



# PAMBE Ghana

Partnership for Mother Tongue Based Bilingual  
Education in Ghana

June 2023

## *Moving Forward Together - For Fun & Funding*

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Partnership for Mother  
Tongue Based Bilingual  
Education in Ghana

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



Students at The Albroom School (Left) and La'Angum Learning Center (Right upper) and PG board and volunteers in OKC (right lower)



## Second Annual 5K run/walk April 2023

Children at the La'Angum Learning Center (LLC) in Northern Ghana and The Albroom School in Baskin Ridge, New Jersey partnered April 28th in a second annual 5K run/walk to honor their founders and raise money for their respective programs. This fundraising project was also FUN - children from both schools experienced the joy of movement and met virtually to get to know one another. LLC students walk in Ghana was a joyful celebration including music. PAMBE Ghana has so far met half its fundraising goal of \$5,000, will provide the annual salary of two LLC teachers in northern Ghana. The Albroom School will contribute toward this goal by donating a portion of the proceeds from its 5K walk. Join by donating at [www.gofundme.com/f/pambe-ghana-2023-5k-fundraiser](http://www.gofundme.com/f/pambe-ghana-2023-5k-fundraiser) and by sharing both the LLC and Albroom School campaigns with your family and friends on social media.

The \$5,000 goal represents \$625 for each of the 8 LLC grade levels preK through 5th grade, or just over \$20 per student. Your small donation can have an outsized impact in Ghana where US dollars go far to provide quality education to hundreds of children. Please join us in supporting our LLC teachers as they create a model for education in Ghana! If you are a Canadian resident, you can also direct charitable donations to Rainbow of Hope for Children Society, noting that you would like to benefit PAMBE Ghana. See <https://rainbowofhopeforchildren.ca/>

PAMBE Ghana expanded participation this year with an April 29 walking event in Oklahoma City's Bluff Creek Park enjoyed by the Board and local volunteers and supporters. For more information and photos check out [www.pambeghana.org](http://www.pambeghana.org).



## Market news: 2022 Fair Trade Global Market Breaks Record

PAMBE Ghana's 2022 holiday Fair Trade Global Market at Northpark Mall in OKC generated record breaking net revenue, all of which will directly support educating students at LLC. This significant funding is an essential component of the budget that supports the successful, innovative school. This achievement is all the more remarkable because it was accomplished by providing local shoppers opportunities to purchase beautiful and unique objects for their homes or as gifts, all the while providing a fair wage to the creative artisans and funding teacher training and the education of boys and girls in Ghana.

Thank you for shopping! Congratulations to holiday market team leaders Sara Braden, Linda Temple and Patti Tepper-Rasmussen, volunteer coordinator Emmy Ezell, and the faithful volunteer cohort, who made the vital funding raised by the 2022 Global Market possible. This year's space presented unique challenges that were handled deftly by long time board member and former board president Tom Temple.

Speaking of market spaces, you have likely noticed the Global Market location changes from time to time, often annually – a fact driven by the need for a functional and accessible retail space that can be offered PAMBE Ghana without cost or at significantly reduced cost. Now is the time to scout and secure a location for 2023. If you have an empty or underused retail space in Oklahoma City, or a connection to one, that might be available from October 2023 through mid-January 2024 (for retail and/or office/storage), please send us a message at [pambeghana@gmail.com](mailto:pambeghana@gmail.com).



Linda Temple at the Global Market 2022

### More Market News

Oklahoma City wants MORE fairtrade shopping options and MORE opportunities to help fund PAMBE Ghana's educational projects. Offers to operate pop-up markets at churches or other spaces (like Lia's Garden @ Commonwealth) are increasing but are difficult to mobilize for and manage without a permanent operational base. With consistent market space, PAMBE Ghana would have a platform to support year-round sales and pop-up markets. Year-round sales would yield a steady flow of support to pay and train teachers to educate students at La'Angum Learning Center.

**The challenge:** PAMBE Ghana devotes almost all its gross income to supporting teachers and students in the field. Allocating significant sums to lease premises would divert funds from our core mission. PAMBE Ghana seeks partners who would consider providing space (which could be a room in an existing commercial space or something larger) as a charitable donation or a significantly reduced rent. Do you have space (or contacts who do) and a desire to support PAMBE Ghana's proven success in providing innovative educational opportunities to boys and girls in rural northern Ghana while promoting fair trade? Please email your ideas to [pambeghana@gmail.com](mailto:pambeghana@gmail.com). In the meantime, please consider visiting Lia's Garden at [www.eliawoods.com](http://www.eliawoods.com).



First grade students at LLC with Teacher Ernestina

PAMBE Ghana has received the 2022 Guidestar Gold Seal of Transparency in recognition of its commitment to providing donors and potential funders current governance and financial information, to facilitate fact-based decision making. Go to [www.guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org) to learn details of PAMBE Ghana's governance and finances.





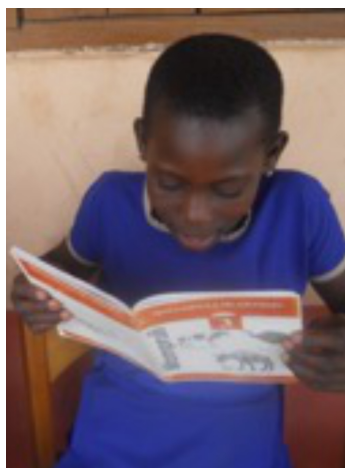
**La'Angum Success Stories:** Fifteen years later, many members of the inaugural class of shy preschoolers who began learning in that gazebo in 2008 are high school graduates. A significant number are seeking to continue their education through post-secondary training including university studies. PAMBE Ghana's founder, executive director emeritus and current board member Alice Azumi Iddi-Gubbels met recently with one such student, Mumuni Namawu, to learn about her status and goals. Following are excerpts of their conversation:

I am a 20-year old girl. I am the 2nd born of my father and mother who are 40 and 36 years old respectively. I was the first to get the opportunity to attend school to senior high school level in my family of 14 people because my father could not afford the basic needs of life for this family and also pay school fees of his children out of his little farm products. But due to the love and affection PAMBE Ghana and you have for us, you are able support us with all what will make [students] comfortable and also encourage[d].

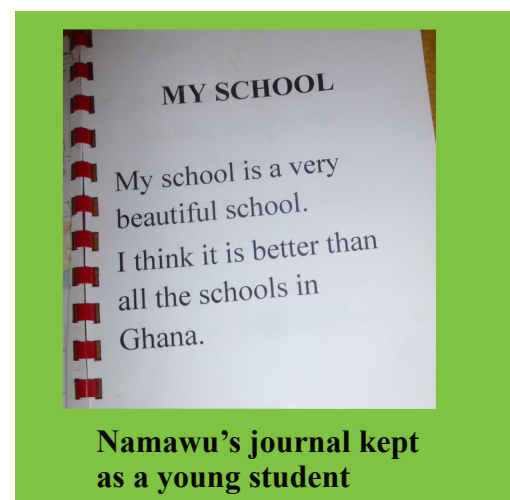
We faced a whole lot of problems in school especially financial, affording to buy textbooks to learn in school. Lorry fare and even small money to spend in school was a problem because, the work our parents do is subsistence farming. And this cannot feed the whole family and also do all of the above but through the help of you and our supporters we made it to [senior high school]. We continue to need your support to help us go to tertiary institutions and get good jobs in future in order to take the suffering of our parents away and also develop PAMBE Ghana and our communities.

I intend to proceed to teacher training college for 4 years. Admissions will open around November and I'm confident I will get admission to any of the teacher training colleges in Ghana.

Alice adds that this conversation occurred following Namawu's return from a gold mining site in northern Ghana, where she had been washing clothes and/or selling water to raise funds. Her long-term goals include studying computer science after attaining teacher training. Namawu's separate video interview and more can be viewed at [www.pambeghana.org](http://www.pambeghana.org). PAMBE Ghana is exploring resources that might support students like Namawu in achieving their education and career goals. Watch the website for developments.



**Namawu in 2008 (yellow outfit), 2011 and 2022**



## What is PAMBE Ghana?

PAMBE Ghana is an Oklahoma non-profit organization founded in 2007 by Alice Azumi Iddi-Gubbels and like-minded friends to establish and support educational projects in underserved northern Ghana. Its donors and supporters span the country and the globe, and its volunteer board of directors is based in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

***Our mission is to provide a model of quality basic education that integrates language, culture, literacy, and academic excellence.***



**2<sup>nd</sup> grade classroom**



**Alice Iddi-Gubbels**

**P.O. Box 18813**

**Oklahoma City, OK**

**73154-8813**

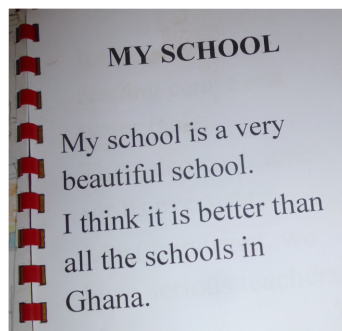
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## **INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER**

**Pioneering students in Ghana look back and to the future, hoping their education will enable them to help their families and give back to their communities**



**Global Market seeks a new home in OKC**



**Second annual 5K fundraiser supporting La'Angum Learning Center and New Jersey's Albrook School is a joyful collaboration**