

Yo Ghana! Greetings from Takilma!

Where is Ghana? What do you like to study in school? Who are your friends? What's your favorite food?

Questions like these were penned by our elementary kids, who are finishing their second year as participants in Yo Ghana!, a Portland-based program that connects kids in the Northwest with kids in Ghana.

This year our pen pals are teenagers from Dakpema Junior High School in Tamale, the capital of the Northern Region of Ghana. We are grateful for their friendship!

Our children have a bit to say about their pen pals:

"My penpal, Yussif Alhassan, likes ayoyo soup and tuo-zafi." - *Kava, 3rd grade*

"I have a pen pal in Ghana, Abdul Rahim. He is good at math, science, and English." - *Airabella, 3rd Grade*

"My pen pal's name is Sahada. She is 13. She said to me that she plays videogames." - *Cooper, 3rd grade*

My pen pal's name is Alhassan Ruhia. She's from Ghana. She likes Michael Jackson. She also likes to read. During writing these letters and receiving others, I feel like people are bonding. It's really fun and beautiful. Not many children under 11 get to make much contact with people out of the continent. I want this to go on as long as possible.
- *Felix, 4th Grade*

"My pen pal is Abubakari. He lives in Ghana." - *Kailen, 3rd Grade*

"I have a pen pal from Ghana, and his name is Fuseini Abdul Malik! And he's 15 years old and he is very nice to talk to!" - *Rainbow, 3rd Grade*

"My pen pal's name is Abdul Karim and he taught me what fufu is, and it is his favorite food. Fufu is made of yams. He plays soccer." - *Sage, 4th grade*

"This year me and my class wrote to people in Ghana and my pen pal was named Akolgo Joana. She is 13 years old." - *Alalana, 4th Grade*

"My pen pals's name is Mohammed Abdul Aziz and he taught me that he couldn't speak good English until his friend helped him." - *Lucy, 4th Grade*

"My pen pal is Suabik, and he is very nice." - *Skylar, 5th Grade*

"My pen pal is Mohammed Hafsah. He has six siblings, Ekilma, Aisha, Muksin, Mustapha, Mutawakil, and Taizil." - *Lillianna, 4th Grade*



(Photo by Kaci Elder)
A student uses heat to forge his turtle jewelry under the tutelage of master jeweler Marjorie Reynolds.

Our Gratitude

We'd like to thank our many community teachers this year: Terry Davis (clay), Marjorie Reynolds (jewelry, qi gong), Jill Gruenberg (music),Xoë Sàràmony (circus class), Lisa Kelz (health), Jason Burke (capoeira), Joy Sunflower (beekeeping), Eric McEwen (mycology), Ruth Gibson (science), and Ryan Forsythe (publishing).

Also, a big thank you to all the kitchen staff (Ruth, Dannon, Tera, Amy, Tammy, Amber), school cleaners (Cinnamon, Libby, Jennifer, Amy), office co-administrators (Susan, Jessica, Ryan), Rangers teachers (Tammy, Melissa), and of course, our teaching staff (Rochelle, Ashley, Jenn, Taryn, Melissa, Kaci, Nancy, Chad, Kimiko, Judy, Sarah, Ariel).

Also, preschool parent volunteers, Dome School Board, Barter Faire Board, and everyone else who helped make it a great year!

Youth Empowerment & Support
Presents

16th Annual
Hope Mountain
Barter Faire
2018

June 15- 17
Lake Selmac
County Park

Day Pass for Ages 18+: \$15 • Ages 13-17: \$10 • Under 12: Free w/Adult
Daily Camping Fee: \$10 • Daily Booth Fee: \$10

Featured Music:
Friday
Frankie Hernandez Band
Reeble Jar • Knuf
Irie Rockers
Saturday
BrownishBlack
One Dollar Check
Iry Fuse
Sunday
Brother SYMRGY
Ras Cricket & The Cultivators

Plus: Fire Dancers • Kids Village & Parade • Grandma Agnes Baker Pilgrim • & More!

Family Friendly Event: Please, NO Weapons, Alcohol, Pets or Illegal Drugs.
For more information, please visit [HopeMountainBarterFaire.org](#)
This event is a benefit for the Dome School

SAVE THE DATES

Takilma Community Building Grand Re-Opening - April 28. 3pm-1am. Did anyone hear about this? I guess it's kind of a big deal with tours, historic photo display, Lebanese dinner, free concert, new T(CB)-shirts, and much more.

Open House - May 23. 3-5pm. (Snacks provided.)

All-School Picnic & Graduation - May 25. 11am-2pm. We may call it graduation but we honor all of our students at this end-of-year event. Forks State Park, 11am-2pm. Potluck.

Hope Mountain Barter Faire - June 15, 16, 17. Lake Selmac County Park. More info at [hopemountainbarterfaire.org](#).

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

- It takes a community to complete a building addition (at least a Community Building addition). And we'd like to thank everyone who helped us get there.

We know this list is incomplete—there were easily *hundreds* more who helped, particularly those who came to our many fundraising events. But we were unable to catch everyone's names.

We apologize for those we missed or who we mistakenly thought wanted to remain anonymous. Please accept our gratitude and if your name is not listed, please add it to the blank lines at the end. Thanks!

Our Contractor! (who literally made it happen)
Kurt Bolser & Pickett Mountain Construction.
LTD — *Thanks so much, Kurt!!*

Foundation Support
Four Way Community Foundation
Oregon Community Foundation
Oregon Country Fair Board of Directors
The Autzen Foundation
The Ford Family Foundation
William H. Hurt Foundation
The Carpenter Foundation
Microsoft Matching Gift Program

Building Expansion Committee
The folks who have been at it for more than 3 years—meeting regularly, developing the plans, changing the plans, organizing all the fundraisers, countless in-kind hours, etc. And they're *still* going!

Bruce Donelson
Dallion McGregor
Doug Kendall
Jenn Fogler
Joya Feltzin
Kerry Whitehead
Mark Kelz
- Robert Hirning
Ryan Forsythe
Sarah Kuhn
Travis Garnier

Financial, In-Kind, or Other Support
Alan Eisner
Alan Laurie
Alan Sorin
Allan Goldrath
Allan King
Alan Meyers
Allie Byer
Alyce & Doug Kendall
Andrea King-Brockman
Anna Dunlap
Anna Maria Cavallaro
Anonymous (y'all know who you are)
Aquarius Books & Gifts
Arthur Downing
Ashland Food Co-op
Atkin & Associates
Attendees at our many fundraiser events
Bear Images
Beth Peterson & Mark Kelz
Betsy McGuigan
Betsy Norton
Bill Gray & Joya Feltzin
Blalock Insurance
Bob Forsythe, Jr.
Bob Reynolds
Bob & Bobbie Hoving
Brenda Patton
Bret Davis
Brian Feltzin
Bruce (Lefty) Galbraith (in memory)
Bruce Donelson
Bruce Honeyman
Cabin Chemistry
Carissa Van Heest
Carol McBride
Carol Valentine
Carolyn Collins
Cassidy Goodrich
Chad Meengs
Chamae Deosil
Chinook Bar Ranch
Chris & Jenn Fogler
Christie Dunn & Romain Cooper
Christine & John Gardiner
Christopher Kochevar
Claire Sierra
Clifford Keith
- Coffee Heaven
Cordier MacGuire
Cory Doctorow
Country Plumbing
Cousin Becki in New Jersey
Crystal Kaleidoscope
Cy and Dennis
Dale Zapata Visinaiz
Dallion McGregor
Dan Forsythe
Dan Heller & MaryBeth Burton
Dan & Laura Mancuso, and *The IV News*
Dan Somers
Daniel Dalegowski
Darrel Pearce
Dave Hocker
Dave Maize
Davis Painter
Dawn Beausoleil
Dawn Present Rainrabbit
Deanna & Ted Schwartzman
Debbie & Thomas Becker
Debbie Lukas
Deborah Murphy
Deborah Reynolds
Deborah Trejo
Della Meengs
Dick Buckendahl
Diggin' Livin'
The Dome School Board
Don Shaw
Donald & Ernestine Kuhn
Donna Parrish
Dr. Margaret Philhower
Elden & Barbara Parchim
Eric Unger
Erica Bartoli & Travis Garnier
Erwin & Diana Sawall
Felicity Elworthy
Forrest Roth
Gail Giacobbe
Gay Swain
George 'Michael' Myers
George Lukas
George Shook & Kelpie Wilson
Gilbert Velasco
Gina LoPreste & dancefarm
Gloria Stone
The Good Earth Organics
Gray Conway
GreenSide Up
Greenwood Engineering
Greg Walter
Heather Jane Smith
Herb & Diane Fogler
The Herb Shop
- Hope Mountain Barter Faire (the organization, not the festival itself, which is June 15-16-17 this year—mark your calendars!)

Ida Teasdale
Indigo Children Project
Illinois Valley Community Development Organization
Illinois Valley Wellness Resources
It's a Burl
IV Whirlwind Play Fest
Jake McBride
James McBride (in honor & memory of Peg McBride)
Jamil Brock
Jan Geist
Jan Zieba
Jean & Michael Morgan
Jeff Staab & Sarah Kuhn
Jeffrey Falkenstein
Jennie May Donnell & Menno Krai
Jennifer Folkerts & Aaron Howard
Jim Hansen
Jim Shames & Heidi Parker
Jo Perkins & Ida Madsen-Perkins
Joe Carnahan
John Whiteside
John Woodward
Johnnie Walker
Jon the Carpenter
Jonah McBride
Jonny Klein
Josiah Dean
Joy Shinerock
Joy Sunflower & Eric McEwen
Joyce & Harry Abrams
Judith McBride
Judy Carpenter
Kaci Elder & Ryan Forsythe
Katherine Tilton
Kayla Starr
Keeeth & Nellie /kelk/
Kelly Gray
Kenny Houck
Kent & Joyce Fisher
Lance Bisaccia
Lars Limburg
Laurie Prouty and Kerry Holman
Lawrence (Long Larry) Kleypas
Left Fork Books
- Leilani Ruland
Leslie Gray
Libby Goines
Linda Doran
Linda Wright
Lisa Kelz
Lorena McMahon
Lou Gold
Lucy & Jose Benki
Lydia Roberts
Magic Forest Farm
MaMuse
Margaret & Robert Forsythe
Marilyn & Jay Zeiba
Marjorie Gray
Marjorie Reynolds
Mark & Kate Dwyer
Marty's Tree Service
Mary Montgomery
Mary Reynolds
Maura Gallagher
Max Gimbel
Meadow Martell
Melissa Pennings
Meredith Howell
Michael Garnier & Peggy Malone
Michael Martin
Michael Myers
Michael Phillips
Miguel Kime
Mirya Holman
Morgan E. Williamson
Nancy Fisher
Nausar Saffarian
Neil Kisiela
Nick Hazen Peterson
Nicole Weaver
Oregon Books & Games
Oregon Caves Chevron
Otter & Pinecone Books
Out 'N' About
Pacific Botanicals
Paco Despacio
Pat & Roger Brandt
Paul Braaten
Paul Gray
Paula Gardner
Pedro Tama
Pete Eastman
Rachel Goodman
Rachelle Taylor
Rael Hirning
Ravenswood Gallery
Raymond & Laurel Howard
Rebecca Eisenberg-Papka
Rich and Angel Allender
Robert Harrison
- Robert Hirning
Robert Lee
Rose Downey
Rosemary Staab
Roxy Sincerny
Sally Clements
Sara Kruger
Sara McDonald
Sheila Mason & Kerry Whitehead
Shel Anderson
Sherry Lou Shaw
Smokey
Stan & Patty Dalegowski
Stephanie Friedman
Stephanie Moor & the Galloping Goose
Steve Orr & Frog Farm
Steve (Wiz) Krisa
Sue Parrish
Sunshine Cafe
Sunstar Country Club
Susan and Dave Kendall
Susan Gustafson
Suzanne Garnier
Susan Shloss
Sydney Miller
Takilma Common Ground
Takilma Community Association
Terry Cain (in memory of Russel Kauffman & John Meengs)
The very patient students and staff of the Dome School
The slightly less patient students and staff of the Dome School
Tierra del Sol
Tom Gray
Tracy Parks Lamblin
Treehouse Florist & Gifts
Tri Huynh
Trudy Monsma
True Value Hardware
Val Van Nuys (in memory)
Vincent & Kate Deschamps
Walt Baumback
Wayne Fitzpatrick
Wendy & Don Elder
Wheels A' Turnin
Wild Bill's Oregon Outlet
Wild River Pizza
Wright's World Emporium

Thanks again to *everyone* who made our new addition possible. We'll hope to see you Saturday, April 28th!