



Lubuto Library Project Opens its Second Library at Ngwerere School in Lusaka

Opening Celebration to Include Storytelling, Theater and Dance Performances by Local Children and Youth and Artists

Dr. Kenneth Kaunda is Special Guest

Deputy Minister of Education Crispin Musosha, M.P. is Guest of Honor

National Arts Council Chairperson Mulenga Kapwepwe is Master of Ceremonies

LUSAKA, ZAMBIA, 10 November, 2010 - Lubuto Library Project, Inc. today announced the official opening of its second library at the Ngwerere Basic School in Lusaka's Garden neighborhood on Wednesday, November 10, 2010. Funded by Dow Jones & Company, this is the first Lubuto library built in partnership with Zambia's Ministry of Education, who chose Ngwerere School as its host due to its proximity to many street children and vulnerable youth. First Republican President of Zambia, Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, will be Lubuto's special guest at a celebration planned for the opening from 16:00hrs to 18:00hrs, and the Deputy Minister of Education, Hon. Crispin Musosha, is the Guest of Honor. The opening events, emceed by National Arts Council Chairperson Mulenga Kapwepwe, will also include storytelling, theater and dance performances by Zambian children and youth.

"The opening of the second Lubuto library is an important milestone, allowing us to expand our outreach to vulnerable children and youth with an excellent collection of books and a range of services that promote self-expression, art, culture and traditional Zambian values," said Jane Kinney Meyers, founder and president of Lubuto Library Project. "It represents the first effort under a formal agreement between Lubuto and the Ministry of Education to work together to actively seek out difficult-to-reach Zambian children and youth to extend high quality educational opportunities to this large and vastly underserved population.

"This library would not have been possible without the very generous support of Dow Jones & Company and its employees. Their initial corporate gift of \$60,000 for construction was augmented by Dow Jones' employee book donations and a Dow Jones Foundation grant, together amounting to almost \$50,000, which provided the necessary inputs for a complete library, including the collection and staff training. The 4,000 volume collection was selected and cataloged by our volunteers in Washington DC and was shipped free of charge by International Mailing Solutions, with additional support from our great friends at National Geographic."

"We are honored that Dr. Kaunda will be joining us for our opening celebration. He opened our first library at Fountain of Hope in 2007, characterizing it as a place where we are 'holding on to humanity.' We are also delighted with the expected attendance of other representatives of the Zambian government, community leaders and foreign dignitaries, as well as the wonderful performances that are scheduled as part of this celebration," Ms. Meyers concluded.

Included in the celebration festivities are several performances by Lubuto's children, developed in Lubuto's Story Performance program which is led by Kenny Hau. There will be dramatizations of the book *Martin's Big Words* and a traditional Bemba story, "How the Tortoise Got its Cracks." Three Lubuto Productions films will be shown in the library. A brief "Welcome to Lubuto Libraries" provides an introduction to Lubuto and its programs. "Our Time to Bring Change" is a film shot at the Fountain

of Hope Lubuto library earlier this year. Finally, filmed remarks about Lubuto's programs by Danny Glover, the world famous actor and activist, and National Arts Council Chairperson Mulenga Kapwepwe made at a fundraising event for Lubuto this April in Washington DC will also be shown.

ABOUT LUBUTO LIBRARY PROJECT

Founded in 2005, Lubuto Library Project opened its first library at the Fountain of Hope Drop-In Centre in Lusaka, Zambia in 2007 and a second library at Ngwerere School in Lusaka in November, 2010.

The Lubuto Library Project, Inc. (www.Lubuto.org) is an innovative development organization. In cooperation with governments, it creates opportunities for equitable education and poverty reduction through libraries and related educational, cultural and community programs. Its mission is to enrich the lives of street children, orphans and other vulnerable and out-of-school children and youth in sub-Saharan Africa. The organization constructs beautiful, indigenously-styled open-access libraries stocked with a comprehensive collection of well-chosen books. These libraries serve as safe havens and are the center for Lubuto's programs, which offer discovery and joy through reading, music, art, drama, computers and other activities. Lubuto also connects North American and European volunteers and students with their African peers through community service.

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