Books For Africa has shipped more than 50 million books, serving all 55 African countries in the past 32 years.
Dear Friends,

2020 has been another record-setting year here at Books For Africa! Your generous support in 2020 has allowed us to make great strides in fighting the African book famine. We are pleased to share with you some of what we achieved in 2020:

- **We shipped books by the millions (yet again):** BFA continues as the world’s largest shipper of donated books to the African continent, shipping over 50 million books and serving every single African country in our 32-year history. This has garnered us a ninth consecutive top 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, putting BFA in the top 4% of all U.S. charities for fiscal responsibility and transparency. In 2020 alone we shipped over 3.7 million books, and 304 computers and e-readers containing almost 300,000 digital books, carrying a total value of $38 million. Twenty countries were served this year. Thanks to supporters like you, almost $3.2 million in cash donations was raised in 2020 to ship these materials.

- **We shipped our 50 millionth book to Africa:** We are pleased to report that we have shipped our 50 millionth book, "Kofi Loves Music," to Ghana. We worked with Ghana’s Ambassador to the U.S., His Excellency Dr. Barfuor Adjei-Barwuah, to facilitate this book shipment. After 32 years of collective hard work, the 50 millionth book is cause for celebration, and we welcome your help as we get to work on the next 50 million!

- **We shipped through the Covid-19 pandemic:** The Covid pandemic has caused global dislocation, school closures, social distancing requirements, and dramatically reduced economic activity. This has resulted in severe disruption for our partners in Africa as sea ports, offices, schools, universities and libraries have been closed or seen reduced operations. Despite these challenges, BFA and our partners across Africa pressed on, continuing to sort, pack, and ship books from our warehouse facilities. We all hope for better things to come in 2021 – we will continue to do our best to meet the needs of our partners across Africa regardless of what comes next!

- **We connected with key partners:** In 2020 we participated in a large-scale USAID-funded project in Ethiopia, delivering hundreds of thousands of new children’s books across Ethiopia. We also continued our partnership with the Ethiopian Knowledge and Technology Transfer Society to develop a librarian training program, helping to ensure that library patrons are being well-served and a culture of reading is being fostered. In our warehouse, we were happy to host volunteer groups in 2020 from Amazon, the Atlanta Falcons, AT&T, Coca Cola, Delta, Ernst & Young, Google, McDonald’s, Walmart, Bank of America, Caterpillar, CNN, Home Depot, Starbucks, US Bank, UPS, and many other organizations. These volunteers sorted the millions of books we shipped in 2020. We could not have done it without them!

- **We brought books from far and wide:** BFA continues to work to put quality, relevant materials in the hands of African learners. To accomplish this, we have cast a wide net for the best materials available. In addition to the millions of books shipped out of our Atlanta warehouse, we also shipped books from Paris, Montreal, Toronto,

- **We did some things we had never done before:** Books For Africa is always pushing the envelope and seeking new and better ways to meet the needs of our friends across Africa. In 2020, under the new “Books For Africa Publishing” label, we printed a custom run of 44,000 Somali language children’s books. This initiative, in partnership with Lerner Publishing and the Minnesota Humanities Center, will deliver books to locations across Somalia. We sent a record-breaking shipment of 250,000 books to the Zambezi Schoolbook Project in Zimbabwe in April of 2020, in partnership with the United States Department of Defense Humanitarian Relief Program. Finally, we partnered with the UPS Foundation to ship nine containers of books across Africa. The UPS Foundation provided donated freight for this effort as we emptied a donated warehouse full of books in North Carolina.

- **We listened to our African partners:** For the fifth consecutive year, we surveyed our book recipients to assess impacts of our activities. As with previous surveys, we are pleased to know that recipients overwhelmingly rate BFA books as high quality, and agree that the books will be very useful in promoting literacy in local communities. In 2020, we heard from 38 recipients in 16 different African countries.

In 2020, we engaged our partners on all levels in order to deliver millions of books. This year marked our 32nd year of working towards our vision of getting children reading in every African country. This was the dream of Kofi Annan, who stated, “Literacy is quite simply the bridge from misery to hope.” We are honored to have the opportunity to help bridge this gap, and we appreciate your help in making this happen. With best wishes for a happy and productive 2021,

Joni Sussman
President

Patrick J. Plonski, PhD
Executive Director
2020 Board of Directors

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Arikana Chihombori-Quao,
Former African Union Ambassador to the U.S.
Walter Mondale, Former U.S. Vice President

In Memorial

Kofi Annan, Former U.N. Secretary-General,
Founding Co-Chair

Summit Society Chair

H.E. Lazarous Kapambwe, Ambassador of Zambia to the U.S.

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Richard DeLoach, Friend of BFA
Genevieve Eba-Polley, Ghana Book Trust
Ken Fitzgerald, Walker Bookstore
Lali Galan, Friend of BFA
Kassahun Getachew, Ethiopian Knowledge & Technology Transfer Society
Christian Goergen, College of DuPage
Natalie Hahn, Malaika Foundation
Kim Harms, River’s Edge Dental
Pat Harris, PMA Financial
Michael Henley, Hansen Henley Yoder and Lamb, retired
Abdirahman Kahin, Afro Deli
Dr. Clark LaChapelle, Dr. LaChapelle Family Fund
Todd Lawton, Out of Print
Catherine Martignacco, BFA Kilimanjaro Society
Catherine Mayer, BFA Kilimanjaro Society
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Jeffrey Sturchio, Corporate Council on Africa
Asratie Teferra, Friend of BFA
Chris Tolbert, City Council of St. Paul, MN
In order to enhance our efficiency and logistical capacity, we have consolidated our office and warehouse in Minnesota, and have moved to a new warehouse and office in Georgia!

MN Warehouse & Office
717 Prior Avenue N, Ste. B
Saint Paul, MN 55104 USA

GA Warehouse & Office
1491 Cobb Industrial Drive, Bldg. B
Marietta, GA 30066 USA

Books For Africa Financial Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement of Activity</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUPPORT AND REVENUES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>2,977,892</td>
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<td>Interest Earned</td>
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<td>Books Contributed</td>
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<td>TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES</td>
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<td>EXPENDITURES</td>
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<td>Program Operating Expenses - Overseas</td>
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<td>40,646,169</td>
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<td>$82,979</td>
<td>$117,272</td>
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<td>Change in Book Inventory</td>
<td>$5,252,882</td>
<td>$(3,476,408)</td>
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Please visit [www.booksforafrica.org](http://www.booksforafrica.org) to donate or learn more about the many ways you can help support Books For Africa. Books For Africa is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit, all gifts are tax deductible as specified by law. Our EIN is 41-1627391.

DONATE NOW
Books For Africa has shipped more than 50 million books, serving all 55 African countries in the past 32 years.

BFA hit a milestone in 2020: we shipped our 50 millionth book, “Kofi Loves Music,” to Ghana. We were honored to work with the Ambassador of Ghana to the U.S., His Excellency Dr. Barfuor Adjei-Barwuah, to facilitate this shipment. To mark such a momentous year, we held a Virtual Global Celebration in September that was keynoted by Ambassador Adjei-Barwuah and attended by BFA supporters from around the world.

Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic

The Covid pandemic has caused global disruption, impacting BFA and our partners in Africa. We have responded to this challenge by providing resources to our partners. With a $150,000 grant from the Merck Foundation, BFA provided thousands of digital and hard copy medical resource books to doctors, nurses and medical students across the continent. We also provided shipments of books that supported schools under quarantine. According to a Rwandan science teacher, “Because of the books received from BFA, each child went home with a book to continue learning while they were in quarantine.” Normal distributions and operations also continued, as we observed safety precautions to keep our staff, partners, and volunteers healthy!
BFA Shipments in FY 2020
July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Containers</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Containers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Botswana</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Gambia</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Kenya</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>Liberia</td>
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<td>Togo</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Zambia</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>211</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTALS:** 211 container units, 304 computers and e-readers, 6 WestCore law libraries, 3.7 million hard copy books and 299,421 digital books to 20 countries

**TOTAL VALUE:** $38 million
Number of container shipments sent since 1988
Niger

African Development University in Niger reported back on the success of its new library, a collection of 20,000+ books that was built from the container shipment provided by BFA. According to Kader Kaneye, “The African Development University [now] has one of the top well-stocked libraries in Niger, and perhaps in the entire Sahel region.” The University’s latest newsletter spoke to how these resources will support research, and expressed a hope that they will continue to grow and add to their collection.
Togo

A shipment of nearly 27,000 books arrived in Togo for distribution in northern Togo, a harder to reach area. Stops included Kara, where books were distributed to fourteen libraries and two orphanages, and Dapaong, in the far north of Togo. The books will equip libraries so that people will have access to high-quality books locally, without having to travel far. The shipment included both English-language and French-language books, as well as 20 solar reading lamps and 5 e-readers. This project had connections with Minnesota, where BFA’s administrative headquarters is located! Container Captain Akebim Moise Hezoue was a Mandela Scholar at the University of Minnesota’s Humphrey School, while another sponsor of the project, Charlie Cogan, is a BFA board member and long time supporter. BFA Founder Tom Warth also helped organize this effort.
Zanzibar

A Girls Empowerment Collection, sponsored by the late Luanne Nyberg (former BFA Board President) and her friend Julie Andberg, arrived in Zanzibar in summer 2020. Luanne and Julie originally visited the organization during BFA’s Walk Across Zanzibar event in 2016. The collection was part of a container shipment through the State University of Zanzibar, with the collection itself going to the Pamoja Youth Initiative (PYI). PYI entrusted the Girls Empowerment Collection to its “Champion’s Girls,” who are undertaking leadership training with them.
2020 CONTRIBUTORS
Fiscal Year 2020 donor listings represent contributions received July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Individuals

SUMMIT SOCIETY
$25,000-$55,000
Anonymous
Richard & Vivikka DeLoach

$10,000-$24,999
Anonymous (2)
Frank Bakwa
Mark Bradshaw
James Coughlin
Lisa Cressman
Hilary Nikolajsen
Carol O’Rourke
Thomas Warth & Zantha LaFon Warth

$5,000-$9,999
Anonymous
Neil Arora
Vincent Barton in memory of Susan Barton
Joseph Gharley
Keith Levy
Rebecca Marr
Afolake Mobolaji
Brenda Moore
Richard Murphy
Jesse Oskie & Mary Harrington
Sarah Ratner Goldstein
John Rupp & Stephanie Laitala-Rupp
Dick Simpson
Mike Spurillo

KILIMANJARO SOCIETY
$1,000-$4,999
Sylvia Aboud
Teteferi Abere
Patricia Adams
Adeyoola & Oludase Ajayi
Douglas & Mary Albin
Frank Allocca
Ron Aminzade & Mary Harrington

$500-$999
Ann Benge
Sharon Bigot
Douglas Blanke
Marianne Bowers
Madeline Brandt Jacquet
Stanford Brown
Louis Brownstone
Gavin & Sara Burns
Kynene Butler
Ryan Charrand
Robert Chavko
Sylvia & Soong Chiang
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Rosalie Durkota
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John & Michelle Elstad
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Vince Gabor
Ali & Augustine Garba
Bruce Geller
Ethel Gill
Allen Ginsburg
Steve Griffith
Hermann & Joan Habermann
Bill Haggerty
Sharif Hajj
Thomas & Katherine Harig
Abidikadir Hassien
Michael Henley & Randi Yoder
Barbara Holm
Adam Huibig
Cecilia Ibru
Andrew & Jennifer Ice
John Ingram
Jill Cordes & Phil Johnston
Michael Joseph
Ragui Kamel
Abbe Kebede
Tom Kivlahan & Liz O’Kelly
Stuart & Mary Ellen Knoppmlimer
Steve Kranz
June Kronholz & Edward Lapner
Susan Levesque
Robyn Liese
Daniel & Corie Loes
Paul Lucia
Janette Maher
Catherine & Rudi Martignacco
Arthur Matas
Catherine Mayer
Ms. Maynard & Mr. Dirksen
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David McLaughlin
Ellen Miller
Per Fitchell & Pam Woodley
Christy Murray in memory of William Wallace
Paul & Sharsi Musshere
Sally Muspratt
Mutuo Mutisya
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Lavanya & Arshad Noor
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Luanne Nyberg
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Alis Olsen
Sarah Olson
Harold & Melanie Oyster
Tom & Betsy Pfeifer
Steven Pfeifer & Kristin Reagan
Garang Buk Buk Piol
Patrick Pionski & Judy Hawthkinson
Wayne Poole
Hillary Pryce Lewis
Joyce & Ronald Rabens
Carol Ravallo
Michael Reisnick & Linda Bearing
David Sandels
Laure & David Sangre

$100-$499
Dennis & Barbara Senesseth
Phyllis Sharp in memory of Susan Barton
Sarah Sheehan
William Simpson
David & Elizabeth Sparrock
Joshua & Hope Stern
Cassandra & Andy Stillman in memory of Bob Mintmann
Joni & Peter Sussman
Frederick Sutherland
Tom Sydum in memory of William Wallace
Aerobe Tefetera
Sharon Thayer
Kathleen Tiford
Matthew & Kathryn Tokor
Stanley Trollip
Gayle Turner
Ngozi Ume
Marc & Heidi Underhalter
Thomas Van Soelen
Anna Vogel
Nancy Wartik
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Lawrence & Barbara White
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Karen Wood
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Lily Yun
Gretchen Young
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Noel Brady
Florence Britton
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Karen & Ben Schwalb
Selma Schwalb
Caroline Schwartz
Ivy Schwartz
Diane Segerson
Alisa P. & Sanaa E. Khalafalla

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Abiola Adisa-Obayan
Gayle Ames
Tim & Sue Anderson
F blocking
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Maria Baral
Ade Batar
Donna Wells Blake
Judith Blumberg
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Diane Knight
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Joshua Kuzman
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Isha Latty
John Legg
Tom Listocki
Laurry Luck
Helen Maleche
Jeanne Maloney & Andrew Dowdy
Patrick & Judy Mandile
Stephen Mayer
John McCabe
Julie & Eugene McDonough

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Matous Michal
Antonette Miller
Michael Miller
Annette Millz
Maria Molja
Dennis Moore
Katherine Morlan
Mary Morarty
Pawel Mrowiec
Anonymous
Celeste Myers
Melissa Nelken & Ronald Lee
Susan O'Swood
Bethany Ogilvy & Tyler Reitzman
Michael Ouw
Atul Pandit
Bruce Parker
Dianne Patrick
Sarah Lynn Payne
Bruce & Beverly Perry
Michael Ponski
Katherine Dubois Reed
William Reid & Kathy Schnare

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Karen Xiao
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Joylyn Abrams
Duffy & Dave Abramson
Amy Albus
Nadzi Ali
Ausa Aliu
Gene & Barbara Allison
Pamela Andrade
Jeanne Andre
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Sabine Crozier
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memory of Luanne Nyberg
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Rose Hoffman
Bruce Idelkope
Solange Inghilleri
Shiปป Jain
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Badi & Floyd Johnson
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Kohan Leung
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Raimond Jose Mathias
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Curtis Moe & Kathy Harker
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Habiba Mohamud
Monter
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Colby Nordberg
Liam O'Brien
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John Odling-Smeed
Karen & Wayne Olmsted
George & Margaret Ortenzo
Eric & Karen Pacchi
Doris Pajekopf in memory of Gudrun Blager
Philip & Catharine Pailey
Joseph & Michelle Pallas
Faiguni & Ketan Parikh
Jairishna Patel
Sreennisava Pentela
Charlee & Michael Peters
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