



Sakila Sponsorship Program

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Dear Sponsors and Supporters,

December 2008

Some of you may not read all the way to the end of the newsletter so we're going to catch you right at the beginning asking you to please put this date on your calendar: January 31st, 2009. That Saturday is the date for our annual potluck at Christ Memorial Church in Poulsbo. We'll get to hear from Bishop Eliudi and Godwin — always a special time for you living close enough to attend. Marion Sluys had a great time with his video camera while visiting Sakila this year so he'll show you a lot of footage of the children outside and in the classroom. Also, one of our sponsors has asked her quartet to sing for us. We're going to have a wonderful time! More details will be in the next letter. Now for Rogath's story:

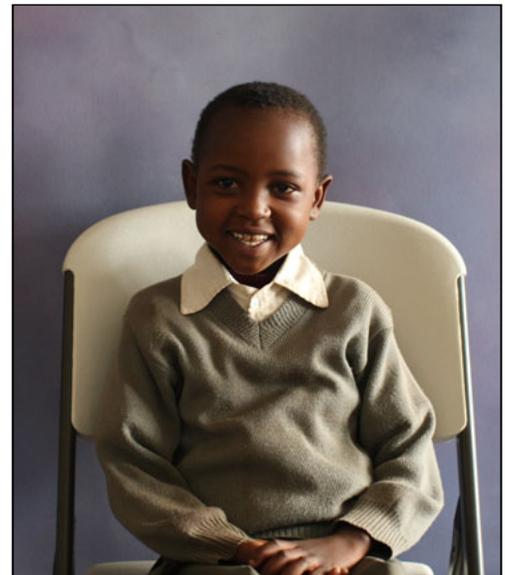


Debora is 7 years old. She lives with her mom and four brothers. When Debora was just a child, her father left home and no one has seen him since. For this reason Debora's mother has raised all the children by herself. Because of the difficult life that they've led, Debora's mom developed some mental problems. When Debora's dad left, the house they were living in fell to the ground and they were given a place to live by a neighbor who has since taken his house back. They continue to live from one place to the next, living with whomever will take them in. Debora's mom says that because of Sluys/Anderson primary school Debora can go to school. "There is no way I would have been able to enroll her in any school. Food is a big problem for all my kids, I have to rely on other people to give us food, so I wouldn't have been able to buy her the things she needs in order to go to school. This is why I am very thankful that Sluys/Anderson primary school is truly here to help those

in need, they don't discriminate. I pray everyday that God will continue to bless my child's sponsor so that Debora can continue getting the good education. Please pray for me and my children as well," says Deborah's mom. "Thank you and God bless you."

Thank you to Armando and Adriana of Wyoming for sponsoring Deborah. You can see from the photos how Deborah's appearance has changed over the last two years. Look at the smile on her face now. Most of you received an updated photo of your child(ren) with your last newsletter. Those pictures were a labor of love from Marion and Loretta Sluys. In September they took all those pictures and when they came home Marion spent hours in front of the computer printing them. He said it brought tears to see how the children had grown and how well they look now. If you see the Sluys please give them a big thank you. All those beautiful little faces are now so full of promise because of sponsors and supporters like you, caring for your child(ren). We are so grateful to God for bringing you along side us to help.

Marion and Loretta also hosted a dinner for all the teachers and staff, handing out bonuses to each staff member and the top student of each class. This has become an annual tradition for them and a real morale booster for the school staff. Thanks so much, Marion and Loretta!



Three more things and we'll let you go:

1) Please try to get your gift for Christmas food packets to us by Dec. 31st. You have responded wonderfully and we're half way there. Each packet will contain rice, sugar, and tea, enough to feed a family of four for several days. We guesstimate the cost at about \$7 for each packet and we need 527 packets.

2) We have sponsors asking us about paying in advance for their child, even through High School. Absolutely YES! We are able to keep the money safe and even earn a little interest to help with inflation while the funds are secured in insured accounts. You can give the gift right away and receive tax credit or include Sakila Sponsorship Program in your will designated for your child's education.

3) We thought it would be helpful to give you a little explanation of your child's grade level. Sakila schools are very different from schools in the U.S. The children are advanced according to ability, not age or how long they have been in the school. So your child may have been in school for two years and still be attending Kindergarten classes or in the same length of time he or she may have advanced to 2nd or 3rd grade. The home environment of many of these children provides no stimulation or support to encourage learning. Just remember to keep praying for the children. They are praying every day for you! We thank you so much as we remain in His service together with you. Have a very blessed Christmas from all of us!

Sincerely,

Godwin and Kim Selembo, Marion and Loretta Sluys, Gene and Lorraine Anderson,
the Board of the Sakila Sponsorship Program



Marion and Loretta host annual banquet for staff



Top student of each class 2008

The Sakila Sponsorship Program is a certified 501(c)(3) Charity. All donations are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to the Sakila Sponsorship Program (S.S.P.) or pay securely using your credit or debit card by going to www.sakilasponsorship.org and clicking on the 'CONTACT INFO & DONATIONS' button.