



The Juilliard School Arts Camp & Fundraiser!

The Juilliard School, New York, USA is one of the world's most prestigious performing arts schools and **theumojacentre** was fortunate to host 6 of their students who specialise in music, dance and drama to teach our students for 2 weeks in May. Over the first week our students took part in workshops in a different discipline each day where they learnt different rhythms in the music class, wrote their own poetry in the drama class and made up their own movements in the dance class.

During the second week, the students prepared different pieces to be performed at a fundraising event held at a venue in central Arusha. Our students presented a number of compositions in small groups, many of which were created from their own poetry and song writing. The performance ended with all the students doing a remarkably choreographed dance routine which was full of attitude and style! Over 200 people came to the event and **theumojacentre** was able to raise over £400/AUS\$817 from ticket sales and a raffle sponsored by businesses in Arusha. Our students were amazed by the skills and enthusiasm of the Juilliard visitors and this has inspired them to be more creative and reach for their goals. Never having experienced any kind of creative arts before, they were captivated every day. New friendships have been made and we hope that this connection with The Juilliard School will continue for many years to come. Visit our homepage on Facebook to see videos of their performance. http://tinyurl.com/umoja_centre



The students & our visitors.



Mwajuma performing her poem about HIV/AIDS.



Evan performing a dramatic piece.



Participating in a workshop.



Veronika & Megan.



Jordan with Jadilina, Marta & Happy.



Students practicing their dance routine.



Collin & Patrick performing.

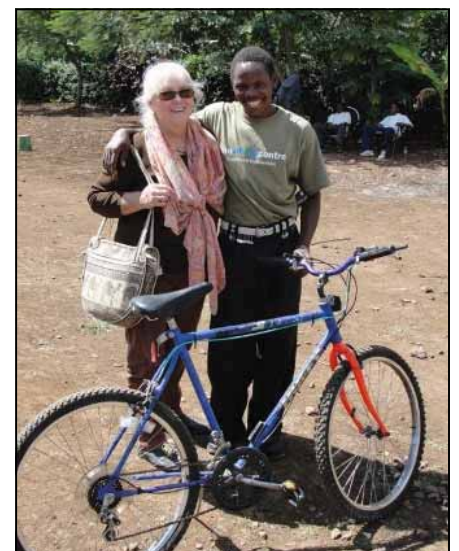
Bicycle Bonanza!

Throughout June/July our volunteers made a fantastic effort to fundraise for bicycles! Many of our students walk for over an hour each way every day to receive their education at the Centre. Others struggle to find the money for the bus fares and become dependant on their financially deprived families. Bicycles are one of our top fundraising priorities. Bikes are readily accessible in Arusha, environmentally friendly and make a significant difference to the students who receive them. Students spend less time traveling and can concentrate better during class because they are not so tired. Vari Galletly, our fantastic volunteer tutor, persuaded her family and friends in Australia to donate money to **theumojacentre** to buy 13 bikes — we have received a grand total to date of £620/AUS \$1300! Tegan Wong from the USA donated funds for 2 more bikes. Students will look after the bikes until they leave the Centre when the bikes will be passed on for the benefit of other students.

Grateful students with their new bikes!



Vari & Elias with his bike



Our Fantastic Volunteers!

In the last few months a number of volunteers have worked at the Centre helping with student tuition, both in English and in I.T. Some of our students left school when they were very young which means they know very little English, which also hinders their understanding of I.T. Volunteers come for a few hours every day to help the students with their reading and writing and practicing their skills on the computer. We also have accommodation for volunteers at the Centre. Currently there are 3 volunteers who are here for 3 months to help with administration, research and I.T. Volunteering can be a fantastic experience and highly rewarding. If you are interested in volunteering with **theumojacentre**, do contact us for more details.

enquiries@umoja.com.au

Visits to student houses!

Once a week we try to visit a student's house to assess how far they have to travel every day to the Centre and to learn more about their personal circumstances. We also encourage their guardians to support the student in their studies by helping them with their transport needs or by giving them fewer chores so they can complete their homework. Tanzanians are known for their hospitality and in every house visited we are welcomed and enjoy getting to know their families. Some of our students live with relatives in one room, where they eat and sleep together. Sometimes the buildings have electricity, but rarely do they have running water. They usually share a communal shower and toilet with a number of other families who live in the area. Some of the houses we have visited are built from cement blocks, while others are put together with sticks and mud. During the home visit, we stress the importance of education to the student's guardians.



Programme Manager Emma at Edward & Michael's house.



Enock's house.

Careers Day!

On the 27th June we held our second Careers Day. A number of local professionals came to the Centre to give talks on their careers, training and job skills and to answer students' questions. The purpose of these discussions is to encourage the students to think about entering other careers that they may never have thought of and to learn what different jobs and workplaces require. So far the Centre has hosted teachers, a doctor, an electrician, a businessman, an accountant, a mechanic, a nurse and a trainee tour guide. Students asked the speakers what they like about their job, what they do not like and what kind of personal characteristics are needed for particular jobs. The students are very enthusiastic about Career Days as it provides an opportunity to find answers to questions they have always wanted to ask.

HIV/AIDS Day

On 15th July two counsellors from Support for International Change (SIC) came to **theumojacentre** to teach our students about HIV/AIDS. SIC is a Tanzanian NGO which works to limit the spread of HIV/AIDS through education. Everyone said that it was fantastic to be able to talk openly together about HIV/AIDS.



Our students Asha, Edina, Zablon and Annette with counsellors Ephraim and Paulina.

How You Can Help

Sponsorship

Over half of our students are currently sponsored, but we still urgently need sponsorship for the rest of them. Just think - by having one less latte each week you could pay for a young person's education. For £16/AUS \$35 a month, you will give a disadvantaged young person the opportunity to improve their skills, which may lead to future training or employment. Your sponsorship will make a huge difference to their future. You will receive information about the student and letters from them. You can also share the full sponsorship with a friend or family member, or we will find someone else who also wishes to "half" sponsor a student. "Half sponsorship" is therefore only £8/AUS\$17.50 a month. For more information please contact us.

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Hold a Fundraising Event!

You can hold your own fundraising event, whether it is a jumble sale, a picnic, a sponsored swim or something larger! We are extremely grateful to anyone who can raise any money for us and we will do everything we can to support you, by giving you ideas and information about the Centre.

Donate Now!

You can donate now to fund the Centre and help us to continue our important work educating young people. We rely on financial donations to keep the Centre running day to day, supplying books for the library and resources for the teachers. You can donate either by sending a cheque to our addresses either in the UK or Australia or directly in to the Umoja bank accounts. Visit our website www.umoja.com.au for details of ways to donate.

Postal Addresses:

For the UK:

Umoja
58 Gough Way,
Cambridge,
CB3 9LN

For Australia:

Umoja
Longleat Farm,
Longleat Lane,
Kurmond,
NSW 2757

Contact Us!

For general enquiries about sponsorship and **theumojacentre** please email enquiries@umoja.com.au



Elias, Gerald & Juma.

Thank You!

We would like to give a special thank you to Jane and Kevin Bayes, Vari Galletly and friends, and of course The Juilliard School volunteers for all their fantastic support. Acclaim Software Ltd in New Zealand has also kindly given us a discounted price for their Cashbooks Complete accounting software which is enabling us to improve our accounting system. Thank you!

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