



# Opportunity Education Foundation

## December 2012

- [Teach in Africa! Ghana Education Experience 2013](#)
- [How to Pay for Your Trip - Grant & Scholarship Opportunities](#)
- [Ghana at a Glance](#)
- [And the Kindle Fire Winner is!](#)
- [This School Needs A Pen Pal Partner](#)
- [Featured Sister School Drawing Winner](#)
- [Wishing You A World of Peace](#)

## **Teach in Africa! Ghana Education Experience Trip 2013**

### **OEF invites you to share our Education Experience Trip to Ghana in June 2013**

**Who Should Go?** YOU! Educators, high school/college students, professionals - anyone willing to share their experience.

**What?** A trip of a lifetime!

The trip to Ghana features an orientation, 5 days teaching in schools with the lodging options of a home stay with a local family or hotel. Our Trip also features an excursion to Kakum National Park & Elmina Slave Fortress while staying at a beautiful hotel on the South Atlantic Ocean! Based on current airfare, an estimate of trip expenses, including the lodging, meals and excursion would be \$3000-\$3200. OEF scholarships are available. (see below)

**When?** June 14-23, 2013

**Why?** This is the most important question!

The main focus: to foster cultural awareness and professional development outreach through visiting African schools. You will experience the successes and struggles that African teachers face every day as you work with students improving their English skills. Connecting to classrooms not only promotes cultural understanding but also provides motivation - to all of the participants - to share & learn more.



**What can you expect on an Education Experience trip?  
Take a quick video vacation to learn more.**

<http://www.opportunityeducation.org/videos/load/ugandashort/>  
and  
<http://www.opportunityeducation.org/videos/load/ugandalong/>

Want more info? [Click Here](#) or Paste Link Below for Ghana June 2013 details.  
[http://www.opportunityeducation.org/pdf/newsandarticles/Ghana\\_Summer\\_Trip\\_Brochure.pdf](http://www.opportunityeducation.org/pdf/newsandarticles/Ghana_Summer_Trip_Brochure.pdf)  
or email [schools@opportunityeducation.org](mailto:schools@opportunityeducation.org) and we will send you everything you need.

Don't just take our word for it - take the words of an educator who shared our previous trip .

"The greatest benefit I gained was being able to establish lifelong relationships with the people from Africa as well as those people traveling with Opp Ed. It also broadened my knowledge and understanding so that I am able to share with my family, school and community."  
- **Jill, Special Education Teacher from Colorado**

## **How to Pay for Your Trip - Grants & Scholarships**

Opportunity Education wants you!

To share our Education Experience Trip to Ghana in June 2013.

We are offering \$500 scholarships - to help offset the trip costs. All you need to do is email, "Send me the Trip Form" to [Schools@OpportunityEducation.org](mailto:Schools@OpportunityEducation.org)

We will send you a registration form which also serves as an application for the \$500 scholarships we are awarding to participants. Fill out a five minute form for five hundred bucks..pretty simple!

If you are interested in the \$500 scholarship, registration must be received by 2/15/13. Registration receipt date may be used to help determine scholarship winners - if you are interested, send in the registration and just let me know that your trip confirmation is dependent on scholarship.

Other funding opportunities are available with outstanding organizations that support teachers. Last year we shared our Africa trip with 3 teachers who won a \$10,000 grant from Fund for Teachers. Check out the following links for the very easy application process. Deadlines for entries begin in January 2013, depending on the state.

<http://www.fundforteachers.org/funding-opportunities/index.php>  
<http://www.fundforteachers.org/apply.php>



## **Ghana at a Glance**

- Present day Ghana has been continually inhabited since 4000 BC. (The pyramids were started in 2584 BC).
- Ghana is a little bigger than Minnesota but has 5 times the population with about 25 million.
- Ghana is geographically closer to the "center" of the world than any other country and offers a little bit of everything from coast lands and semi-desert to tropical forests.
- Lake Volta, formed by damming the Volta River in the mid 1960's, is the world's largest artificial lake. The lake is about the size of Rhode Island.
- Kakum National Park, which we will visit, is home to forest elephants, antelopes, flying squirrels, monkeys. The canopy walkway offers a monkey's-eye view (100+ feet high) of the National Park.
- St. George's Castle in Elmina, which we will visit, is the oldest European structure still standing in sub-Saharan Africa. This Unesco World Heritage Site was built by the Portuguese in 1483. (Columbus didn't "discover" America until 1492).
- Ghana had the first president of independent African nation in 1957.
- English merchants, impressed with the gold resources in the area, named it the Gold Coast. Gold and cocoa are still considered mainstays of the Ghana economy. Pretty good souvenir combo for tourists!
- With over 95% of its children in school, Ghana currently has one of the highest school enrollment rates in all of Africa. The ratio of girls to boys in the total education system is 0.96 girl to every 1 boy. This is a considerable achievement.

**JOIN US TO LEARN MORE  
ABOUT THE WONDERFUL PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS IN GHANA.**

## **And the Winner is...**

Thank you to all who responded to our survey -  
for a chance to win a Kindle Fire.  
Congrats to Mrs. Tara Johanneson,  
a Technology Education Teacher  
at O'Gorman Junior High in Sioux Falls, SD.  
who won the Kindle Fire!



## **Start Writing to This School Now!**

### **Southern Highland Primary School, Tanzania**

The Southern Highlands School was established in 1995, more information about the school's history can be found on [www.southernhighlands.ac.tz](http://www.southernhighlands.ac.tz). 126 day scholars and 178 boarders currently attend the school, they range from Nursery to Primary 7. To subsidize the annual student fees that fund the school, the school runs a bakery to earn extra money. Southern Highlands School looks forward to sharing information with others through Opportunity Education...can you help?



**Simply email, "I want a pen pal" to**  
[schools@opportunityeducation.org](mailto:schools@opportunityeducation.org) and you can start writing today!

## Featured Sister School & Gift Certificate Winner

**Congrats to Clint Podell from Griffin Middle School,**  
in Smyrna, Georgia. The winner of our monthly drawing for teachers  
who send letters!

Just email [schools@opportunityeducation.org](mailto:schools@opportunityeducation.org)  
after you mail your letters and you are entered to win!



## A World of Peace

On behalf of everyone at Opportunity Education Foundation,  
we offer our deepest gratitude  
for those who help us support  
the mission of providing educational opportunities  
to students all over the world!



*Wishing You  
A World  
Of Peace.*

*James Ricketts*

*James Ricketts*

*Alan Baxley*

*Steve*

*Steve*

*Sheila Jessor*

*Jayne*



"Welcome, Christmas, bring your cheer.  
Cheer to all Whos far and near.  
Christmas Day is in our grasp,  
so long as we have hands to clasp.  
Christmas Day will always be  
just as long as we have we.  
Welcome Christmas while we stand,  
heart to heart, and hand in hand."

- From the last lines of the classic, *How The Grinch that Stole Christmas* by Dr. Seuss.

**Outreach & Sister School Coordinator**  
**Opportunity Education Foundation**  
**[schools@opportunityeducation.org](mailto:schools@opportunityeducation.org)**  
**402-614-5381**