



Issue 3

December 2013

TELEM CENTER FOR THE AFRICAN CHILD

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It takes a Village...

This couldn't be truer for Telem's existence.

Volunteers are critical to our success. From our amazing board and advisory board members who work hard throughout the year to plan, execute and raise funds for Telem's programs, to our dedicated volunteers who continue to be generous with their time and talents, and our financial supporters who provide the much needed funds to sustain our work.

Telem's village of supporters makes activities such as Ndebele doll making, jewelry making or our annual photography and radio workshops possible.

We thank you!



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Spotlight on Telem Camp 2013!

Telem Camp 2013 returned to Club Getaway in Kent, CT from July 24th – 26th and was attended by 85 people (64 campers and 21 volunteer staff). This year's theme, ***Exploring Africa***, allowed campers to discover and experience Africa through a variety of workshops and activities including:

- Telling the African Story Radio workshop with Veralyn Williams
- Citizen Journalism Photography workshop with Brennan Cavanaugh
- Ndebele Dolls with Maria Domenech and Marta Del Rosario
- Tie dyeing with Sue Coleman
- Utamaduni Jewelry Making Workshop with Mercy Chumo
- Debate workshop with Stephanie Arthur
- Let's Chat Social Media workshop with Marilyn Alfred and Samuella Brewah
- African storytelling with Diana Musa and Almamy Seray Wurie
- Healthy Choices Discussion with Leeann Rizk
- African Dance and Drumming with Babacar Mbaye
- Mural painting with Rugiatu Bahr and Linda Musa

Happenings and Events!



Telem had a busy 2013! Check out our news and event notes below!

1. **Taste of Africa** hosted in Chelsea, NYC, featured foods and wines from East, West, North and South Africa as well as performances by Azania and a reading by author of Powder Necklace, Nana Ekua Brew Hammond.
2. **International Day of the African Child Picnic** at Claremont Park in the Bronx on June 16th -a potluck picnic with Telem families.
3. **Family Day at Surrey Co-Op Courtyard** on August 17th featured face painting and arts and crafts. Guests enjoyed tasty African, and Caribbean food while enjoying a camp slide show.
4. **Contemporary African Dance Class** led by Belco Bocoum and Sue Blackwood at Actors Theatre Workshop on September 21st.
5. **African Day Parade** in Harlem on September 22nd. Telem members showed their African pride during the African Day Parade.
6. **Teensgiving**, November 24th, Telem youth and chaperones volunteered at a residential day care program and led arts and crafts activities, played card games and taught dances to children ages 5 – 16. Telem also visited Covenant House and helped to sort and organize clothing donations.

Our Programs

Telem Camp, our annual three-day camp provides a fun and safe haven for children of African descent to connect with each other, celebrate their shared heritage, and embrace their African values in a multicultural context.

Community Building Programs provide information, access to resources, and an environment where African families feel a sense of belonging through picnics, volunteer opportunities and other events.

Cultural Events Programs promote and celebrate African cultures through storytelling, childhood games, dance classes and African cuisine tastings. Telem also plans outings to cultural institutions to expose children to a diverse array of traditions and experiences.

Educational Enrichment

Programs provide referrals to tutoring and mentoring programs and connect volunteer tutors with families seeking academic assistance for their children.

Leadership Development

Programs empower youth to become ambassadors and agents of change in their communities by teaching them radio journalism and communication skills to address issues that concern them—such as: immigration, identity, environmental justice, economics and education.

Special Thanks to our 2013 Partners & Supporters

Partners:

African Services Committee
Aloft Hotel, Harlem
Doris Duke Foundation
JP Morgan Chase Foundation
Sanctuary for Families
Surrey Co-Op Board
Akin Akinsaya, NYC 1st African
Restaurant Week
Stephanie Arthur
Aroun Deen, Fourah Bay
Foundation
Mubashar Ahmed
Marilyn Alfred
Melissa Aouad
Sue Blackwood
Belco Bocoum
Nana Ekua Brew-Hammond
Samuella Brewah
Brennan Cavanaugh
Mercy Chumo
Naziru Deen
Marta Del Rosario
Maria Domenech
Fatumata Fofana
Carl Haynes
Fatoumata Jammeh
Kehinde Kehinde
Alhaji Abu Mansaray
Drew Musa
Olutoyin Oladiran
Cynthia Richardson
Leeann Rizk
Fatou Sey
Maty Sow
Azania Steady
Victor Nelson Williams

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Matilda Weekes
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Veralyn Williams
Gloria Witherspoon
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