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Letter from the Executive Director



Dear Friends,

Global education's time has come. As World Savvy winds down another year of programs—reaching 6,000 youth and more than 750 educators from three offices nationally—and as President Obama's administration undertakes the most expansive education reform efforts we may see in our lifetime, the pressing need for the

work we do is more evident than ever before. The leadership challenges our nation's graduates must be prepared to face require a new kind of education that is designed to develop students' knowledge, skills and attitudes for truly global citizenship. This time of change is a call to action for us—an opportunity to integrate more rigorous, relevant and global teaching and learning into K-12 public education. It is no longer a luxury to prepare students for life in a global society; it is a necessity.

At World Savvy, we're responding to this call to action. We're expanding our leadership with two new board members (Carmen Farina and Jennifer Haas-Dehejia) we're building our national team with new staff members in New York (Carissa Johnson) and soon in San Francisco. We are reflecting on a successful year with plans to bring enhanced professional development and youth programming back in the fall. We're offering our World Savvy Monitor publication for free beginning August 1st so that educators in classrooms all over the country can address the timely and critical global issues in focus in 2009-10; Mexico, Children's Rights, Water, Food, and many more.

Thank you, sincerely, for your support as we grow our capacity to meet the expanding need for services nationally. More than ever, this support is needed to be sure that global education thrives in the next decade.

With thanks,
Dana Curran

The School Year Wrap Up

World Savvy raised nearly \$190,000 through our Spring Campaign. Thank you to everyone who contributed! These funds are being used to support the 750 teachers and 6,000 students we serve annually. Global education is gaining momentum and we are proud to have been providing programming to both educators and youth for the past seven years, all with support from donors like you.

Students this year explored a myriad of issues including the themes of "Immigration and Identity" and "Human Migration". Various workshops and activities served to spark students' interest in and active engagement with both their own conceptions of personal and cultural identity and the diverse compositions of the communities around them. One student shared, *"I learned more than I thought I would. I got the opportunity to get to meet new people with different opinions and thinking. Also I got the opportunity to know more about this issue that we have in our world."* Inspired by the work her students had produced, a teacher said, *"I got to learn more about my students from their stories and*

discussions. These are invaluable experiences that remind me of why education is so important to them and their families. [It] also made me plan interdisciplinary lessons and develop rubrics that would align with content and performance standards."

Teachers worked with us to increase global content into their classroom curriculum and throughout their school communities. Providing professional development is one of the keys to our work because it enables teachers to develop the tools and skills necessary to integrate global issues into curriculum independently. One educator said, *"World Savvy's Professional Development Institute was one of the best I have attended. The staff selects their participants carefully, cares deeply about positively impacting the educational system, and facilitates excellent, meaningful, and relevant activities and discussions."*

We are proud of the work our students and teachers have accomplished this year and we have already started planning in each program for the 2009-10 academic year. Your contributions have made all this possible, and for that, thank you! We look forward to seeing you at our Annual Gala on September 24th!

Human Migration Explored



Minn, third from left
Minn is an 11th grader at Lighthouse Academy of Nations, a Minneapolis-based charter school with a student body composed entirely of immigrant and refugee youth. Minn fled Burma with his family to escape the violence and oppression they faced there. He decided to participate in the World Affairs Challenge this year to learn leadership, public speaking and teamwork skills so that he can someday become a leader in his country. Minn and his fellow classmates also had a lot to share about their experiences as refugees and immigrants from Burma, Somalia, Yemen and Mexico. During their formal presentation, the team from Lighthouse used their personal

stories as a platform for examining refugee issues around the world and shared with judges their proposed solution to better address the plight of refugees. For some of these students, this was the first time they had the chance to share their experiences with a captive audience of other students and adults. They also gained valuable skills that they will be able to use to better understand and address the problems that led them to leave their homes in the first place.

Kelsey is a 9th grader at Metcalf Junior High, a public school in the Minneapolis suburb of Burnsville, MN. While the population of Burnsville is 80 percent white, minority enrollment in Burnsville schools has climbed from 7 percent to 34 percent over the past decade. Within this context, Kelsey and her teammates - the "Chaotic Culture Connectors" - decided to explore the contributions of immigrants to US culture. As part of their research, these students visited a number of immigrant neighborhoods in inner-city Minneapolis with their parents. Visiting these neighborhoods sparked a discussion between the students and their parents about immigration in the US and exposed these students to a world they might not have otherwise seen. Through this experience, the students resolved that if Americans had more opportunities to learn about and explore the positive contributions that immigrants have made to our culture, negative stereotypes of immigrants and conflict over immigration might be reduced.



Kelsey, second from right

Kelsey and Minn have had very different life experiences, which allowed each of them to explore the theme of human migration from a unique perspective. Their two contrasting stories illustrate one of the most important aspects of World Savvy's work: it helps students from all backgrounds make a connection between their own lives and global issues that might otherwise

be overlooked. Through their shared experiences and the support of World Savvy, these students have found a common ground and a shared purpose in exploring the complexities of human migration and the impact it has on our world.

seem too complex or distant to understand. Whether a recent refugee from Burma or a white teenager born and bred in a Minneapolis suburb, these youth have much to gain by learning about global issues and how they impact and are impacted by their own lives and actions.

21st Century Classrooms

This past school year marked the first year of World Savvy's new school partnership model. Five schools participated in order to increase the level of global issues integrated



in curriculum across the school and to enhance a school culture of global education and awareness: Philip and Sala Burton Academic High School, International Studies Academy, Roots International Academy, Youth Empowerment School and International School of Monterey.

Over the course of this school year, teachers have incorporated more global themes into their curriculum, in a number of different disciplines. This helped students not only learn more about the world around them, but also connect to real-world problems and issues relevant to their own lives. A sampling of class projects include:

- Learning about race and genetics in biology classes, including a visit from genetic scientists from UCSF to discuss the latest research and its implications in today's world
- Learning about genocides around the world in a literature study of *Night*, and with this context, discussing how *Night* is relevant today
- Service learning projects for advisory classes that incorporate global issues, such as child soldiers and human rights.

In addition, World Savvy facilitated a number of community connections for our partner schools, opening up new opportunities for students outside school, and connecting schools and teachers to valuable real-world experiences offered by partner organizations.

- 3 partner schools brought students to visit the Doctors Without Borders refugee camp exhibit - allowing students to learn about refugees and experience what life is like in a refugee camp
- Partnership between International Studies Academy and Intrax, a cultural exchange organization, to deepen ISA's annual International Interview Project
- An author visit from noted youth author, Mitali Perkins, who spoke with 9th graders about her immigration journey from India to New York to the Bay Area, and about growing up "between cultures".

Integrating Arts Into Learning

The Global Youth Media and Arts Program culminates in a public Festival to honor and showcase student work. The artwork represents the culmination of several months of in-class workshops, reflection and field trips.

Among the artwork featured in the New York Festival were Harlem Children Zone's Promise Academy students' protest posters that championed their views on the rezoning of their Harlem neighborhoods. Students in the Pedagogy of Photography project shared meditations on the phases of the moon and their own multiple perspectives of self. Zines,

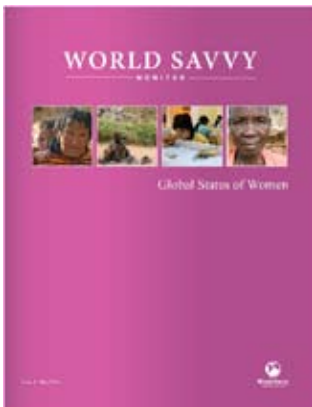


short narrative films and public art proposals rounded out the exhibition. Visitors to the gallery also had a chance to contribute by adding their wishes for the future of immigration in America

to a beautiful wishing tree created by students from Middle College High School.

At the San Francisco Festival Opening, guests were treated to wise and powerful performance poetry and an original play by Oakland's own I GO! and Roots International Middle School, along side Hayward's Impact Academy of Arts & Technology. Among the participating visual artists, were students from Hayward's Conley Caraballo High School who studied storytelling and landscape through traditional Chinese scrolls. They then created contemporary scrolls by exploring the characteristics of their local environment and expressed with poetry and Sumi painting what their personal concept of "home" looks like.

Global Status of Women from the World Savvy Monitor



Beginning on August 1, the World Savvy Monitor will be offered free of charge. Please visit www.worldsavvy.org/monitor.

Many believe the term "the women's movement," is a misnomer. In fact, there are many "women's movements" that seek to address the range of

inequalities experienced by women all over the globe. And all these movements are really about more than women – they are based on the realization that the empowerment of half the world's population is not only a fundamental human rights issue, but also a means to a better, healthier, more productive society for all.

The World Savvy Monitor is an online subscription-based current affairs service for the 21st Century educator, published six times annually with updates and archives.

Grantmaker Spotlight: Taproot Foundation



World Savvy is concluding our work with the Taproot Foundation, who awarded a grant for human resource capacity building in 2008. This opportunity has allowed the World Savvy team to work with highly skilled human resource professionals to examine organizational design and chart a path for national growth in the years to come. We're grateful for this opportunity and we'll be highlighting the volunteers on this team in our Fall newsletter.

Call to Action: Calendar of Events San Francisco:

What: Volunteer Appreciation Party

When: Wednesday, July 22, 6-8:00pm

Where: Cafe Royale, 800 Leavenworth Street @ Post Street

What: 7th Annual World Savvy Gala

When: Thursday, September 24, 6:00pm

Where: Hotel Kabuki, 1625 Post Street, Japantown

What: Applications available for 2009-10 MAP

When: August 2009

Where: Contact Katina Papson at Katina@worldsavvy.org

Minneapolis-St. Paul:

What: World Savvy Trivia

When: Tuesday, July 21, 7-9:00pm

Where: Moto-i, 2940 Lyndale Ave South

New York:

What: Applications available for 2009-10 MAP

When: August 2009

Where: Contact Carissa Johnson at Carissa@worldsavvy.org

Mission: To educate youth in community and world affairs, so they are prepared to live, work and learn as responsible citizens in the 21st century. www.worldsavvy.org

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