



2016 YEARBOOK



FAR AWAY
FRIENDS

A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To all of our friends, both near and “far away”,

Since we first became an official nonprofit organization in 2014, you’ve supported our dream to build a primary school and support high-quality education for children in one of Northern Uganda’s most rural districts.

This year, we accomplished that dream *together*.

After nearly five years of grassroots fundraising, planning, hoping and dreaming, we officially opened the doors of **Global Leaders Day and Boarding Primary School (GLP)** this past March in Namasale, Uganda.

Not only did you help us open our first school in 2016, but through your monthly support of our **OperationTEACH** program, you’ve helped to provide fifteen Ugandan educators, administrators and support staff with a motivating salary and opportunities to advance their career through teacher training.

Because of your support, all of our teaching staff came to work ready to pour their passion for learning into each of their students. **Because of your support**, 100 students came to school and found a mentor, their teacher, eagerly awaiting their arrival. **Because of your support**, fifteen families felt the security that a steady income provides.

It is my greatest hope that our **2016 Yearbook** will help you to know the depth of our gratitude to you, and that you will share our joy for the successes we’ve accomplished together in 2016.

With Tenacious Love & Gratitude,



Co-Founder & Executive Director,
Far Away Friends



ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2016

FEBRUARY

First term classes begin and GLP's first students sit in their classrooms!

Procurement of all teaching supplies and uniforms



JANUARY

Global Leaders Primary School is registered as an official primary school in Amolatar District

GLP Hires a staff of 15 including teachers and support staff

Jon Reinhard joins FAF Board of Directors

MARCH

Official Launch of Global Leaders Primary School in Namasale, Uganda

Over 600 people attend the celebration including parents and community members, community leaders, district representatives, students, FAF Uganda and USA team



APRIL & MAY

Far Away Friends Hosts 2nd Annual Mother's Day Charity event at **ALEX & ANI**

OperationTEACH sponsorship program is officially launched, supporting teachers in Namasale

JUNE & JULY

FAF takes first USA Volunteer team to Uganda for 22 days

GLP partners with Mango Tree Uganda to provide teachers with a 2-day teacher training workshop



AUGUST - OCTOBER

College Inn's 2nd Annual Golf Tournament raises \$5,500 to support Global Leaders, finishing soccer field, toilets, and kitchen

College Inn also holds school supply drive for all GLP students

DECEMBER

Bright Lights, Brighter Futures campaign for Solar Lighting is funded and **exceeds \$5,000 goal** thanks to **The Schutter Family**

Ugandan team visits Colorado for year-end fundraising

Partnership with the Green Family Foundation is announced



NOVEMBER

GLP teachers and staff take students on their **first field trip** to the capital city to visit the airport and the zoo!

The **Bright Lights, Brighter Futures** campaign for Solar Lighting officially launches on **#GivingTuesday, raising over \$1,600 in a single day**

Brandi Goff joins FAF Board of Directors



HOW YOU'VE MADE AN IMPACT



OPERATIONTEACH

Anyone who has ever been in a classroom knows the impact a teacher can have on the students' spirit and ability to learn; regardless of the resources or the space provided, having a passionate and committed teacher who believes in their students is what allows a classroom of kids to become a powerful workforce of doctors, lawyers, pilots, engineers, politicians, artists -- in short, global leaders. By committing to employing talented and dedicated Ugandan teachers and promising them a livable wage, we're able to promote sustainable development by keeping Ugandan culture in GLP's classrooms, and investing in the community's economy. Our teachers create the spirit and culture of the GLP classrooms that visitors and community members have come to admire; by investing in them through OperationTeach, you have played an integral part in creating that spirit, too. *Thank you.*

THE FUTURE IS *BRIGHT*

On November 29th (#GivingTuesday) Far Away Friends launched our annual Year-End Campaign. This year, we set out to raise \$5,000 and fund the installation of solar power at Global Leaders Primary, in a village with no access to electric lighting. With help from matching funds provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, together we raised nearly \$2,000 on #GivingTuesday--the day we launched our "Bright Lights, Brighter Futures" campaign! Thanks to a generous donation from **The Schutter Family** only three weeks later, the campaign for solar lighting was fully funded!



BENEFITS OF SOLAR ENERGY AT SCHOOL

- ☀ Students can read and study from their dorms
- ☀ Boarding students can safely move around & go to the restroom after dark
- ☀ Students & Staff can learn computer literacy
- ☀ Improved communication between US and GLP Staff
- ☀ FAF can launch our *Pen Pal Program* in Namasale

HOW YOU'VE MADE AN IMPACT



FAR AWAY FRIENDS' STUDENT OF THE YEAR 2016

APIO “BABIRYE” JANELLA

When we first visited Namasale in 2012, we met a young girl named “Babirye”. She was a shy, but always observant girl with a maturity beyond her years, preferring to sit with her grandparents and help her elders at dinner rather than play with the other children. Due to the lack of funds available to continue her education after both of her parents passed away, Babirye stopped attending school around the Primary 4 level and devoted her time to caring for her family. However, regardless of the hardships that came her way, Babirye never lost hope of one day continuing her education.

In 2016 as we began to enroll our very first group of students, Babirye was one of the first in line. Through our *Ten to One program* (for every ten students who pay school fees, one orphaned or in-need student is allowed a full scholarship) Babirye was able to obtain a school-fees scholarship to enroll in GLP and attend regular classes for the first time in several years.

Although she is among the oldest students in her fifth grade class, Babirye is proud to be a “Global Leader”. On our opening day, all GLP students wore their ironed uniforms and flanked by their teachers, followed a marching band in a parade through town to announce the grand opening of our school. Regardless of the fact that she was a teenager among a sea of elementary-aged students, Babirye marched proudly past the local high school, waving to her friends as they poured out of their classrooms to see what the commotion was all about. Babirye is a girl whose bravery, tenacity and drive to go to school is unlike any other teenager we’ve met. When she grows up, she hopes to be a nurse.

When she’s not busy studying on her own, Babirye can *always* be found helping other students study or helping her elders with daily chores. **Our 2016 student of the year, Babirye, is a GLOBAL LEADER.**



PARTNERSHIPS IN 2016

GREEN FAMILY FOUNDATION

This year, Far Away Friends had the incredible privilege of being awarded a generous donation from Ingrid and Thomas Green Jr. of the Green Family Foundation. This donation will allow us to provide staff housing on our campus to our teachers at Global Leaders. Providing staff housing for teachers is a standard in Uganda since educators often travel from other districts to teach at high quality schools. Not only will this resource help further motivate and support our teaching staff and their families, but the benefits will also be felt by the students at GLP who will now have easier access to their teachers when they need guidance.



COLLEGE INN

College Inn has chosen Far Away Friends as their charity partner for their annual Charity Golf Tournament at Park Hill Golf Club for the past two years. College Inn has raised nearly \$10,000 to support our staff and students at Global Leaders Primary School by funding several school improvement projects (building a kitchen, toilets and a soccer field) and donating school supplies for over 100 students. Special thanks to General Manager Lauren Ward for her devotion to our partnership.

GOOD BOOKEY

GoodBookey has been an invaluable partnership for Far Away Friends in 2016. Through their innovative "gambling for good" model, they've allowed us to provide our students with many of their day-to-day needs, and much of their staff support us directly as sponsors through our Operation Teach program. Throughout the year, the GoodBookey team has been consistently kind and immeasurably helpful, and we're grateful for the opportunity to continue our work with them in 2017.



LITTLE MAN ICE CREAM

Little Man Ice Cream (LMIC) has supported Global Leaders Primary school in 2016 by donating over \$1000 through their *Scoop for Scoop* program at the start of the school year to provide healthy hot lunches for our students. LMIC and the Far Away Friends US Team also worked together in December to create an exclusive ice cream flavor, "Mama Jass' Mango Madness", to be sold in 2017 in support of Far Away Friends' work.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2017



NEW PROJECTS

ON THE HORIZON

LOOKING AT 2017

In 2017, we are working on launching several new projects and partnerships to further our mission of alleviating educational poverty in rural communities. These new programs & partnerships will allow us to work to advance the quality of education not only at GLP, but also at neighboring primary schools. By working closely with schools in the area, we aim to lift the standard of education attainment in Namasale as a community effort with support from Far Away Friends.

FAR AWAY FRIENDS SCHOOL OUTREACH PROGRAM

Through our new *Far Away Friends School Outreach Program* we will work directly with Administration and Teachers of other schools in Namasale sub-county to identify their greatest needs for school development. Together, Far Away Friends and education professionals in Namasale will work to fulfill those needs and provide support to the partner school in their growth and development.

PARTNERSHIP WITH SCHOOLS FOR GIRLS, INC.

We are overjoyed to be partnering with the Denver-based nonprofit organization, *Schools for Girls, Inc.* on two new projects in Namasale including the construction of a well and the of Global Leaders Senior Secondary School. This partnership will allow us to rest assured that our continuing P.7 students will have access to high quality secondary education to further their studies.

MEET THE GLOBAL LEADERS

Meet a few of our incredible students who attended GLP in 2016

Able



Grade: **P.3**

Free time: "Taking care of cattle."
When I grow up I want to be: **Doctor**

Fiona



Grade: **Preschool**

When I grow up I want to be:
"I just want to be Fiona."

Charity



Grade: **P.3**

Favorite Subject: **Literacy**
When I grow up I want to be: **Doctor**

Chris



Grade: **P.3**

Favorite Teacher: **Ms. Sarah**
When I grow up I want to be: **Doctor**

Cissy



Grade: **P.5**

Favorite Subject: **English**
When I grow up I want to be: **A Nurse**

Eddie



Grade: **P.1**

Favorite Teacher: **Mr. Tom Richard**
When I grow up I want to be: **A Policeman**

Eddy



Grade: **P.2**

Favorite Subject: **English**
When I grow up I want to be: **Doctor**

Edmond



Grade: **P.3**

I love my school because:
"The Teachers are great."

Fiona



Grade: **P.5**

Boarding Student at GLP
Favorite Subject: **English**

MEET THE GLOBAL LEADERS

Meet a few of our incredible students who attended GLP in 2016

Flavia



Grade: **P.5**

Favorite Teacher: **Mr. Joshua**

When I grow up I want to be: **"A Lawyer so I can defend people"**

Gabriel



Grade: **P.2**

Favorite Teacher: **Mr. Joshua**

When I grow up I want to be: **A Doctor**

Gloria



Grade: **P.4**

Favorite Subject: **Math**

When I grow up I want to be: **A Tailor**

Innocent



Grade: **Preschool**

When I grow up I want to be: **A Teacher**

Jackie



Grade: **P.2**

Favorite Subject: **Social Studies**

When I grow up I want to be: **A Nurse**

James



Grade: **Preschool**

When I grow up I want to be: **A Pilot**

Jonathan



Grade: **P.2**

Favorite Subject: **English**

When I grow up I want to be: **Soldier**

Joshua



Grade: **P.3**

Favorite Teacher: **Mr. Sebastian**

When I grow up I want to be: **A Doctor**

Louis



Grade: **Preschool**

When I grow up I want to be: **A Driver**

MEET THE GLOBAL LEADERS

Meet a few of our incredible students who attended GLP in 2016

Luka



Grade: **Preschool**

When I grow up I want to be: **A Doctor**

Mercy



Grade: **P.3**

Free time: "Skipping rocks on the lake."
When I grow up I want to be: **English Teacher**

Meron



Grade: **P.3**

When I grow up I want to be: **A Nurse**

Michelle



Grade: **Preschool**

When I grow up I want to be: **A Pilot**

Miriam



Grade: **P.1**

Favorite Teacher: **Mr. Tom Richard**
When I grow up I want to be: **A Nurse**

Nekodem



Grade: **P.2**

Favorite Subject: **Math**
When I grow up I want to be: **A Driver**

Oliver



Grade: **P.5**

Inspired by her Mother
When I grow up I want to be: **A Policewoman**

Oscar



Grade: **P.4**

Parents are farmers
When I grow up I want to be: **A Doctor**

Penina



Grade: **P.5**

Free time: "Study."
When I grow up I want to be: **Lawyer**

MEET THE GLOBAL LEADERS

Meet a few of our incredible students who attended GLP in 2016

Rachelle



Grade: **P.1**

Favorite Teacher: **Mr. Tom Richard**
When I grow up I want to be: **A Pilot**

Ritah



Grade: **Preschool**

When I grow up I want to be: **A Driver**

Rolex



Grade: **Preschool**

When I grow up I want to be: **A Driver**

Sam



Grade: **P.3**

Favorite Teacher: **Mr. Sebastian**
In my free time I like helping around
the house

Simon



Grade: **P.5**

When I grow up I want to be: **A Mechanic**
I love my school because **The Teachers**

Smiri



Grade: **P.2**

Favorite Teacher: **Mr. Joshua**
When I grow up I want to be: **A Policeman**

Valencia



Grade: **P.1**

Favorite Teacher: **Madame Eunice**
When I grow up I want to be: **A Nurse**

Sarah



Grade: **P.4**

Favorite Subject: **All Subjects**
When I grow up I want to be: **A Doctor**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

With your support, we've made 2016 the best year yet

\$20,000

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The Green Family
Foundation

\$5,000

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College Inn
The Schutter Family

\$500 - \$1000

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Little Man Ice
Cream
Jessie Jennett
Dakota Kisling
Siena Tornillo

\$100 - \$500

.....

GoodBookey
Mary Race &
Pulcinella Pizzeria
Ten Point Sales
Sonata Laser &
Aesthetics
Belong Designs
Classic Shine
Centre Salon
ALEX & ANI

OperationTEACH Sponsors

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Michelle Chambers
Connor Rock

TEACHER SPONSORS

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Rachel Geib
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Debby Koulentes
Linda Stanford
Meg Kimball
Kayla Rollins &
Lauren Knox
Linda Richardson
Zeeshan Kaliq
Tricia Harkless &
James Lewis
Mary Hood
Alisa Wheeler

Brandon Phillips
Vince Tornillo
John Hoff
Allison Lloyd
Corey Ward
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Charles Huang
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Erin Broderick
Tricia Pintavorn
Tiffany Dunmire & Darrin
Martin
Marty & Cindy Ward
Joe & Steph Skirka
Doris & George Skirka
Ann Sullivan

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THANK YOU TO OUR
200+ GRASSROOTS
SUPPORTERS FOR YOUR
SUPPORT IN 2016!

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WE ARE *FAR AWAY FRIENDS*

“Distance means so little when someone means so much,”

COLORADO & UGANDA TEAM

Jayne Ward | Executive Director
Collines Angwech | UG Country Director
Chris Skirka | US Operations Director
Kaitlyn Phillips | Development Director

GLOBAL LEADERS PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS, ADMIN & STAFF

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Jass Omia | Among Judith |
| Ongom Tom Richard | Atima Sarah |
| Ongany Joshua Ongom | Apio Eunice |
| Akena Sebastian | Agnes (Matron) |
| Ipyelo Sarah | Agong Benson |
| Among Eunice | Okello Okeng James |
| Ato Ketty | Anyes Juliet |

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2016

Corey Ward | Jon Reinhard | Brandi Goff
Emul Ritah Omia | Stephanie Skirka



FAR AWAY
FRIENDS