



Learning Begins with the Turn of a Page

BOOKS FOR AFRICA 2013 ANNUAL REPORT



Dear Friends,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you, our donors and supporters of Books For Africa, for another outstanding year. We want to share with you some of what we have been able to achieve in 2013:

- **We shipped a LOT of books (again):** BFA continues to be the world's largest shipper of donated books to Africa, shipping over 30 million books to 49 African countries this year. We received top ratings from Charity Navigator for the seventh consecutive year, as well as Guidestar and the Minnesota Charities Review Council. In 2013 alone, we shipped 1.5 million books, 775 computers, and 3 law libraries valued at over \$22 million to 21 countries;
- **We celebrated 25 years of BFA:** We hosted special receptions at the Harvard Club in New York, the Kenyan Embassy in Washington D.C., and with the South African Ambassador Ebrahim Rasool at a special dinner in Atlanta. Our annual braai (South African Barbeque) was a big hit with our very own Warehouse Band providing rocking entertainment. Finally in September, 500 people from around the globe joined us for our Silver Jubilee Gala in St. Paul. Guests included U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar and Keynote Speaker Nayaradzayi Gumbonzvanda, World YWCA General Secretary;
- **We made big plans:** We started several large-scale projects with African partners to ship one million books to Rivers State, Nigeria, and another million books to schools in 18 African countries with the Sir Emeka Offor Foundation;
- **Parlez-vous Francais?** We shipped French—language books from Paris to Cameroon in July and to Guinea in October. A good book—in English or French—can make all the difference in a place where just getting to school can be a challenge;
- **We e-read:** In July we announced a new partnership with Worldreader to ship e-readers in addition to hard copy books. At BFA we believe that digital readers can help enhance the power of books in improving African education;
- **Our voice was heard:** In November, BFA participated in the annual meeting of the African Studies Association presenting research on the growing importance of the English language on the African continent;
- **We advanced the rule of law:** In November, we celebrated the fifth anniversary of our Jack Mason Law and Democracy Initiative, which has shipped 69 law libraries sponsored by Thomson Reuters to law schools, universities, parliaments, and human rights groups in 20 African countries. At the special reception hosted by Minnesota Chief Judge Michael Davis, key attendees included Former U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale, Professor John Bessler (former law clerk to Judge Mason), former Minneapolis Mayor Sharon Sayles Belton, U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar, Global Head of Sales of Thomson Reuters Legal, Tom Pfeifer, and Cargill Executive Kojo Amoo-Gottfried (nephew to former United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan).

It has truly been a great year, with so much achieved for the children of Africa. In 2013—our 25th anniversary year—we celebrated our successes as we continue to explore and plan with vigor our opportunities for the future. We thank you for your past support and welcome your continuing financial help as we persist in our efforts to end the book famine in Africa. Because of you, and your support for Books For Africa, the world will be a better place. The children of Africa will be able to improve their lives and help realize a better future for the African continent. These were the dreams of Nelson Mandela, who stated that "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." They are our dreams. And we know they are yours as well.

Sincerely,

Norm Linnell
Board President

Patrick J. Plonski, PhD
Executive Director



How To Help Support Books For Africa

50¢ cents provides a student in Africa with a book

\$100 provides a classroom set of books

\$200 provides an encyclopedia set for a school or community library

\$2,000 provides enough books for an entire school

\$10,300 supplies a full 40-foot sea container of 22,000 books – enough for 10 schools



Cash Gifts

Your cash, check or credit card gift to Books For Africa can be designated for a specific program or directed to where the need is greatest. All gifts are tax deductible, as specified by law. For your convenience, gifts by credit card can be made directly online at www.booksforafrica.org.

Matching Gifts

Many companies match employee donations dollar for dollar to the charity of the employee's choice. Check with your employer about matching your gifts to Books For Africa.

Wills and Other Planned Gifts

Books For Africa can be named a beneficiary in your will and receive other deferred gifts such as life insurance. These gifts are not subject to estate taxes.

Gifts of Appreciated Stock

Books For Africa and you can benefit from gifts of stock (provided you have held the stock for 18 months or longer). You can eliminate capital gains taxes, avoid income tax on the gifted stock, and receive tax deductions for the full value of the stock.

Speakers Bureau

If your employer, club, or group would like to learn more about Books For Africa's mission and work, please call (651) 602-9844 or email bfa@booksforafrica.org.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers have helped Books For Africa become the world's largest shipper of donated text and library books to the African continent. Volunteers help sort and pack books, plan special events, and raise funds. Contact BFA today to find out how to put your skills to work!

Books For Africa Financial Information

Statement of Activity

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
SUPPORT AND REVENUES		
Contributions	3,367,422	2,567,286
Interest Earned	15,125	21,067
Books Contributed	28,521,900	32,654,208
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES	31,904,447	35,252,561
EXPENDITURES		
Program Operating Expenses - Overseas	31,723,321	24,432,351
General and Administrative Expenses	89,616	75,215
Fundraising Expenses	153,637	141,193
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	31,966,574	24,648,759
Change in Net Monetary Assets	23,686	13,018
Change in Book Inventory	115,967	9,827,050



2013 CONTRIBUTORS July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013



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Out of Print

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*Denotes donations from large numbers of donors

**Legacy Society members have included
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BOOKS FOR AFRICA

25th ANNIVERSARY

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