

Life is an Open Book

BOOKS FOR AFRICA 2012 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. Thank you everyone for your help in sending more books to people who want to learn and improve their lives! We want to share with you some of what we have been able to achieve in 2012:

- ♦ **We shipped A LOT of books:** In 2012, we shipped 2.2 million books, 616 computers, and 15 new law libraries valued at over \$28 million to 22 African countries. BFA retained its position as the world's largest shipper of donated text and library books to the African continent having shipped over 27 million books to 48 African countries, and Charity Navigator gave us its top rating for the sixth consecutive year;
- ♦ **We walked the walk:** In February, BFA Founder Tom Warth led a delegation that walked across The Gambia to deliver books to students benefitting from our drive to send one million books to the West African country;
- ♦ **Our voice was heard:** In April, BFA Executive Director Pat Plonski was asked to serve as a keynote speaker for the World Literacy Summit in Oxford, England, to talk about how donated books are making a difference in schools across the African continent;
- ♦ **We journeyed to new places:** Also in April, BFA books arrived in Africa's newest country, South Sudan;
- ♦ **We welcomed distinguished guests:** In May, BFA welcomed the Kenyan Ambassador to the U.S., His Excellency Elkanah Odembo, who shared his own experience with the power of books and education as the keynote speaker for our annual fundraiser in St. Paul, Minnesota;
- ♦ **We hosted big names:** In October, BFA celebrated its third year of operation in Atlanta, Georgia, with a Voices For Literacy Day event featuring NBA legend Dikembe Mutombo as keynote speaker;
- ♦ **We saw the good we are doing:** In October, BFA participated in a key book distribution ceremony in Nigeria with our partner, the Sir Emeka Ofor Foundation;

It has truly been a great year, with so much achieved for the children of Africa. In 2012 we raised more money and shipped more books than ever before in our history. Thank you to all of you, our faithful donors, for your support which has allowed these successes to be achieved. We welcome your continuing financial support as we persist in our efforts to end the book famine in Africa.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Norm Linnell".

Norm Linnell
Board President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Plonski".

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.

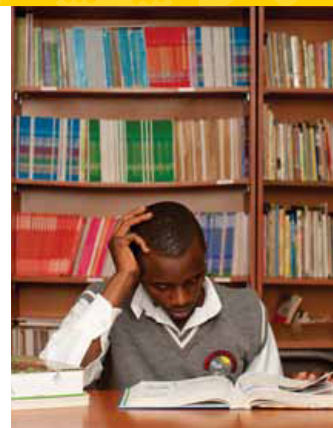
Volunteer Opportunities

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

	2011	2012
SUPPORT AND REVENUES		
Contributions	1,762,199	2,184,431
Interest Earned	41,788	15,125
Books Contributed	22,165,308	28,521,900
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES	23,969,295	30,721,456
EXPENDITURES		
Program Operating Expenses - Overseas	23,571,390	30,540,330
General and Administrative Expenses	76,106	89,616
Fundraising Expenses	146,914	153,637
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	23,794,410	30,783,583
Change in Net Monetary Assets	33,323	23,686
Change in Book Inventory	141,562	115,967



2012 Ambassadors Circle Members

His Excellency Girma Birru Geda, *Ambassador of Ethiopia to the U.S. and Honorary Chair of the BFA Summit Society*
Abdurashid Ali, *Somali Family Services*
Frank Babka, *World Population Balance*
Adolf Berhane, *U.S. Patent and Trademark Office*
Shannon Brown, *AT&T Leadership Atlanta*
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Ruth Knoll, *The Andrah Foundation*
Margaret Li, *Fundraising Consultant*
Lee Lynch, *Carmichael Lynch*
Adam Mambo, *Little Mendelson*
Vuvu Manseka, *Coca-Cola*
Chris Marsh, *International Foundation for Education & Self-Help (IFESH)*
Victor Mbaba, *Africa's Children's Fund*
Beth McClurg, *NCR Corporation*
Meredith McQuaid, *University of Minnesota*
Megan Meyer, *A Hand In Health*
Joe Miller, *Follett Educational Services*
Anna Mkapa, *Equal Opportunities For All Trust Fund (EOTF)*
Stan Moor, *The Westminster Schools*
David Murphy, *Better World Books*
Solomon Negash, *The Bethany Negash Memorial Foundation*
Sir Emeka Offor, *Sir Emeka Offor Foundation*
Doris Pagelkopf, *United Way of Minnesota*
Pam Pappas Stanoch, *Athena International*
Tom Pfeifer, *Thomson Reuters*
Irene Qualters, *Computer Scientist*
Barbara Rose, *Aid for Africa*
Margaret Sents
Shaun Skelton, *Visions In Action*
Valerie Staats, *U.S. Peace Corps – Cape Verde*
Allison Walker, *GE Capital*
Gary Zelko, *Merck and Co., Inc.*

Jack Mason Law & Democracy Initiative Honorary Co-Chairs

Kofi Annan, *Former U.N. Secretary-General*
Walter Mondale, *Former U.S. Vice President*



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Asratie Teferra
Michael Wirth-Davis



BOOKS FOR AFRICA



25th ANNIVERSARY

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

OFFICE LOCATION:

253 E. 4th Street, Suite 200
St. Paul, MN 55101 USA
(651) 602-9844

GEORGIA WAREHOUSE:

2971 Olympic Industrial Drive SE, Suite B
Smyrna, GA 30080 USA
(404) 603-8680

MINNESOTA WAREHOUSE:

(opens March 1, 2013)
635 Prior Ave. N Suite 100
St. Paul, MN 55104 USA

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Key Partners :

