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PAMBE Ghana

Partnership for Mother Tongue
Based Bilingual Education in Ghana

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PAMBE Ghana is a registered
501(c)(3) organization

PAMBE GHANA

Partnership for Mother Tongue-based Bilingual Education in Ghana

FALL 2019

Inaugural Preschool Class Heads to High School!

Community Commitment Made La'Angum Learning Center's Child-Centered Learning Techniques a Success



Ghana's educational system requires students nationwide to take a qualifying exam called the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE) after completion of the ninth grade. The purpose is twofold – those who successfully complete the exam will receive a Basic Education Certificate, and those with high scores will be placed into a corresponding senior high school. La'Angum Learning Center's first students – who began their educational journeys as preschool students in 2007 – have completed 9th grade and achieved outstanding BECE scores. These students have gained admission into the upper echelon of senior high schools in the northern region.

Pictured above are three of LLC's graduates, Rashida, Nemaui and Bokupoa, preparing to walk from Bumboazio to Langbinsi where they boarded a bus to their new school for the fall term. Their BECE achievement is one in which every PAMBE Ghana supporter shares.

"The end depends on the beginning." Thank you!

Fair Trade Market Celebrates Tenth Anniversary at New Location

Come check out PAMBE Ghana's Global Market in the 50 Penn Place Mall in Oklahoma City, 1900 NW Highway, R121. Look for us across the hall from the Belle Isle Brewery, just down the hall from community favorite the Full Circle Bookstore.

From its birth in 2009 as a small holiday fair trade market, PAMBE Ghana's Global Market has grown into a much-anticipated annual shopping event. Come browse the Market for more ways to win + win + win: purchase unique items to keep or gift + provide fair wages to the artisans + know that 100% of net proceeds go directly to support and educate children at La'Angum Learning Center. The Market will be open Tuesdays through Fridays from noon until 6:00 P.M and Saturdays 10:00 A.M. until 6:00 P.M. - through December 24th. Also, you may schedule a holiday shopping party at the Market after hours. Enjoy your celebration in a space rich with opportunities to shop for beautiful handmade Fair Trade items. We provide tables for any food and beverages you would like to serve to your guests. Best of all, it's free! To schedule, contact Sara Braden at (405) 210-5214.



A volunteer surveys the Market's colorful handmade items

Peek into the 11 year journey of LLC's newly minted high school students:

2008

In Ghana:

Residents of Bumboazio had never had a school and were excited by the chance to work with PAMBE Ghana to build one. Through a huge community work initiative, men, women and youth volunteered their time, materials and labor.

Within four months, the community had completed construction of one classroom, a storeroom, an office, latrines, and an open air pavilion on four acres of donated land.

The school welcomed its first class of forty students in October 2008.



2008:

In the U.S. and Canada:

Having established the foundation necessary to launch the new school, including establishing PAMBE Ghana as a 501(c)(3) non-profit in 2007, our friends in North America began brainstorming ways to sustain it and fulfill the dream of integrating local language and culture into the primary school curricula, to give the inaugural class of preschoolers, and those to follow, the best chance at a meaningful education. First up: house parties to update friends on progress, and a holiday fair trade global market planned to debut in 2009.



The first class of forty preschool children is pictured here with their fathers in this 2008 photo taken to memorialize the founding of La'Angum Learning Center – the fulfillment of a dream achieved through the collaboration of communities on both sides of the Atlantic.

2019

Today, the campus includes a full complement of classrooms for pre-K through 6th grade, a solar powered computer lab, and the community's first lending library. The wide-eyed preschool students of 2008 are either attending Unity junior high or headed to senior high school. Check out these success stories:

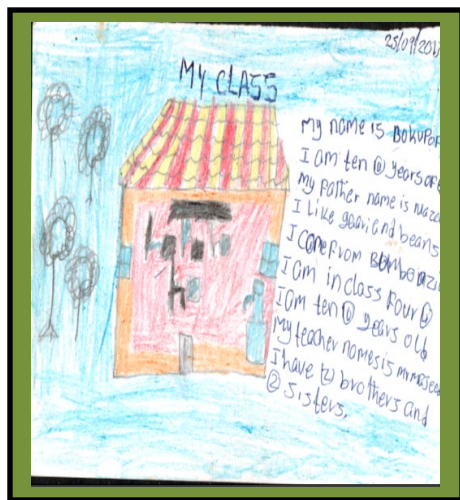


Nemau Mumuni reports she was the first member of her family to attend school. When interviewed in 2016, she stated her goal was to become a teacher and return to teach at La'Angum Learning Center because it was "the best and most beautiful school in Ghana." She achieved a very high score on the BECE.

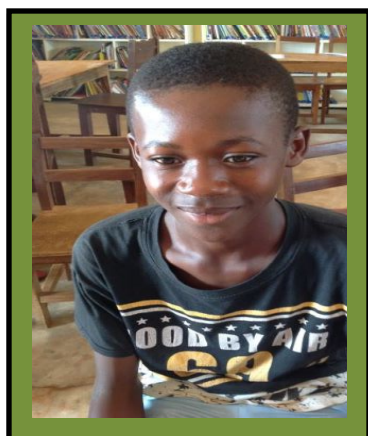
Rashida Mahamudu is pictured, right, reviewing her BECE scores. In a 2016 interview, she expressed an interest in pursuing employment in banking after completing her studies so that she may take good care of community deposits.



Your investment in PAMBE Ghana provided the preschoolers of 2008 the educational foundation and confidence necessary to propel them to success on the BECE, enabling them to continue their journey to high school and beyond.



Bokupoa Nazoa wrote on a 2013 school assignment at age 10, left, that her favorite subjects were mathematics and English language. Below right, in 2019, Bokupoa smiles proudly as she leaves the LLC campus for high school.



In 2016, **Paul Sandow** reported a goal of taking part in a quiz competition with students from other schools so that he could test himself to know what he can do. Three years later he has met that goal! Pictured left in 2019, Paul achieved a high score on the nationally administered BECE, and is now headed to high school.



DOUBLE YOUR DOLLAR'S IMPACT VIA A NEW MATCHING GRANT!

We are pleased to announce that the **Paul Milburn Gift Fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation** recently approved a matching grant for PAMBE Ghana! The Fund will match each dollar raised between now and June 30, 2020, up to **\$34,200**. At the close of 2019, the Fund will provide PAMBE Ghana the match for the amount raised by year's end.

The grant will fund crucial teacher training both at La'Angum Learning Center and in Accra, and enable PAMBE Ghana to contribute to the Parent Teacher Association's ongoing project to build a teachers' dormitory on campus. Once completed, the dorm will house those teachers who face long commutes during the school week.

We are grateful for the support of the Paul Milburn Gift Fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation! Please help us meet the match and support our hard-working teachers.

(below, from left) LLC founder Alice Azumi Iddi-Gubbels, Paul Milburn and Ann Milburn



Did you know? PAMBE Ghana's founder and Executive Director will be in Oklahoma City until mid-December. To schedule her appearance at your event or group, contact: pambeghana@gmail.com - And don't delay, the calendar is filling up!



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER:



La'Angum Learning Center's first graduates are headed to high school this Fall, after demonstrating proficiency on Ghana's national exam. At left: their first day of pre-school in 2008.



PAMBE Ghana's Global Market – now at a fabulous new location at 50 Penn Place in Oklahoma City. At right: a sampling of the hand-knit garments available.