas
- Mapera = Passionfruit
- Ndimu = Lime

## Holiday Gift Giving Ideas

Donate to HYTES in honour of a friend or family member and we will send a greeting card to your special person explaining your gift. Your gift can be the cover of one year of education at \$360.00 or it can be any amount you wish.

To donate, simply use the form on page four or go to [www.hytes.org/ch/](http://www.hytes.org/ch/).

## Student Profile

by Edward Nobo,  
HYTES student in Tanzania

I am Edward Nobo. I was born in February 1992 at Morogoro in Tanzania. I started my studies, that's Primary One, when I was 7 years old in Dar es Salaam city. At that time I was living with both parents and my four sisters and two brothers so as a family we were nine members. My father used to be a farmer and my mother was a housewife. My parents tried as much as they can to buy for us the things we needed such as books, uniform, pencils and other school requirements.

When I reached Standard Three my mother died, that was in 2001. Life became more difficult for us because I myself loved my mother a lot more than anything in this world. My mother was the only one who knew my problems, she was the one who I lived with when my father was at the farm and my fellows at school. I felt as if I had been left with nobody in this world, I used to cry day after day but my father used to give me courage.

I never gave up, I continued with my studies although more difficulties were increasing. When I reached Standard Six in 2004 my father also died due to snake bite in the farm. I then thought that was the end of the world, with more pain inside my heart. We started living a very hard life, walking on bare feet, lack of food and the basic needs. In the house in which we rented, the owner sent us away because we have not paid rent for that year. Our aunts felt pity for us and decided to take four of us, and the other aunt took three of us. I was in the group of three. I stayed at home for a whole year without studying because my aunt was not able to pay for school fees of secondary school which is very expensive.

Now I am back in school at Mawengi

Secondary, and my marks are all grade A's. I scored 100% in Mathematics, physics, chemistry and commerce. In the future I would like to be an engineer who has a lot of diplomas. I also need to be having my own foundation like HYTES which assists or helps orphans to achieve their goals. I do this because I know how much pain orphans feel being without their parents.

..... ●

## Oh What a Night!

by Pam Amulaku

Over 100 guests attended the latest HYTES FUNdraiser on November 24th, which marked our first Edmonton event and certainly lived up to its advertising to include a virtual feast of East African food, exciting live entertainment featuring Tim Smith, Souljah Fyah and the People's Poets, and a spectacular silent auction... plus succeeded in raising almost \$5000 in funds that will be used to help students through educational scholarships! Wow!



**Guests at HYTES' Edmonton FUNdraiser on Nov 24th groove to the beats of headlining reggae band Souljah Fyah.**

Thank you so much to our AMAZING crew of volunteers in Edmonton for offering up your time and talents for this inaugural HYTES event. It was a lot of work, but everyone pulled together with astounding amounts of energy, enthusiasm and teamwork to get the food on the table, the bands on the stage, the bids on the papers, the smiles on the faces, the drinks flowing, the dance

floor hopping, the kitchen party rocking, and especially for spreading the word about the important mission and objectives of HYTES.

Please see our website in coming days to view the full list of accolades to volunteers and donors for this event... we couldn't have done it without you all, thank you once again for your boundless support!!!

..... ●

## Teaching at Mawengi Secondary School, Tanzania

by Glenna McGregor

The sun was just rising, illuminating tall palm trees and broad-leafed banana trees which made it clear that we weren't in Alberta anymore! After months of excited preparation and years of dreaming Carol Frost and I had finally arrived in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. We had arranged a volunteer teaching experience with the Global Volunteer Network of New Zealand which partners with the Baal Foundation, a local Tanzanian NGO. We had big expectations for what a wonderful trip we were going to have. Expectations that were exceeded in every way by this trip which turned out to be one of the most fun, illuminating, and completely satisfying experiences we have ever had.



We had the excellent fortune to be placed at Mawengi Secondary School



to teach English, biology and supposedly sports, although in that department we did more learning than teaching. Mawengi Exemplary Secondary School was founded in 2004 by 3 dedicated teachers desperate to try to solve the huge shortage of available, affordable secondary schooling for students, especially orphans, in Tanzania. Starting with only 13 students, the school has expanded to 115 students and 7 teachers and has grand plans to expand further, should funds permit. The main purpose of Mawengi School remains the education of orphans and other impoverished students and currently almost 40% of the students are orphans. The school would like to be able to provide education to the students free, however this is impossible, because other than a few grants from donors, school fees are the only source of income for the school, without which teachers' salaries cannot be paid. In fact, while we were there, Teacher Justin's electricity was cut off because he had not paid the bill, having not received his salary for several months.

The first day of teaching was absolutely terrifying! We were introduced to the headmaster who gave us one hour to prepare to teach 80 minutes of biology followed by 80 minutes of English; Carol to the Form I class and myself to the Form II class. However, we needn't have worried. The students were awesome! They were very curious about everything. We had brought with us three microscopes, donated

by the University of Alberta, and they were very excited to look at blood under a microscope because that is how malaria is diagnosed. When I asked for a volunteer to let me poke their finger to get blood, every hand shot up and they bounced in their seats, although my first volunteer

did chicken out when actually faced with the needle. After looking at the blood smear we spent the rest of the class with them all excitedly asking me questions about blood – it was great!

Our students took their education very seriously in comparison to our Canadian classmates over the years. We were absolutely stunned when they continuously asked us to give them more homework! Many of the students faced hardships beyond anything we could imagine. At least three of them wake at 4AM every morning and walk several kilometers in the dark and take several buses to arrive at school in time to do school maintenance tasks such as cutting the grass, scrubbing the bathrooms and sweeping the classrooms; many had lost parents and siblings to AIDS, and others had left school for several years to care for their younger orphaned siblings. However, despite these hardships, they were some of the happiest and most determined kids we had ever seen. We lost count of the number of times that Tanzanian kids told us, "Education is the key to the future". Apart from being a phrase that has clearly been drilled into them, this belief shines forth in their behaviour in class, their work ethic, and their enthusiasm about all things school-related.

We were not expecting to find a school as equipped as Canadian schools, but we were still shocked at the lack of resources. The school itself is a long

concrete building comprised of four classrooms, an office, a teacher's room, a library, and an empty room referred to as "The Laboratory" because the government requires a laboratory in order for a school to be registered. The name "library" is a rather optimistic descriptor of the basically empty room with one wall of shelves, barely one tenth full of books. In fact, until we bought them, the school didn't have a single copy of the current syllabus for any subject, not even one for the teachers! On exams, we had the greatest difficulty detecting cheating because the students had to share pencils. Unless we provided paper many were unable to complete their assignments, and when we did provide paper every corner was fully used, or ripped off to be used in other courses. However, despite this lack of resources, I was very impressed that none of the students felt sorry for themselves; they all felt privileged and grateful for the chance to go to school.



Shortly after we left, Mawengi sent us a letter asking for help fundraising. We thought about it, and decided that we really did want to help Mawengi because we think that it is a good school, and because we loved everyone there, particularly our students, who were so friendly and welcoming, and so motivated and ambitious despite overwhelming odds. Last year we raised \$10,200.00, enough to sponsor all orphan students and a few others who could not pay their fees. Our goal for this year is to raise the same amount

to continue our support of these students.

We are very excited to be given the opportunity to partner with HYTES! We first met Pam and Eric from HYTES down at Heritage Days in Edmonton, where Pam volunteered Eric's cooking skills for a fundraising dinner for Mawengi School that we were planning. Eric very kindly helped us to cook chapatis, sambusa, and ugali for 50 people, as well as giving us other recipes for Kenyan/Tanzanian food. Thanks to Pam and Eric the dinner was a huge success, and we raised \$4625.00 towards our \$10,200.00 goal. We are excited to be able to send the money to Mawengi through HYTES, since it will allow us to offer tax receipts to the donors, and since the sponsored students will each fill out an application form before receiving money, which will make the sponsoring process more formal than merely wiring money to Mawengi School's bank account. Carol and I were delighted to find that an organization like HYTES exists that does exactly what we had been trying to do on our own. We now look forward to working alongside the other members of HYTES as we fundraise in years to come.

**Donate Online using  
CanadaHelps.org  
[www.hytes.org/ch/](http://www.hytes.org/ch/)**

# Donation Form

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Phone Number:** (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Donation Frequency:**  **One Time**                       **Monthly\***

**Donation Amount:**  **\$20.00**                       **\$50.00**

**HYTES**  **\$100.00**                       **\$150.00**

**4676 Quentin Street SW**  **\$200.00**                       **\$300.00**  
**Calgary, AB T2T 6E1**  
**CANADA**

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

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

**\*If you are making monthly donations, please mail post-dated cheques with your donation form.**

**Your donation will go towards scholarships and program costs in Guatemala, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.**

- 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.**
- Please DO NOT add me to your email list.**