

Girls in the U.S. Caring for Girls in Sierra Leone



Washington DC - On September 13th, 2008 up to 70 individuals including 40 Girl Scouts attended an all day arts event at the Sewall Belmont House and Museum, the headquarters of the historic National Woman's Party and the Washington home of its founder and Equal Rights Amendment author Alice Paul. The event was part of the *Project 3: Empowered by Artistry* Open House initiative. Project 3 consists of a collaboration of three arts organizations dedicated to social justice issues, making a difference, both locally and globally, through individual creativity and fine arts.

Arts for Global Development, one of the educational arts organizations of Project 3 facilitated the TreasurePostcards™ workshop to teach kids making artworks in the size of 4 x 6 inches. The purpose of the workshop

was to help girls explore the creative process of making TreasurePostcards, depict thoughts and emotions, and generate works that emphasize personal dimension to local and global issues. These artworks encourage others to share their experiences, send a message of hope and inspiration to underprivileged children – to let them know that they are not alone. *"This hands-on arts workshop is one of the first steps to initiate dialogue between girls in the U.S. and Sierra Leone and we hope that there will be more sister to sister support for the Sierra Leonean children in urgent need"* said Nil Sismanyazici-Navaie, Founding Director of Arts for Global Development. The vivid and inspirational postcards created by girls, ages between 5 and 17, will be shared with girls in Sierra Leone in the coming months.



A Brighter Tomorrow for Africa Foundation, a charitable foundation established under the 501(c)(3) section of the US tax code, improves the lives of women and children in the West Coast country of Sierra Leone through financial support of small, community-based organizations.

These organizations provide food, clothing, medical services, counseling and education to children; raise the potential of Sierra Leone women through education and skills training and combat corruption through information and public education. Founder of *A Brighter Tomorrow for Africa*, Sarah Armstrong, said, *"Sierra Leone is rated the poorest country in the world by the United Nations. It is in desperate need of help; and working on the grassroots level to provide nutrition and education to the people of this nation can really make a difference. It is wonderful to see girls of such a young age wanting to do this through A Brighter Tomorrow for Africa."*



TreasurePostcards, by Arts for Global Development, is an international project that brings emerging and professional artists from across the globe together to visually express social and economic issues with postcard-sized artworks. It is an educational/informative medium that not only helps artists gain visibility through their individual works and shares their creative ambitions, but primarily creates awareness on social and economic issues, provokes thoughts, inspires, and helps raise micro-funds for charitable causes. TreasurePostcards at the Project 3 Sewall Belmont House and Museum exhibit has featured artworks from artists across the globe expressing the strength and power of women. Sales proceeds of these artworks help raise funds for *A Brighter Tomorrow for Africa Foundation*.

To support *A Brighter Tomorrow for Africa Foundation* please contact Sarah Armstrong at Sarah.Armstrong@BrighterAfrica.org. To learn more about the TreasurePostcards Project please email tpp@art4development.net or visit <http://www.art4development.net/tpp.html>

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Arts for Global Development, Inc. [Art4Development.Net] is an international nonprofit voluntary 501(c)3 initiative with a purpose of furthering interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, multi-sectoral, and creative approach in social change and development.