



Literacy :

Building Bright Futures

BOOKS FOR AFRICA 2010 ANNUAL REPORT



PHOTO BY PAM SHELTON OF BOTSWANA BOOK PROJECT



How To Help Support Books For Africa



- \$75 provides a new atlas or 200 student dictionaries
- \$210 purchases and sends a new encyclopedia set to a school or library
- \$2,500 provides enough books for five rural schools
- \$9,800 supplies a full sea container of 22,000 books—enough for 20 schools

Dear Friends,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you, our donors, and all supporters of Books For Africa for another outstanding year. In 2010, we raised \$1.6 million and shipped 152 container units of books to Africa. This represents approximately 1.6 million text and library books valued at over \$17.2 million shipped to 19 African countries. Thank you, everyone, for your help in sending more books to the children of Africa, where they are so needed by people who want to learn and improve their lives.

Books For Africa is also proud to report that in 2010 the following goals were achieved:

- BFA retained its position as the largest shipper of donated text and library books to the African continent, shipping over 23 million books to 45 African countries since 1988.
- In April, BFA welcomed to Minnesota His Excellency Daniel Ohene Agyekum, Ghana's Ambassador to the United States, for our annual fundraising reception. A special Memorandum of Understanding was signed at this event with the Ghana Library Board.
- In May, a special reception was held at the Tanzanian Embassy in Washington D.C. hosted by Tanzanian Ambassador Ombeni Sefue and honoring BFA's Summit Society donors.
- In May, BFA celebrated the one-year anniversary of the opening of our 20,000-square-foot warehouse in Atlanta, Georgia, dramatically increasing our ability to ship more books to Africa.
- In October, BFA held an African literature conference in partnership with the University of Minnesota. Key participants included keynote speaker Alexandra Fuller from Zimbabwe, Billy Karanja Kahora from Kenya, Uwem Akpan from Nigeria, and Nuruddin Farah from Somalia.
- In November, BFA-commissioned research documenting the positive impacts of book availability upon student literacy and reading achievement levels was presented at the African Studies Association Conference in San Francisco, California, as part of a panel discussion.
- In November, BFA celebrated the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Thomson Reuters formalizing a joint collaboration to send law and human rights books to Africa under the Jack Mason Law & Democracy Initiative.

It has truly been a great year, with so much achieved for the children of Africa. This is very exciting to us and we are proud to report these milestones to you as Books For Africa continues to strive to end the book famine in Africa. Thanks to your compassion, many children will have the opportunity to improve their lives through education and increased opportunity. Thank you for your support. Nothing could have been achieved without the support of you, our faithful donors.

Sincerely,

Tom Giraa
President

Patrick Plonski
Executive Director



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

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

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 visit www.booksforafrica.org.

Volunteer Opportunities

Books For Africa relies on volunteers to help sort and pack books, plan special events, produce publications, raise funds, and speak to groups. Put your special skills to work!

Books For Africa Financial Information

Statement of Financial Position

	2009	2010
ASSETS		
Current Assets	741,364	1,053,551
Book Inventory	3,274,145	3,333,038
Net Property and Equipment	45,724	43,598
TOTAL ASSETS	4,078,366	4,441,044
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities	19,345	23,436
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	473,079	555,784
Temporarily Restricted	3,585,942	3,861,824
TOTAL NET ASSETS	4,059,021	4,417,608
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	4,078,366	4,441,044

Statement of Activity

	2009	2010
SUPPORT AND REVENUES		
Contributions	1,825,935	1,746,782
Interest Earned	(4,912)	38,055
Books Contributed	18,312,000	17,248,000
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES	20,133,023	19,032,837
EXPENDITURES		
Program Operating Expenses – Overseas	25,855,752	18,467,270
General and Administrative Expenses	140,628	69,082
Fundraising Expenses	158,181	137,898
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	26,154,561	18,674,250
CHANGE IN NET MONETARY ASSETS	(70,729)	82,705
CHANGE IN BOOK INVENTORY	(5,950,809)	275,882



2010 CONTRIBUTORS

July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010

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BFA would like to thank the 692 households who donated \$5-\$99 in fiscal year 2010. We regret that space limitations prevent the full listing of these names. We also thank the 562 donors who provided books to our warehouse.

*Denotes donations from large numbers of individuals.

This list is current as of June 30, 2010. Every effort has been made to ensure its accuracy. If your name has been inadvertently omitted or incorrectly listed, please accept our apologies and contact our office at 651-602-9844.

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"I hope you have seen the expression on the children's faces when they pick up a book in the library for the first time. They are always so excited about learning. They are so used to sharing that many times four or five will read the same book together."

—Gloria Reichmann, returned Peace Corps Volunteer, The Gambia



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