DESTINY’S CHILDREN

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MAGAZINE STAFF
EDITOR Stan D. Soderstrom
CHIEF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER Amy Wiser
PUBLISHER/CIRCULATION MANAGER Jack Brockley
MANAGING EDITOR Kasey Jackson
ASSISTANT EDITORS Curtis Billue, Vicki Hermansen
ART DIRECTOR Andy Austin
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR Tony Knoderer

ADVERTISING SALES
3636 Woodview Trace, Indianapolis, IN 46268
317-260-6170, Fax: 317-217-6570
Email: advertise@kiwanis.org

New England and Mid-Atlantic:
RB Advertising Representatives Inc., 195 Cleveland Dr., Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520
914-769-0051, Fax: 914-769-0691
Email: info@RBAdvertisingreps.com

KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL OFFICE
3636 Woodview Trace, Indianapolis, IN 46268-3196
800-KIWANIS (in US/Canada), 317-875-8755
Fax: 317-879-0204
Email: magazine@kiwanis.org
Websites: www.kiwanis.org (public); www.KiwanisOne.org (members)

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Cover photo by Kasey Jackson

MARCH 2015 | VOLUME 100, NUMBER 2
**President’s Message**

**John Button | Kiwanis International President**

**New Recruits**

Let me begin this month’s article with the following quote (with a few minor edits):

“It is not enough to recruit more men and women. It is not enough to join to them legions of men and women from other communities and countries. All of this achieves a vast and powerful fellowship. It collects a tremendous energy. But that fellowship must look to a great good; that energy must run and hum to great purpose.

“And that great purpose I will rediscover for you … rediscover, because it also comes from our rich past. It also has long since been revealed. But it has not always been revered.

“A rereading of the Objects of Kiwanis, shining ahead of us since 1924, will reveal our great purpose. These Objects compose a charter of citizenship for country and world. How disillusioning that we have so often read them, at best, as a community improvement association advertisement.

“Every member can be proud of all that we have done. All that we have done has been good. But we have done so little of what we can do, and now must do.”

A clarion call to action. These are my sentiments to be sure, but the call was issued at the 1961 Kiwanis International convention by President Joe Talley as the organization wrestled with a decisive and defining opportunity: whether or not to expand beyond the shores of North America.

In 2015, we also face a decisive and defining opportunity but we have what they didn’t have in 1961. We have the tools: The Formula and The Eliminate Project.

The Formula is already proving successful. We are opening new clubs at a pace unseen for many years. In 13 of the past 14 months, we have strengthened our membership. The Formula will turn our membership woes around. We just have to work the plan.

And we have a great purpose: The Eliminate Project. The elimination of maternal-neonatal tetanus and the long-lasting benefits of the project will be the finest and proudest legacy of our 100 years. The turtle knows that in order to get ahead he must stick his neck out.

The Formula and The Eliminate Project. Let’s stick our necks out and get them done.

**Spring Renewal**

March is always such a great time of the year.

For the northern hemisphere, where most of our clubs are located, we are experiencing an end to winter. We’re shifting our sports focus to baseball and golf—not to mention an exciting tournament time of college basketball. In Europe, spring festivals begin, and in much of Asia, blooming flowers are celebrated, such as cherry blossoms in Japan.

For Kiwanians, I’d like to suggest March is a great time to prepare for the month of April. In this 100th anniversary year, April is the new membership month. It’s a time to extend an invitation to a friend or colleague to join you in your Kiwanis work.

You can make Kiwanis One Day on April 11 the centerpiece of your invitation. Most clubs come together with their Key Clubs, Builders Clubs, Aktion Clubs, K-Kids and CKI members to make a difference in their communities. A few examples include community cleanups, fundraising for a special cause, a bicycle or safety fair, a book drive and planting trees. Be sure to invite elected officials, business leaders and the media to join you. Partner with other organizations. Wear Kiwanis T-shirts. Take lots of action photos and videos. Tweet and post social media reports while the project is being planned and executed.

Afterward, share information on what you did via shareyourstory@kiwanis.org.

The planning starts now. The first step is a simple invitation to others to join you. And here’s an easy way to make that happen:

At every club meeting, take five minutes for every member to select one contact from their cell phone’s list who just might enjoy Kiwanis One Day and Kiwanis membership.

Then—here’s where it gets very simple—press the call button. And invite that person to be a part of your club’s plans.

In five minutes, dozens of invitations can be extended. And this can take place at every meeting during the month of March.

It all begins with a first step. See The Formula ad on page 11. Then, visit kiwanis.org/theformula, where you’ll find a video and tools that will inspire and help you as you love, share and live Kiwanis.

If you find that Kiwanis makes a difference in your community, won’t you join me in this first step?

**Executive Perspective**

**Stan Soderstrom | Kiwanis Executive Director**

**Spring Renewal**

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LETTERS
KIWANIS MAGAZINE READERS RESPOND

QUOTE CLARIFICATION
In “Kiwanis Creed” (December 2014), there is a quote from Lew Mitchell about his use of the word spiritual in (composing) the first Kiwanis Object. The last sentence of the quote is: “To me, it is the highest work that Kiwanis can do … to emphasize the material values in human relationships.” This seems to me to be completely contrary to the First Object of Kiwanis which is “To give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than the material values of life.” If the quote is accurate, then I am very confused.

GREGORY GUTH | KIWANIS CLUB OF MISSION VIEJO, CALIFORNIA

Editor’s Note: You are right to be confused, because the article omits an important piece of the quote. It should have read: “To me, it is the highest work that Kiwanis can do … to emphasize the spiritual rather than the material values in human relationships.”

HOLIDAY SUGGESTION
As a board member of my Kiwanis club, I must comment on the lack of recognition Chanukah received in your December 2014 publication.

Thousands of Jews are proud Kiwanians and celebrate Chanukah by giving back to others, volunteering at soup kitchens and creating programs for their clubs. For years these projects and the festival of Chanukah have been virtually ignored.

I believe it’s time to recognize the diversity of Kiwanis and recognize Chanukah.

RANDY ROSS | KIWANIS CLUB OF POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK

We welcome your comments on Kiwanis magazine content; email your letter to magazine@kiwanis.org.

Is managing club tasks driving you nuts?

Fortunately, you have access to Portalbuzz. Simple tools for handling club tasks. Design templates for Kiwanis club websites. Fewer tasks, more service. Try the demo or sign up for a free trial.

Go to www.portalbuzz.com.

THE KIWANIS CREED

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RANDY ROSS | KIWANIS CLUB OF POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK

We welcome your comments on Kiwanis magazine content; email your letter to magazine@kiwanis.org.
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
TRENDS, TIPS, FACTS AND FIGURES FROM KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL

PROCLAIM IT
KIWANIS DAY
This 100th anniversary year, ask your local government to declare a Kiwanis Day in 2015!
Get tips on whom to contact and download a proclamation template your local government can use at www.kiwanis.org/kiwanis100/resources. There’s also a customizable news release to send to your local media, making it easy to tell the story of Kiwanis in your community.

THE NEXT 100 YEARS
“Towards another century of growth and service, we reverently acknowledge Kiwanis International not only for the splendid legacy of Kiwanis in the Asia-Pacific region, but the more splendid lives of those great men and women who remain with us in precious memory. Indeed, great achievements are based with great motives.”
Jose Ramon "Ike" Altavas, Kiwanis International Asia-Pacific chairman
Read more at http://kwn.is/ki2015aspace1.

YOUTH PROTECTION HOTLINE
To help Kiwanians protect youth, Kiwanis International has opened a hotline where members can report any suspicious or troubling incident involving a youth and/or club member. The hotline is available in two ways:
Phone: 1-800-KIWANIS, ext. 298
Email: protectouryouthhotline@kiwanis.org
Visit http://kwn.is/ki2015hotline for more details.

“THIS IS ABOUT US ALL ... …being the courageous leaders we need to be today, making difficult decisions that will forge the way ahead for generations to come.”
John Button, Kiwanis International president
INDY CONVENTION SCHEDULE

What’s going on for the 2015 Kiwanis convention in Indianapolis? A lot!

Every day: Get fit with yoga and runs/walks on the Indianapolis Cultural Trail. Tour the Kiwanis International Office and the Kiwanis World Showcase (formerly Exhibit Hall).

Wednesday, June 24: Get on track at pre-convention workshops and network at happy hour.

Thursday, June 25: Get educated at 30-minute round robins, grab pancakes at the Monumental Pancake Lunch and experience the opening session and The Eliminate Project celebrations.

Friday, June 26: Have breakfast with the Kiwanis family, get down to business and explore Indy before the Birthday Bash on Georgia Street and Fireworks Night at Victory Field.

Saturday, June 27: Dedicate the Kiwanis Playground, exchange ideas at short, informative talks and wrap up the 100th celebration at the Up With People concert and Next Century Ball.

Note: Events are subject to change.

ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Phoenix Decorating Company on Facebook

It was an absolute pleasure and a delight to work with Kiwanis International and looking forward to a new adventure in 2016!

Anastasia on Twitter

The @Kiwanis float at the Rose Parade was absolutely gorgeous! So proud to be affiliated with such an extraordinary organization.
Kiwanis magazine recently received three honorable mentions at FOLIO’s 2014 Eddie & Ozzie Awards.

- Association/Non-Profit (B-to-B) App (Magazine Replica)—6 or more issues
- Association/Non-Profit (B-to-B)—Feature Design (March 2014)—6 or more issues
- Association/Non-Profit (B-to-B)—Cover Design (above)—6 or more issues

It was the first time in many years the magazine entered the prestigious competition. For more on the winners, visit www.folioawards.com/winners2014/#/.

SHOW US YOUR WORK

Kiwanis One Day is April 11, 2015, and Kiwanis International wants video of your projects to share with the world!

Need tips on preparing a video? Check out a how-to video at http://kwn.is/kionedayvideo. Share your completed video on Facebook with the hashtag #kiwanis1day.

Start planning your One Day project now. Learn more at www.KiwanisOne.org/oneday.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR KEY LEADER

Kiwanians have the chance to send teens to a Key Leader weekend, where they learn servant leadership, make new friends and form strategies to make their school and community better places. Is there someone in your Kiwanis club’s sponsored Builders Club or Key Club who deserves that chance? Plan now to send a deserving club member to one of these Key Leader spring 2015 events.

April 10–12: Illinois
April 17–19: Alabama, North Carolina, Virginia
April 24–26: Pennsylvania, Indiana, California, Michigan
May 1–3: New York, Tennessee, New Brunswick
May 15–17: Nevada
May 29–31: Kansas

You also can volunteer at Key Leader events in your area and watch new leaders grow. Learn more at www.key-leader.org.
A new club president earns respect by putting knowledge into action. Get it with Kiwanis International’s education for club presidents. Be the leader who improves the club experience—and takes members’ energy to new heights. Learn to use tools such as member surveys. Find ways to stabilize or increase membership. Increase participation at international and district events.

And there’s a lot more. Sign up—so you’re ready to hit the ground running.

Check your district website for times and locations.
NEWS

PROMOTE KIWANIS ONE DAY

How will you teach your community about Kiwanis this Kiwanis One Day, April 11, 2015?

• Get your one-minute speech ready. You don’t need to be a Kiwanis expert to tell someone about it. Just start with what Kiwanis means to you.
• Order brochures. Go to www.kiwanis.org/clubbrochure to order 50 personalized brochures for free. (More are available for a small cost.)
• Host a special guest day. Capitalize on the extra promotion Kiwanis One Day will bring you. Consider hosting a membership event shortly after your Kiwanis One Day activities to help area residents learn more about the impact your club has in your community and the world.

Visit www.kiwanis.org/ACEtools to download resources that will help you strengthen and promote your club in coordination with your One Day plans.

GET A GRANT

Grant applications to the Kiwanis International Foundation are due April 15, 2015. To put your best foot forward:

1. Be as specific as possible where expenses are concerned. Don’t just estimate costs.
2. Double-check the math in your budget. Proofreading isn’t just for words.
3. Follow instructions. Read the grant application and guidelines thoroughly.

Visit www.kiwanis.org/foundation/grants for more application advice.

STUCK ON KIWANIS

Kiwanians in Belgium are celebrating Kiwanis International’s 100th anniversary with a beautiful commemorative stamp. How are you sharing Kiwanis with the world? shareyourstory@kiwanis.org.
We’re creating Kiwanis’ future with The Formula. It starts with what you care about. Your club. Your service projects. The children you impact. And it works because you share that with others. It’s your formula for increasing Kiwanis’ impact—in your community and the world.

Because when you’re making the world a better place, passion is the one thing you can’t start without.

kiwanis.org/theformula
DESTINY’S CHILDREN

IF YOU ASK MEMBERS OF THE KIWANIS CLUB OF SENTINEL, MONTANA, WHICH CAME FIRST, THE CHICKEN OR THE EGG? THE ANSWER IS OBVIOUS. IT WAS THE CHICKENS.

Leslie Womack pokes her head into the chicken house and turns back, eyes wide, a grin plastered across her face.

“Look at them,” she says with a sense of pride, stepping back from the door so others can take a peek inside. “Just look at them. There are so many.”

Womack, a member of the Kiwanis Club of Sentinel in Missoula, Montana, has traveled several thousand miles to meet these chickens—or to be more precise, hens and roosters—in Katende, Uganda.

Well, to be fair, she actually traveled all the way to Destiny Orphanage and School to finally get a hug from the children she and fellow Kiwanis members have been helping for the past 11 years.

There have been, of course, the chickens, but also beds, desks, books, a new kitchen, cows, a medical clinic, some land and even a bus, thanks to the Kiwanis Club of Sentinel and a few targeted grants from the Montana District Foundation and Kiwanis International Foundation.

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STORY BY KASEY JACKSON
PHOTOS BY CURTIS BILLUE AND KASEY JACKSON
But why all the fuss over some chickens?

“The chickens have allowed (Destiny staff) to provide protein to the children, and also are a revenue source,” Womack explains. “One of the things that’s difficult for an orphanage like Destiny in a country like Uganda is sustained money. Trying to get them to find ways to earn their own money and not be reliant on foreign aid is important. So … we helped them complete a chicken house. They were able to produce enough eggs for the kids to have eggs twice a week and then they also sold them. So they had an income stream to help with other expenses at the orphanage.

“It’s a big deal to us … when we all saw the first video of the chickens and the eggs and having them being carried in a truck to be sold. To finally see the real thing meant a lot to me because the poultry farm was like our flagship event with Destiny. It really means a lot to us because you can see the promise of a future if they learn how to produce their own food, produce food to sell … they can become self-sustaining.”

And now, she’s here to see it all with her own eyes.

“I have been involved with Destiny for so long it’s like I’ve almost been here,” Womack says. “But it’s gone from 2D to 3D. The children’s faces, whether you see them in a video or you see them live, they touch your heart and you know how precious they are.”

FAMILIAR SMILES

Walking back up the hill from the chicken houses, several of those children run toward the group, which also includes fellow Kiwanis member Susan Roberts and her son, Matt, a member of the Loyola Sacred Heart High School Key Club. Both mother and son have been here before, seven years earlier. But things have changed. The campus has grown. There are more buildings
This time, Matt isn’t just watching everything unfold in front of him. He’s taking an active role. He decided to make Destiny his senior project, and in several months of fundraising was able to collect US$5,000, used to purchase supplies for Destiny’s new medical clinic, built from a Kiwanis International Foundation grant, and to pay for wiring in the new clinic.

“We wrote the grant to the Kiwanis International Foundation, which we had done previously and had been successful previously,” says Susan Roberts. “This time we wrote it for the expansion of the medical clinic. I didn’t know if we’d get the money again because we already had gotten it once and I know there are a lot of needs around the world … but we were able to get US$5,000, which really went a long ways toward building that clinic.”

The Kiwanians brought six boxes filled with medical supplies from Montana to donate to Destiny—and that was in addition to Matt’s donation.

“Today we got to go on a shopping spree in Kampala,” says Susan of their six-hour visit to a medical supply store, accompanied by a nurse and lab technician from Destiny. “They had prepared a list ahead of time of what they needed. With that list, we were able to stock the medical clinic with all kinds of prescriptions and a piece of equipment that can detect all kinds of diseases. And I think that supply is going to last them a long time.”

**BRICK BY BRICK**

Children are running around everywhere. Some of the younger girls are dressed in (some thanks to Kiwanis) and a lot more children. It’s just … different.

“It’s more heartwarming this time,” says Matt, who tagged along with mom in 2007, when she and friends stopped by the orphanage during a personal vacation to Africa. During that visit, they brought 900 children’s books to donate to Destiny, and young Matt was there to see the joy on the children’s faces. “I’m so glad I came back here. I was young last time. I knew we were doing good, but this time, I understand more what it means—what we are doing and how important it is.

“These are the smiles I remember from last time,” Matt says, lifting a young girl into the air, her squeals of joy filling the room. “It’s awesome. It’s all paying off right now.”
When not studying, it’s time for work ... and play. On a typical day, Destiny’s children may be seen collecting water, moving rocks and tree limbs, learning about tending the land around their school and doing laundry, which is often seen setting out on the grass to dry. When it’s time for fun, children kick around balls. Some of them are handmade from leaves and scraps of cloth, and others are real soccer balls. There’s also dancing. Lots of dancing.

matching handmade maroon dresses. Young boys dot the hillside in matching yellow shirts and black shorts. A boy sits alone on a concrete wall, playing with a soda bottle cap he has attached to a string. Some of the older girls set laundry out in the sun to dry.

Many of the children here at Destiny refer to Evah Mugerwa as “Mama Evah.” After all, many of them know no other mother. As director of the orphanage and school, Mugerwa is in charge. She tells the children what to do and where to be. And they listen. Which isn’t a small feat since there are now about 1,500 children living at Destiny, most of whom never leave unless to visit extended family during holidays.

It hasn’t always been this busy at Destiny. When Mugerwa and her husband, John Michael (both pastors), witnessed so many members of their church dying during the AIDS crisis in the 1990s, they began to take the orphans into their own home. Eventu-
ally, when they had 13 children in their care, they decided to take the next step. They would build an orphanage.

Brick-by-handmade-brick.

“Destiny is an amazing home where we keep all the kids who have no families, who lost their parents, those who are thrown on the street,” Mugerwa says. (John passed away after a car wreck in 2011.) “Destiny is a wonderful, wonderful home and we keep all those kids who don’t have anywhere to stay or live and those who are coming from poor families. We accommodate all those students, all those kids … those who are coming from the streets. We really, really love them.”

Mugerwa stands among the six boxes of medical supplies the Kiwanians have brought with them all the way from Montana in the United States, and the additional boxes from the medical supplies warehouse in Kampala. With a look of disbelief on her face, she looks up at Susan Roberts, and the two women embrace.

“Our relationship with Kiwanis is really big and wonderful because they have stood with us ever since we opened up the school,” Mugerwa says. “They’ve provided a bus, beds, desks … so many things. Let me take this chance to thank them. Thank you very much, because you have been our strong hand with us so that we can stand.”

What’s next for Destiny? According to Director Evah Mugerwa, the focus is to give the students a strong education that will allow them to pursue higher education and one day support themselves. Students are also learning self-sustaining farming techniques, helping Destiny become sufficient and sustainable.

See Destiny’s children for yourself. Download the Kiwanis magazine app. For the iPad version, visit Apple’s Newsstand. For the Android version, visit the Google Play Store. Learn more about Destiny at www.destinyorphanage.org

22 KIWANIS MAGAZINE.ORG
RETHINKING VOLUNTOURISM
Trip organizers are placing more emphasis on building strong connections with communities to make a lasting difference.

By Brett A. Halbleib
Travis Kumph admits that the motivation behind his first “alternative spring break” trip was a chance to travel abroad. A slightly aimless Stonehill College freshman at the time, he wanted to “go somewhere different and maybe work on my Spanish a little.”

He went to Peru. He recalls “being ambitious about it, thinking I was going to have this huge impact and change the world.” Instead, he painted the interior of a youth center. While hardly world-changing, his experience didn’t end that week. It just began.

Inspired by the people he met on that first trip, Kumph returned to Peru four more times during college. Each time, he learned more about the people he was working with. Now 27, he’s taken nearly 20 trips to Peru and Nicaragua, and he chaperones student trips through FNE International, a nonprofit agency where he serves on the board.

Today, an entire industry serves “voluntourism.” Such trips can provide travelers with meaning, fulfillment and a sense of purpose. The Travel Industry Association of America estimates 55 million Americans have participated in volunteer vacations. A 2008 survey estimated the market was worth more than US$1 billion.

While the phenomenon has grown, it also appears to be evolving. The days of, “Let’s go somewhere for a week and do something we can feel good about” are giving way to more holistic approaches that emphasize longer-term participation and longer-term results.

**SHORT-TERM SOLUTIONS**

Without proper planning, volunteers can arrive at destinations only to discover they lack the skills needed, or there’s little to do. During his first trip, Kumph recalls a vivid feeling of, “OK, here’s 38 American kids, what do we do with them?” Critics also say volunteers can take jobs away from locals and reinforce the power balance between rich and poor.

Daniela Papi is the founder of Learning Service, a group dedicated to helping people re-think responsible international volunteering. She sees voluntourism as offering short-term solutions to complex problems. She cites examples of “orphanage tourism” in Cambodia, where children—most of whom have living parents—are separated from their parents and kept out of school to entertain well-meaning tourists, who end up fueling the exploitation of children they wanted to help.

Rustic Pathways students hike in Markuray, Peru (previous spread). Left: Students work with community members to fill the foundation of a new school in Ghana. At right: Students and community members build a new home in Cambodia.
George Srour started Building Tomorrow, a nonprofit based in Indiana that builds schools in Uganda. Voluntourism “is not something we as an organization believe in,” he says. “We don’t believe you can make a big difference by stopping in somewhere for a few days.”

Leading trips is not a priority for Building Tomorrow. “We’re set up to empower communities to look after their own needs in the field of education. There’s no space in that mission for running voluntourism trips.”

Papi says such trips can fuel a system of “sympathy tourism,” which perpetuates feelings of pity or sorrow for someone else’s misfortune. She calls for a shift away from sympathy tourism and toward “empathy learning,” which requires an understanding of others. It’s humbly going out into the world and saying, “I am here to learn first.”

A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL EXPERIENCE

Empathy learning is a good way to describe what Kumph has experienced. That first trip he took to Peru instilled within him a desire to return to “learn, see what else is out there.”

Since graduating in 2010, he’s continued to lead and chaperone trips to Peru and Nicaragua. He’s worked on everything from potable water projects to cataract treatment to libraries. He’s written a book about his experiences called “Peace of Me: Reflections of Service and Self-Discovery.”

As a chaperone, Kumph has seen his role evolve into that of a community partner. He works to develop long-term relationships in the countries where he leads trips. The challenge, Kumph says, is to create an experience that’s mutually beneficial for the peo-
ple taking the trip and the community they’re serving.

“What can you do to work hand-in-hand with the community that’s going to have an impact and benefit everybody—while still maintaining that experience for the people who’re traveling?” he asks. “How do you do that?”

Rustic Pathways has similar objectives. Rustic Pathways is an organization that designs service and education travel programs worldwide for students and others. The organization, which is a Key Club Partner and active in 18 countries, plans its trips with two key priorities: to provide students with life-changing experiences and to achieve sustainable results in the communities served.

“We work to ensure our initiatives have a positive impact for the communities we work with and our local partners,” says Ann Fuller, global director of community service. “We also focus on ensuring that strong student learning comes out of these experiences.”

Fuller says her organization ensures students have meaningful roles to play in ongoing projects. The group also ensures students are adequately prepared for their role and given opportunities to connect with community members. These connections enable students to learn about the culture from the people themselves. Rustic Pathways also weighs individual strengths of each student: Are they fluent in a language? Can they teach?

“If you focus on one place and develop and build relationships, it becomes easier to create programs where you can have an impact,” says Kumph, who’s always looking to understand how a project fits into a community. “Our goal isn’t to take students on a trip,” he says. “The projects we’re working on, they happen whether or not the students are down there.”

As an example, he points to a library at a school, Fe Y Alegría No. 25
in Canto Grande, Peru. The teachers wanted to increase literacy, and students wanted to read “Harry Potter,” “Twilight” and other popular books. Kumph and student volunteers, working with school officials, initiated the library project by cleaning a room and buying a few books.

The library became an immediate success. But the school kept the momentum by applying for a grant, which was used to expand the library. “It’s stunning what they did,” Kumph said. It started with “a little materials and labor, and soon they had hundreds of books, iPads and stuff I never imagined. It’s really cool to see that.”

When done right, such trips “push students out of their comfort zone,” Fuller says. “There’s an opportunity for personal growth and to engage in the world. Students can gain a new perspective on the world and on their own lives.”

‘SOMEONE ELSE’S SHOES’

Kailey Walker is a good example. A former Key Club member, she took a trip to Uganda in high school and several trips to Belize in college. She went into her first trip “hoping to get a sense of what it was like to be in someone else’s shoes.”

In Belize, she worked on a house for a family with several children. Working with the family made her realize that “children are children no matter where you are, and they want love and fun.” Her experiences solidified her desire to become a teacher. “The experiences I had really impacted how I live my life today,” she says. Today, Walker teaches fourth grade at a low-income level school in St. Louis, Missouri. She notes that many students who accompanied her on the trip to Uganda work in service-oriented careers today. Kumph has seen similar experiences. “I’ve had kids change majors because they want to study Spanish, or do social work, or enter a medical field because of something they did” on a trip. “I’ve had kids go down and sign up to do a year of service post-graduate, or sign up...
for the Peace Corps afterward,” he says. Kumph himself serves as an example. In Peru, he worked at a rehab center for people with disabilities. The work he did there “made me realize I wanted to be a physical therapist.” Today, he works at a rehab center in New Hampshire, and “it’s 100 percent because of the experiences I had” in Peru.

ASKING HARD QUESTIONS

Fuller says evaluation is a critical component of Rustic Pathways’ work. “We’re always looking to improve projects and the outcomes we’re having,” she says. “In the last couple of years, we started to do more intensive evaluations of initiatives. We’re constantly improving the work we do and building off the lessons we’ve learned.”

Kumph tries to instill evaluation into the students he works with too. “Every night we talk about what we did today,” he says. “We ask those hard questions: Is this the way to make the world a better place?”

Such experiences make students more aware of the decisions they make and how they live their lives. Kumph notes that because of student activism, Stonehill College now sells only fair-trade certified coffee.

He says it can be a powerful experience for college students who trade the comforts of a dorm for an impoverished community where they watch children play soccer with a plastic Coke bottle. “It forces people to look at these questions in a hard way,” Kumph says. “It’s a lot different than what you find in a book or classroom.”

Kumph acknowledges that volunteer trips don’t change every student. Still, he thinks it’s a worthwhile endeavor. “I’ve never come across a person who regretted going.”

Author Travis Kumph worked with filmmaker Mark Denega on “H.O.P.E. Was Here,” a film about U.S. students and service in Peru (opposite page and above, left). To learn more about the documentary, download the free Kiwanis magazine app by searching for “Kiwanis” in Apple’s Newsstand or in the Google Play Store. Also on this page, Rustic Pathways students build a school in Fiji (top), play with children in Ghana (above) and meet village leaders in Fiji (left).
CULTURAL DIVIDE

NONPROFITS FIND CREATIVE WAYS TO BRING ARTS BACK TO SCHOOLS DESPITE BUDGET CUTS.

BY CHRIS O’MALLEY
Headlines about the demise of fine arts curriculum in U.S. public schools are so plentiful they could be cut-and-pasted into a collage to fill the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum.

Only this collage might as well be that of a broken heart—a mournful representation of cutbacks or outright elimination of arts programs since the Great Recession.

The results are startling:
- Chicago Public Schools in 2013 cut more than 150 arts and music teachers.
- Philadelphia’s city schools largely eliminated funding for art and music programs amid a US$304 million budget shortfall.
- And today, just one school out of 33 offers dance compared to one-in-five a decade ago, according to a U.S. Department of Education study.

How does this compare globally? Well, according to a report titled “Strong Performers and Successful Reformers in Education: Lessons from PISA for the United States,” published by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), “Arts and music education programs are mandatory in countries that rank consistently among the highest for math and science test scores, like Japan, Hungary and the Netherlands.”

With mounting evidence that participation in the arts makes kids more engaged in learning and is reflected in higher overall test scores, a number of nonprofit groups and service organizations, including Kiwanis clubs, are interceding to help students. These efforts range from musical instrument lessons to training for non-arts teachers to integrate arts and music principles into subjects such as history and science.

One of the most innovative programs involves the nonprofit Los Angeles Fund for Public Education, which last year awarded US$150,000 to The Music Center, one of the nation’s most famous performing arts venues. In the summer of 2014, The Music Center trained 20 teachers from five Los Angeles middle schools how to integrate arts into traditional curriculum such as math, science and social studies.

These teachers may not have understood the elements of theater, but “you don’t have to be a Julliard-trained professor to make bamboo flutes,” says Mark Slavkin, who heads educational programs at the center.

More ingenious is that something like dance can be used to help students visualize how the water cycle works, for example. Dance could be used to act out the components of an atom and how they interact, says the former member of the Los Angeles school board.

“It’s a way to make those other subjects
more interesting. The idea is making learning more participatory than just having them sit at their desks, and then wondering why they’re not excited,” Slavkin adds.

Two years ago, the Kiwanis Club of Entertainment Industry Group, in Los Angeles, California, arranged to have artists visit an elementary school. The club picked up the tab for bus transportation so fifth-graders could attend matinee performances at The Valley Performing Arts Center, at California State University Northridge.

“Most of them have never before been to a theater like that,” says club Secretary Carson Schreiber, a former Disney and RCA Records executive.

**ORCHESTRAS TO THE RESCUE**

A U.S. Department of Education survey in 2010 found that 1.3 million elementary school students receive no music education at all, nor did 800,000 secondary students. Orchestras, which themselves know the pain of shrinking budgets, have stepped in to fill the void.

Among 15 orchestras in the U.S. providing in- and after-school musical education for students is the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Like orchestras from Allen-town, Pennsylvania, to Yakima, Washington, the BSO’s “OrchKids” program is modeled largely on Venezuela’s El Sistema program, which is designed to propel poor kids into the musical arts.

Starting with a US$100,000 gift from BSO conductor Marin Alsop six years ago, OrchKids paired students through the eighth grade with an instrument and up to 30 hours of instruction each week. Since then, two of the orchestra’s biggest donors have designated money for the program, which has an annual budget of just over US$1 million and now involves five city schools.

“We reach more than 700 children through the program,” says BSO spokesperson Alyssa Porambo.

**FUNDING PRIORITIES**

Some cities where school districts retrenched from arts instruction have gotten creative in funding.

In May 2013, Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel announced the city would use US$500,000 left over in private donations to cover costs of hosting the 2012 NATO summit for arts education. The money was in addition to US$500,000 the city committed from its budget in 2012 toward the Chicago Cultural Plan initiative. The $1 million will be used by Chicago Public Schools to offer weekly arts classes at the elementary level. The money also will help pay for a certified arts teacher in every school. Ideally, there also will be money available in the next few years to see that all CPS schools can offer dance and drama instruction, as well.

“The Music Center trained 20 teachers from five Los Angeles middle schools how to integrate arts into traditional curriculum such as math, science and social studies.”
But that will require ongoing financial support from partnerships with other organizations and donors.

Such assistance from nonprofits and other sources is welcomed, says Sandra Ruppert, director of the Washington, D.C.-based Arts Education Partnership.

“However, that should not supplant the responsibility of schools to provide students a (robust) arts education,” she says.

In an ideal world, states would require that arts be part of the core curriculum schools must offer, says AEP, a part of the Council of Chief State School Officers. But AEP’s “ArtScan” survey in 2014 found only 27 states defined the arts as a core or academic subject in state policy. AEP wants arts firmly embedded in the curriculum and to have schools have certified arts teachers.

Many schools devote the bulk of their classroom time to see that students—and their school system—score high on testing in subjects such as math, reading and science.

While a state defining arts as a core curriculum isn’t necessarily indicative of the level of arts support, “there’s a tendency to take arts more seriously,” says Ruppert. “I think until decision-makers and others see it as really essential for all students, we’ll see this marginalization.”

ARTS CUTS COULD BACKFIRE

Schools pre-occupied with testing at the expense of programs such as the arts may be shooting themselves and their students in the figurative foot, however.

A 2006 study by the College Board found that college-bound students who’d taken four years of arts curriculum outperformed the reading portion of the SAT by 59 points over those with less than a year of arts instruction. Students with four years of arts curriculum also outscored their peers in the math portion of the SAT by 44 points.

Clyde Gaw, an arts teacher at New Palestine High School near Indianapolis, Indiana, and advocacy director for the Art Education Association of Indiana, thinks he knows why.

“Human beings are hard-wired to think and dream in visual images,” says Gaw, who points to a student in France 200 years ago who’d go on to make breakthrough discoveries in microbiology and chemistry. “Of course I’m talking about Louis Pasteur. He credited his art training for giving him the imaginative capacity to imagine what things looked like from the cellular level.

“We know from all kinds of research that multi-sensory learning is what is retained in the brain, in the mind. The architecture of the human mind is based on emotions.”

“SCHOOLS PRE-OCCUPIED WITH TESTING AT THE EXPENSE OF PROGRAMS SUCH AS THE ARTS MAY BE SHOOTING THEMSELVES AND THEIR STUDENTS IN THE FIGURATIVE FOOT.”
Los Angeles County may be the film and television capital of the world, but budget cuts at L.A. Unified Schools in recent years showed little mercy to arts offerings.

With the number of traveling arts teachers cut roughly in half, to 200, members of the Kiwanis Club of Entertainment Industry Group in Los Angeles, California, make arts education a priority.

The club helps bring artists and performers such as ballet teachers into the auditorium at Dixie Canyon Elementary School in Sherman Oaks. It’s also picked up the cost of bus trips that take the school’s fifth-graders to The Valley Performing Arts Center, at California State University Northridge. They attended matinee performances, including that of the National Acrobats of China.

“Many of our students would most likely never have the chance to see such performances, let alone enjoy them,” says Rick Wong, a fifth-grade teacher at Dixie Canyon.

The exposure also includes pre-performance briefings for 110 Dixie Canyon students.

“It transforms things from just an out-of-school field trip to a real learning experience,” says Anthony Cantrell, director of fine arts education at The Valley Performing Arts Center at CSU Northridge.

Before one recent show, he met with fifth-graders at Dixie Canyon’s auditorium.

“Can someone tell me what dialog is?” Cantrell asked.

“Dialog is when you’re talking,” says a student.

“All artistic groups that you see must learn how to work as an ensemble,” Cantrell says, as students stand in a circle and flex their knees. “The reason I want the oily knees is because if I ask you to move, I want you to be able to move easily,” Cantrell instructs them, as Cal State ballet instructor Hilary Gereaux shows them dance moves.

“Some of these kids have never learned about ballet,” says Carson Schreiber, secretary of the Kiwanis Club of Entertainment Industry Group. He once worked for RCA Records and Walt Disney and was introduced to the Dixie Canyon staff through a parent. He laments that many children today haven’t had the exposure to art that he enjoyed. That exposure is especially important in Los Angeles County, which also is a bastion for the fine arts. But even in L.A., funding for school arts programs suffered with the economy.

“Arts education was cut by about 70 percent across the board in Los Angeles,” says Cantrell, who previously was a public school teacher.

Even though CSUN provides students free tickets to attend shows at the campus, some schools simply don’t have the money for the bus trip, Cantrell says. The Kiwanis club covers those costs. Kiwanians also reach out to college seniors, helping sponsor career fairs with leading entertainment industry executives. The club also is looking at ways to take arts education to high schools.

“It’s such a shame with the L.A. school system eliminating arts education that something like this isn’t in the normal schedule,” Schreiber says.

Wong adds: “We are truly lucky to have developed this relationship with Mr. Schreiber and the Kiwanis organization and we certainly hope that this will be an ongoing relationship in the years to come.”
THE PARTY OF THE CENTURY

DETROIT’S ANNIVERSARY FETE SENDS A CLEAR MESSAGE ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE WORLD’S FINEST SERVICE ORGANIZATION: ROCK ON!

What would Browne, Prance and Johnston say of their benevolent brothers and sisters today? With dueling guitars wailing through “Free Bird’s” finale, 21st century Kiwanians rocked a packed dance floor with gyrations that may have befuddled those foxtrotting founders. It truly was a fitting tribute to Kiwanis’ 100 years of service.

The Detroit Kiwanis Club No. 1’s 100th anniversary celebration had everything a party of such historical importance should have: a towering cake, solemn remembrances, proclamations, the unveiling of a restored “Birth of Kiwanis” plaque and speeches that recalled glory days and rallied enthusiasm for future achievements.

“What a debt we owe ... to these men of Detroit—Donald Johnston, Joe Prance and those visionaries who stood with them,” said Kiwanis International President John R. Button. “They made certain that we, Kiwanians down through the years, have reaped the deep personal satisfaction and fulfillment that comes of selfless service.”
THE FRIENDS WE MADE

Fellowship was the hallmark of this anniversary party, as more than 1,000 attendees mingled, met, took selfies, laughed, sang and danced at Detroit’s Renaissance Center and the Detroit Historical Museum. They were joined by guests dressed for 1915 and one animated sea creature named SpongeBob, who joined the festivities, courtesy of Kiwanis Vision Partner Nickelodeon.

Photos by Dwight Cendrowski
“I met so many Kiwanians from around the globe. ... What a way to take Kiwanis into the second century and what an honor to host such memorable events.”

Eric Sabree
President, Kiwanis Club Detroit No.1
ART IN ACTION
KIWANIS RESCUES FAIR EXHIBIT FEATURING CREATIVE WORKS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES. STORY BY NICHOLAS DRAKE | PHOTOS BY JAIME GREEN

When the Art Exhibits for People with Disabilities lost its corporate sponsorship at the Kansas State Fair in 2012, members of the Kiwanis Club of Hutchinson decided to do something about it. The art of turning a negative into a positive for special populations is part of their legacy.

As sponsors of the first Aktion Club in Kansas, the Kiwanians have a history of helping individuals with disabilities. Learning about the sponsorship loss from member David Morgan, the club rallied to raise US$1,000 toward the cause.

“We would have covered the whole cost, but we also applied for and received Kiwanis International Foundation and Kansas District grants to ensure further support,” says Mike Gingerich, the club’s assistant secretary. “The district really got on board with the idea, and many other Kansas Kiwanis clubs pitched in after we asked. So Kiwanis has now sponsored the exhibit for the past few years and will continue to do so.”

The district’s eight Aktion Clubs regularly contribute original art to the show, which is viewed by more than 300,000 visitors attending the fair each year. Gingerich has seen such a positive response from the Hutchinson Aktion Club members, who range in age from 20 to 65.

“All of the fair art is voted on, including the Arts Exhibits for People with Disabil-
“ALL OF THE FAIR ART IS VOTED ON, INCLUDING THE ARTS EXHIBITS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES. YOU WOULDN’T BELIEVE THE JOY OUR AKTION CLUB MEMBERS FEEL WHEN THEIR WORK WINS A RIBBON OR MEDAL OR EVEN ONE OF THE US$10 AWARDS GIVEN OUT.”

“...ties,” he says. “You wouldn’t believe the joy our Ak tion Club members feel when their work wins a ribbon or medal or even one of the US$10 awards given out.

“All in all, this is a great project for us; our Downtown Hutchinson Kiwanis Club friends, who have long collaborated with us; the Kansas Kiwanis District and the Kiwanis International Foundation. This initiative ensures that special populations will be represented at the fair for many years to come.”
SHOWCASE

A CLINIC GOES TO THE DOGS

KIWANIS CLUB OF NORWOOD ORGANIZES A RABIES VACCINATION CLINIC.

STORY BY SHANNA MOONEY

Whether a Pomeranian or pinscher, pets usually don’t care much for vaccinations. For veterinarians, it’s all in a day’s work. Unless a day’s work involves shots for more than 100 dogs.

“I’m always thankful of any assistance,” says Wilfredo Perez, a veterinarian at Java’s Veterinary Center in Massena, New York. Twice this past year, he received plenty of help at two Kiwanis Club of Norwood’s rabies vaccination clinics.

The county health department, which provided supplies, trained members to check vaccination records and fill out paperwork so new certificates could be mailed to the homes. The only cost to the club was buying a supply of syringes for US$7.

“We petted a couple heads and visited with the owners, but our job was to complete the paperwork and move them to the vet and his assistants,” says project Chairwoman Bess Kirnie.

Apparently, there was only one complaint—from a canine—and that was handled quickly. “The vision of Dr. Perez chasing a dog across the parking lot with his needle at the ready is unforgettable,” Kirnie says.

The doctor won, by the way.

“One family arrived after the clinic was over and asked when we would have the next one,” Kirnie says. “It looks like we have an ongoing project.”

“It is so gratifying to know we filled the needs of pet owners, kept our community healthier and safer, and supported the projects of Norwood Kiwanis at the same time.”
Spring brings Skip-A-Meal fun

For the Kiwanis family, the Skip-A-Meal program is a tradition—and an opportunity. Kiwanians take lunch to work or club meetings in April. Then they donate what they didn’t spend to the Kiwanis International Foundation.

Your Kiwanis club’s participation helps extend each member’s Kiwanis impact. There are different ways to participate—from skipping morning coffee to eating at home instead of at a restaurant. And there are many different people who can share the fun. Encourage friends, family, neighbors and coworkers to participate!

Ultimately, Skip-A-Meal is a fun, easy way to get club members—and so many others—involved with fundraising for the Kiwanis International Foundation. Spread the word! Find information, ideas and resources at www.kiwanis.org/skipameal.

Many members make a difference year after year. That makes them members of the Kiwanis Loyalty Society. Membership begins when you give to our foundation two years in a row. At five consecutive years, benefits begin. Learn more about this opportunity at www.kiwanis.org/loyaltysociety.

When disaster struck Kamp Kiwanis, it affected thousands of lives. But the Kiwanis Club of Calgary (Downtown) in Alberta, Canada, didn’t give up. And they turned to our foundation for help. Read more about this inspiring story at www.kiwanis.org/foundation/news.

Grant application deadline is coming

Save the date: April 15 is the next deadline for Kiwanis clubs, districts and district foundations to apply for a grant from the Kiwanis International Foundation. Applications will be reviewed by our foundation’s board this summer.

When making the case for your project, remember that your application is stronger when you have multiple funding sources. They show your club’s or district’s commitment, and they make the project’s success more likely even if we can’t grant the full requested amount. In addition, be as specific as possible about expenses—contact vendors and other relevant people for exact costs.

Find more tips and requirements at www.kiwanis.org/foundation/grants.
**SHOWCASE**

**BOWLING FOR DOLLARS**

KEGLERS VIE FOR A SHARE OF THE POT TO BENEFIT THEIR FAVORITE CHARITIES.

STORY BY LAURA NEIDIG | PHOTOS FROM MEMORY MAKER PHOTOGRAPHY

The difference between ending and starting to begin can be a subtle one, but it’s a difference that the Kiwanis Club of Bangor-Breakfast, Maine, capitalized on.

When another local group disbanded, it turned to the Kiwanians to disperse its remaining funds. And because the US$61,400 was raised locally, members believed it was important to keep the money in Bangor. But with so many worthy non-profits in the area, which ones should get a share of the pot, and how much?

A bowlathon, the Bangor-Breakfast club decided, would bring the community together and help distribute the funds.

Several groups, including Kiwanis and Rotary clubs, accepted the invitation and selected 10 charities to represent.

The Bangor Kiwanians, for example, bowled for two charities: Shepherd’s Godparent Home, a residential shelter for pregnant women, and the Penobscot Theatre.

“I think in general rural kids have it hard,” says Mary Bubb, executive director at the theater. “Some opportunities are not available to them. Our Dramatic Academy provides life skill—just as important as direct services.”

Even organizations that do provide direct services have hard, capital costs. The Shepherd’s Godparent Home directed its winnings to mortgage reduction.

“...This shelter operates with the spirit of there is no shame in needing help. Many of our young moms are escaping domestic violence,” says Barbara Ford, executive director of the home. “This is a life-changing step.”

The Kiwanis Club of Brewer bowled over the competition and designated Camp Cappella—a camp for people with disabilities—as the recipient of its US$11,500 winnings.

Owners of the Family Fun Bowling Center donated the use of the venue. In addition, the Bangor club was ready with real checks—not just an oversized one for photo ops—to be presented after the last pin fell. So, the money immediately began serving community needs.
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Birthdays

These clubs celebrate their 25th and 75th anniversaries in April 2015. For a more complete list, visit www.kiwanis.org/birthdays.

75th—1940
- Airport Area, Atlanta, Georgia, April 3
- Moncton, New Brunswick, April 12
- Dewitt, New York, April 15
- Delmar, New York, April 22
- The Greater Pittsfield Area, Maine, April 22

25th—1990
- Bismarck Golden K, North Dakota, April 2
- Orcas Island, Washington, April 4
- Algiers, Louisiana, April 5
- Mutschellen, Switzerland, April 7
- Venray, Schieepersland, Netherlands, April 10
- West Omaha Diamond K, Nebraska, April 18
- Rockcastle County, Kentucky, April 19
- Heilbronn, Germany, April 21
- Midlothian, Virginia, April 26
- TsaiShen, Taichung, Taiwan, April 27
- Ta Ya, Taichung Hsien, Taiwan, April 27

Corrections

- The date for the 2015 Kiwanis One Day was incorrect online and in the January/February issue of Kiwanis magazine. Kiwanis One Day is April 11, 2015.
- In the January/February 2015 issue of Kiwanis magazine, information about the playground build in Indianapolis during the 2015 Kiwanis convention was incorrect. The Indiana District will work with Indy Parks on the playground.
- Centenarian Henry Johnson turns 100 in mid-August. His club was incorrectly identified in the January/February issue of Kiwanis magazine. He is a member of the Danville, Virginia, Kiwanis Club.
A GIFT of LIFE

Honor a woman you love with the greatest gift of all. Give to The Eliminate Project. Help protect the lives of women and babies around the world.

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Assembled on January 22, 1940, at the Griswold Hotel—location of the meetings that brought Kiwanis into existence—a bronze tablet was dedicated. The unveiling was a featured piece of the Detroit Kiwanis Club No. 1’s 25th anniversary celebration. Police closed the street, dignitaries were assembled and flowery speeches were spoken, such as one that included these words by Kiwanis International Secretary Fred C.W. Parker:

“We erect this tablet on this historic spot not merely to make this place a further shrine, but hoping that it may assist in the promulgation of the Objects and objectives of our organization. As another quarter century passes it will be a means of helping us to achieve even greater progress, greater development and greater accomplishment.”

But while Don Johnston and Harry Young—both Detroit Kiwanis Club No. 1 founders—unveiled the plaque commemorating “a quarter century of Kiwanis progress,” a man or woman peered through a hotel window for a front-row view of the ceremony. The interloper’s appearance added an eerie aspect to the scene. Two eyes glowed with reflections of the camera’s flash off his/her glasses, and the face seemed to float perfectly framed by the hotel’s ornate window. Though Photoshop was unavailable at that time, the original print was developed with generous darkroom doctoring to obscure the visitor’s visage.

This past January at the Detroit club’s 100th anniversary celebration, Kiwanis conducted a similar ceremony, rededicating a refurbished 50th anniversary plaque. Did any photojacking occur? See for yourself on page 39.
Why not make this your 2015 Kiwanis signature project?

Celebrate the centennial!

Join Kiwanis International in celebrating its 100th anniversary by giving your community the gift of play. We’ve worked closely with Kiwanis to create exclusive designs that celebrate 100 years of service and allow your club to leave a legacy of play. Contact your local Landscape Structures playground consultant to learn more at 888.438.6574 or 763.972.5200, or visit playlsi.com/Kiwanis.

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WHAT'S YOUR STORY
If your club has a success story, simply email a summary and a few photos to shareyourstory@kiwanis.org to be considered for possible future use in Kiwanis International publications.

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