



# Opportunity Education Foundation

"Educating Children Around the World"

**September 2013**

In this Issue:

[Start Writing - Right Now!](#)  
[For Fun, For Culture, For Art?](#)

[This School Needs Pen Pals](#)

[Welcome New Schools](#)

[Did Your School Win?](#)

[What Can You Do?](#)

## START WRITING – RIGHT NOW!

Start your year off right by writing your pen pals!

No lesson plan is needed, but if you need one – we have them!

Writing letters is a perfect activity to keep students productive during homeroom, study hall or downtime.

You can also integrate cross-curricular objectives into lesson plans that we have created to maximize learning through letters.

[Click Here for Letter Ideas and Resources](#)

[Click Here for Letter Lesson Plans](#)



We also have two options to stay up to date with our international pen pal program.

OPTION 1: To keep up with our "Friends" – we have a Facebook page just for you!

Visit our Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/OpportunityEducation>

OPTION 2: Unable to get on Facebook? No worries.

Visit our Pen Pal Blog. <http://opportunityeducation.wordpress.com/>

Both the Pen Pal Blog and Facebook offer interesting ideas, stories, and links to help generate enthusiasm and discussion about education plus lesson plans to integrate pen pal letters into your standard requirements.

## FOR FUN, FOR CULTURE, FOR ART?

We are always amazed by the talents our participants share with OEF schools during our [Education Experience trips](#).

Following is a reflection by Emmaly Wiederholt, who joined the Opportunity Education Foundation Trip to Ghana in June 2013. She is New Mexico native who has worked as a professional dancer and writer in San Francisco. Always on the move, she is now off to LA to start a graduate degree.



Ghana Ballet Lesson

Emmaly was inspired by her mom, Cathy Intemann, a retired teacher who has visited OEF schools in both Uganda and Ghana.

OEF is grateful to Emmaly for sharing the following article on her blog, "Stance on Dance" that reflects her passion for life and the mission for those OEF serves.

### For Fun, For Culture, For Art:

#### Sharing Dance with School Children in Ghana

There are three big reasons why people dance: for fun, for culture, and for art. People dance for fun when they are with their friends and they hear a song they like. People dance for culture with their community or tribe. I bet you have some cultural dances you could share with me. I do a kind of dance called ballet, and it is a kind of dance people do for art.

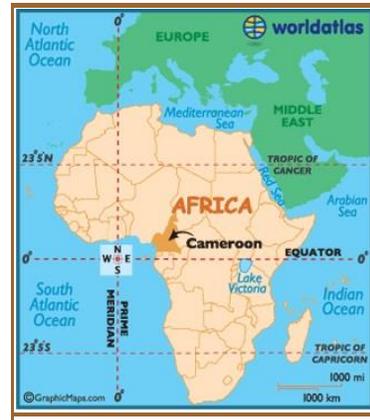
Forgive my simplistic breakdown of dance, but this is how I chose to introduce my dance lesson to the students of Tarkwa Islamic Basic School in the small village of Gomoa Tarkwa in Central Ghana this past June. ([Click Here to Read More](#))

## THIS SCHOOL NEEDS PEN PALS!

What country has the tallest mountain in West Africa and two official languages – French and English?

Cameroon, where St. Theresia's School, Kumbo is located. OEF is happy to start assigning pen pals for our newest schools located in Cameroon, West Africa.

St Theresia's School in Kumbo was established in 1965. The school population, from Pre-school to Primary 6, totals 726 students. The 13 teachers only have 11 classrooms but provide a high quality of education, resulting in children transferring to St Theresia's from other schools. The school is committed to providing a holistic education; therefore students at St Theresia's have the chance to study all the subjects in the Cameroon National Curriculum, including Integrity. The school is funded by annual student fees of 15,000 francs or about \$30 per student, as well as by arts and crafts sales and goodwill donations. The school is well-situated in the heart of the town of Kumbo, but is in need of improved security with a protective fence or guards. Students at St Theresia's enjoy taking part in sporting activities such as the FENASCO Games organized by the Education Authorities.



Writing letters to this school is an excellent opportunity to learn more than textbooks or even the internet can offer...just email us and we will put a Welcome Folder in the mail to you today!

Email [schools@opportunityeducation.org](mailto:schools@opportunityeducation.org) and you can start writing today!

If you already have a pen pal, refer a friend to our [OEF Pen Pal](#) link.

If you prefer a different school, simply email us and note what grade and country you would like to write to and we can get you writing, right away!

## WELCOME NEW SCHOOLS

We welcome the following schools to our free, international pen pal program which is a fun and easy way to meet Language Arts, Social Studies and History/Civics standards  
[share this link to invite others to join.](#)

Evergreen Country Day School, Evergreen, CO  
Budhi Warman Senior High, Jakarta, Indonesia  
Bondurant Elementary, Bondurant, WY  
Whitehall Elementary, Williamstown, NJ  
Radix Elementary, Williamstown, NJ  
Oak Knoll Elementary, Williamstown, NJ  
Holly Glen Elementary, Williamstown, NJ



## FEATURED SCHOOL & GIFT CERTIFICATE WINNER

Congrats to Heidi B. at DeSales School in Ossian, Iowa!

On behalf of your pen pals from Ghana, thank you for sending letters. Send me an email at [schools@opportunityeducation.org](mailto:schools@opportunityeducation.org) to claim your prize!



Want to win next month?

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

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Write Your Pen Pals!

Even if it's been a while, now is still the best time to write. The name, address and mailing instructions are available on our website start by [clicking here.](#)

You can also email:

[Schools@OpportunityEducation.org](mailto:Schools@OpportunityEducation.org)



## Get Others to Write!

We have 451 schools very eager to have English speaking pen pals.  
Share the following link – and make sure you CC [schools@opportunityeducation.org](mailto:schools@opportunityeducation.org) –  
to get a gift certificate.

[Click Here to Refer A Friend and Get a Gift Certificate!](#)

## Visit an Opportunity Education School!

Take a life-changing trip to teach, share and learn in an Opportunity Education school  
in Africa or India.

[Click Here to Learn More.](#)

TERESA ROLL  
OUTREACH & SISTER SCHOOL COORDINATOR  
OPPORTUNITY EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
[www.OpportunityEducation.org](http://www.OpportunityEducation.org)  
[schools@opportunityeducation.org](mailto:schools@opportunityeducation.org)  
402-614-5381

*STAY CONNECTED*

