



# Unite The World With Africa Foundation

*“When you educate one person  
you can change a life,  
when you educate many  
you can change the world.”*

~Shai Reshef, University of the People

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Winter 2018



*“We are held back not by the love we didn’t receive in the past,  
but by the love we are not extending in the present.”*

*~Marianne Williamson*

Dear friends,

I snapped this photograph below in October while driving through Mkuru, Maasailand, in Northern Tanzania. I include it here because to me it illustrates two of the most compelling stories of Africa: One that is told most often by the mainstream media, which is of the devastation caused by extreme poverty, ignorance and lack; and the other—the driving force behind Unite—which is of the **“stupendous potential\*”** that can be found within youth everywhere, even in the unlikely of places and the most challenging of circumstances. **Their potential is our opportunity.**

Over the years while working to unlock and unleash the **“stupendous potentials”** of orphans and at-risk youth across Tanzania, I have witnessed time and time again how love, presence, hope and compassion can forever change the trajectory of lives. From “Baby Maria” who arrived at the St. Joseph’s Orphans Center as a severely malnourished and deformed two year old unable to walk or talk and who is now a smiling, healthy three-year old, running around chatting in Swahili *and* English, ready and eager to start Baby Class at the Heaven Pre-School to Godfrey Daniel Saitoti who survived as homeless street boy until he was 10 years old when Sister Crispina Mnate adopted him and enrolled him in school for the first time ever and who is now studying to be a surgeon at the Kampala International University in Uganda... the stories go on and on.

The youth we serve and those with whom we work know that with every privilege comes great responsibility and for their achievements all glory goes to God. Their **big dreams** are many and range from building an online e-library through which students in the remotest of villages can access books and lessons (Douglas) and working in medicine to care for the sick and destitute (Angela, Jackson & Godfrey) to pursuing careers in accounting and tax to encourage and enforce “ethical” business (Hilda, Lucy & Marystella) and opening “An African Knowledge Village” as a center of excellence for learning and knowledge sharing (Raymond). These youth have the commitment, determination, work ethic, resilience and faith necessary for success. Our work is to free them from the chains of extreme poverty by meeting their basic human needs and providing them access to quality healthcare, education, strategic support programs and a global network. And, as they grow and evolve, so do we.

As always, I am sincerely grateful to each of you for your interest in and support of Unite and for your own **big dreams** in service to humanity. The future depends on us. **May we be fearless in extending our love!** With blessings and prayers for peace,

Anne

Anne Wells, Founder & Director, [Unite The World With Africa Foundation](#)

[\\* The New African Commentary](#)



## MEET OUR MENTORS

Unite's Scholars Program was created to provide uniquely bright-yet-impooverished youth access to quality education and mentoring support to help them become the leaders of tomorrow. Each scholar is paired with a mentor (*below*) for coaching, networking, life-skills support, and to learn the “soft” skills of professionalism necessary for success in the international marketplace. Unite's mentor-scholar teams are working with a curriculum that Unite developed with the assistance of The Bigs Project (U.S.A), which covers such topics as communications, presentation and personal branding; the importance of networking and informational interviews; preparing resumes; managing the interviewing process; and more. Unite has also partnered with the professional development institute in Tanzania JobOrtunity to provide our mentors with formal training and our scholars with career education. Our goal: To build the Unite Scholars Program into a brand that becomes widely known for honesty and integrity, confidence and creativity, diligence and determination, quality and consistency, and *world-class performance*.

*“The world desperately needs creativity and change. Unite provides a platform for innovative, energetic youth to think creatively, to lead impactful lives and to help prepare others with the soft skills of professionalism that are multidimensionally more powerful than the traditional mindset. Unite is creating a global brand under which exceptional youth can communicate and use their voices to make significant positive impacts on their communities.”*

~**Dr. Raymond Mgeni**, Unite Mentor, Graduate of the Hubert Kairuki Memorial Medical School in Dar Es Salaam, Author (one title is now in the U.S. Library of Congress), Poet, Teacher

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*“Unite is making it possible for talented, passionate Tanzanian youth to secure their futures through quality education. Unite is bringing this country a step closer to eliminating its problems of illiteracy and unemployment by helping young people become creative and independent thinkers so that they can serve as positive change agents. Unite wants to empower youth to lead successful lives as visionaries and leaders. This work matters to me, to our team and to the world.”*

~**Rhoda Lugazia**, Unite Mentor, Graduate of the University of Dar Es Salaam's School of Journalism & Mass Communications, Advertising & Public Relations Professional, Graphic Designer, Creative Writer

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*“Unite is helping Tanzania's youth thrive through education, become aware of their life goals and passions, gain the confidence to speak up for what they believe is right, and gain the courage to take risks. Unite is empowering us to trust that we can build a better tomorrow for our communities, our country and our world.”*

~**Joan Mnzanva**, Unite Mentor, Graduate of the University of Iringa, Community Development Officer, Teacher, Photographer & Videographer







## ST JOSEPH'S ORPHANS CENTER

The St. Joseph's Orphans Center (SJO) is home to 49 children and more than a dozen staff. There is never a shortage of work to be done. There are babies to be cared for, wood to be collected and chopped, food to be prepared and cooked, dorms and grounds to be maintained, clothes and bodies to be washed, books to be read, and so much more.

Since Unite first began working with SJO Founder & Director Sister Crispina Mnate in 2014 we have successfully renovated and built this center into a safe, clean, well-equipped, thriving home. All that remains for building projects is the completion of the new staff house (*pictured bottom left in the distance*) and ongoing maintenance and repairs. However, with two babies, six children in pre-primary school, 15 kids in primary school, 12 teenagers in secondary boarding schools and 14 young adults in university, the challenge of continually providing them all with proper nutrition; appropriate clothing and personal supplies; access to quality healthcare and education; and comprehensive care is tremendous.

We meet this need, in part, by inviting individuals and families to **sponsor** the children. Sponsors can send and receive photos and letters and are sent regular updates and school reports. Sponsors are also some of the few foreigners who are invited to visit SJO to meet the children *in person*. We are thrilled to welcome **Ilse De Jong** (*pictured below center with me & Sister Crispina*) to our team at SJO where she will be supporting Unite's activities and programs in Tanzania. **To learn more about sponsoring a child in need, email [anne@uniteafricafoundation.org](mailto:anne@uniteafricafoundation.org).**







## THE HEAVEN SCHOOL

This August, Heaven welcomed new headmaster Mr Shabani Senjailia. Shabani comes to Heaven after having successfully worked with a number of private schools across Tanzania implementing strategic measures to increase performance and raise national rankings. Areas of focus for Unite:

**Compliance:** With Heaven School Founder Sister Crispina, we work to meet the ever evolving and sometimes unexpected demands of the government. Most recently, we partnered with *Future Stars Academy* to assist with the roll out of a new and improved *sports & physical education program*.

**The library:** Unite is continually working to collect and deliver *books* to grow a robust selection for the students. We are now working with Amefricargo Express out of Bridgeport, CT, to ship barrels to Tanzania, and our most recent shipment included more than a thousand titles from *Better World Books*. We also welcome international volunteers who can run literacy programs. Sydera Theobald (*top right*) from Indiana spent six weeks on campus this past summer tutoring students.

### Unite is currently raising funds for:

- *Additional latrines* and *washing stations* to ensure proper hygiene and sanitation;
- *A second school bus* to meet the needs of the 180+ students traveling to and from the surrounding villages;
- *Educational materials & teaching supplies* for all 10 of the classrooms; and
- *A computer lab* for connected and enhanced learning.





## MATERNITY AFRICA

Unite has partnered with Maternity Africa's Kivulini Hospital in Arusha to establish a "safe delivery" fund for at-risk, impoverished teenage girls who have no means to pay for quality healthcare—before, during or after childbirth. Kivulini is a new hospital that offers excellent obstetric care to the poorest people. Our goal: Provide funding for up to 50 deliveries each year (the cost of a vaginal delivery is \$110 and the cost of a cesarean section is \$340).



## HOPE FOR GIRLS

Hope For Girls provides safe house protection and counseling for girls fleeing the traditional-but-illegal tribal practice of female genital mutilation (FGM), a procedure widely recognized as a violation of human rights. Thanks in large part to the efforts of the **Darien High School's Unite For Africa Student Club**, we recently purchased and delivered 50 insecticide-treated bed nets to protect against malaria, blankets, medical supplies, educational materials, and more.



# IN THE NEWS

## **TRAVEL WITH UNITE**

Unite Tours Service Safaris combine traditional wildlife safaris across East Africa with time spent in the field visiting and working with Unite The World With Africa Foundation's partners and programs. Unite's safari clients are welcomed as friends and invited to share, learn, serve, discover, connect & explore.

To learn more about how to plan your family's safari, email [anne@unitetours.org](mailto:anne@unitetours.org).

[UNITETOURS.ORG](http://UNITETOURS.ORG)



## **MALIONDO IS TAKING ORDERS**

This year we partnered with the talented and gifted Maliondo Amini. Unite is working to build international awareness for Maliondo's paintings, and we awarded him a "Warrior for Change" grant to help him secure a safe, clean, appropriate studio space in which he can work & teach!

*(Left: Maliondo holding a recent commissioned painting and teaching at St. Joseph's.)*

**Instagram:**  
[@maliondoamini](https://www.instagram.com/maliondoamini)



# OUR UNITE FAMILY CONTINUES TO GROW

We are deeply grateful for each and every person around the world who helps make this work possible.

This year we were thrilled and honored to welcome many friends to Tanzania including: Dr. & Jean Aziz; Josephine Brunoski; Tyler Duer; Amanda Foster & Marinka Hudonogov (& kids); Lisa Lawrence; Claudia Nixon; Sydera Theobald; Astrid & Paul Weismann (& kids); David, Lila, Harriett & Katharine Wells; and Debbie Wiley.



## WHAT'S NEXT?

Advisor Anty Marche is leading and guiding our mentors and scholars in the creation of a *Unite Debate Club*, a *Unite Magazine* and an *International Unite Scholars Symposium*.

*The first annual conference is now being planned for October 2019 in Tanzania. Why? Because their dreams matter and their voices need to be heard.*

**Stay tuned.**



To make a tax-deductible donation online visit  
**[uniteafricafoundation.org](http://uniteafricafoundation.org)**  
or send a check to Unite The World With Africa Foundation  
49 Whitney Street, Westport, CT 06880

Contact: Anne Wells, Founder & Director, [anne@uniteafricafoundation.org](mailto:anne@uniteafricafoundation.org), 314.239.3997

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**Unite's University Scholars:** Winnifrida (Marketing), Hyasinta (Business), Simon (Computer Science), Angela (Nursing), Lucy (Tax), John (Education), Godfrey (Medicine), Agnes (Business), Hosiana (Community Development), Hilda (Accounting), Genes (Education), Douglas (Computer Science), Jackson (Medicine), Yukunda (Tourism & Wildlife Management), Marystella (Business) and our **1st University Graduate** Rogers Mgalla, who is now a gainfully employed engineer!

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