



B.A.S.I.C.S international

MONTH OF LOVE EDITION

A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER

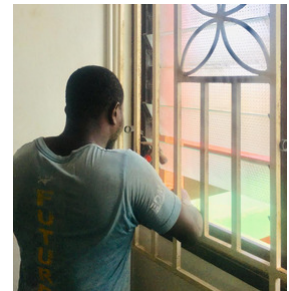


So, here we are saying goodbye to February, just as quickly as we said hello to January. I want to thank everyone who sent birthday wishes; it was a quiet one, spent with friends in Ghana.

February also marks the time, we say goodbye to Harmattan season. The Harmattan is a season in the West African subcontinent, which occurs between the end of November and the middle of March. It is characterized by the dry and dusty northeasterly trade wind, of the same name, which blows from the Sahara Desert over West Africa into the Gulf of Guinea.

Here in Ghana, there is no winter, but we are about to welcome our rainy season; which in the past has brought about heavy downpours and flooding in Ghana. We are praying that with the new roads, drains and planning; this year the season comes with not much incidents.

B.A.S.I.C.S gets its share of problems, such as flooding when the water mysteriously creeps through the windows; or the drains are not cleaned on our road side; and it backs up. However we are thankful for our partners; **Lycopodium** and **Consar** who are performing massive maintenance on the windows; corking and replacing wooden buttons.



I nearly escaped telling you, I am writing this little piece from a place called Philips Island; in Melbourne Australia. I arrived last week to attend the wedding of B.A.S.I.C.S board member; **Scott O'halloran**. I will use the rest of the time to catch up **Jess O'farrell**; another board member, and former volunteer **Laura Danby**. I will travel to **Adelaide** and **Perth** to visit our partners; **AS4AK** and **Lycopodium**.

I feel so optimistic that as we quickly approach our 20th Anniversary (2020), that B.A.S.I.C.S will have have a lot of stories to tell; so sit back and enjoy this edition.

Patricia Wilkins
Founder & Executive Director
B.A.S.I.C.S International

DONATIONS & VOLUNTEERS

NYU College of Arts and Sciences (CAS)

Students and Faculty of New York University (CAS) joined us to execute a school painting project at Great Kwame Nkrumah Memorial School (SHALOM SHALOM). Students from NYU, were given a tour of Chorkor, where they learned how fish is caught by the local fisherman and how the women smoke it daily. They also toured B.A.S.I.C.S two facilities, including SOJA (Southwest of Jamestown Accra) which is the home of our volunteer hostel and our social enterprises; ReRun (Thrift Shop) and Hedzole (freedom) ; our profit sharing training and manufacturing centre. Before heading to the school to get their hands dirty, they took a tour of our main Facility; Nanas House (library, Computer, Media Room, and Learning spaces).

Through the support of NYU, classrooms, table and chairs were painted giving the school a facelook; which will boost the morale of students attending every day. NYU students unleashed their creativity; drawing designs and psychedelic colors on chairs. When the head of the school; Mr Yaw Nkrumah was asked if he like it; he replied: NO! "I love it"

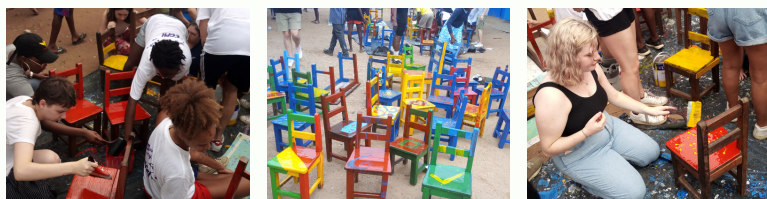
All too soon , we had to say goodbye to our volunteers and staff of NYU who came bearing gifts (cash, paints, and school accessories) to help make this project a reality. Our famous little dancers graced the day with some nice moves. We are grateful and appreciate all efforts aimed at making a difference in the lives of these children.



PRODUCTS

Bed Spread, Pillow case and Bed runner

Available through our NY office;
(@Thomas White Jr Foundation Building) 162- 04
Tuskegee Airmen Way (South Road) , Jamaica NY



RECURRING DONATION

Consider making a donation.

Recurring donations are our bread-and-butter here at B.A.S.I.C.S. It helps us plan for the future and allows us to grow faster. Make a recurring donation to one of our projects, or simply make your donation a general donation, leaving us to chose which project is currently most in need of support. Any amount is appreciated, no matter how small. You can make your donation via PayPal, Cheque, Credit Card authorization form. If you'd like to chat to us first, please get in touch!

DID YOU KNOW?

In Grade Eight at every school in Ghana, the national curriculum guides the teachers to teach Reproductive Health!



1619- 2019 marks the Year of the Return

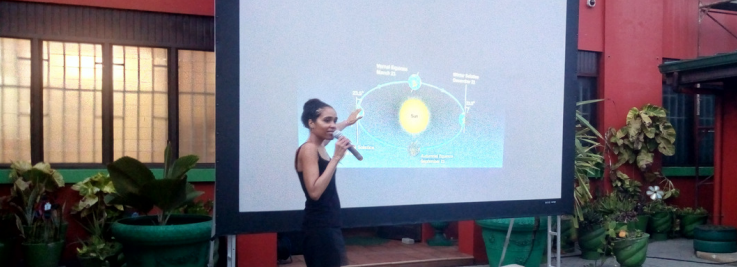
As 2019 marks the 400th year since the first documented arrival of enslaved Africans to the shores of America (The Year of Return), it is necessarily a year of both reflection on the past and anticipation for the future. With that as a guiding principle, The African American Association of Ghana (AAAG) with the support of the United States Embassy of Ghana invited Dr. Nia Imara, a lecturer at Harvard University, to speak to Ghanaian youth about the importance of STEAM(Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) education. Dr. Imara is an Astrophysicist and an artist, and is the first African-American woman to earn a PhD in Astrophysics at the University of California, Berkeley.



"In a world with so much injustice, violence, hatred, and fear, art is important because, it can empower people and help them find their voice" says Dr. Imara during her presentation dubbed Tunapane Mwangi (We Love Light). We are the light of the world. Light means Power, Beauty and Transformation.

She surely got them riveted through her presentation. How many stars are there in the galaxy? Well, there are 20 billion stars in the galaxy say Dr. Imara, and we learnt it takes 24 hours for the earth to spin around the sun.

Thank You Dr. Imara for spending time with us and making us more abreast with facts about astrophysics and arts in general.



MY DAILY LIFE @ B.A.S.I.C.S

B.A.S.I.C.S international is an organization that helps young people to achieve their goals. My name is John Allotey; I am a student of B.A.S.I.C.S International. At B.A.S.I.C.S, there are Facilitators that help us to do our homework given to us at school. We go to Basics on Monday to Friday.

Some of the activities we have are computer, Harambe, chess, games, homework and tutorials. On Fridays, we have our spelling test, go for Say it Loud (weekly topics are discussed during these sessions) and finally have our club activities. Some of the activities are Art and Craft, Choreography, Computer, Cultural dance and sewing.

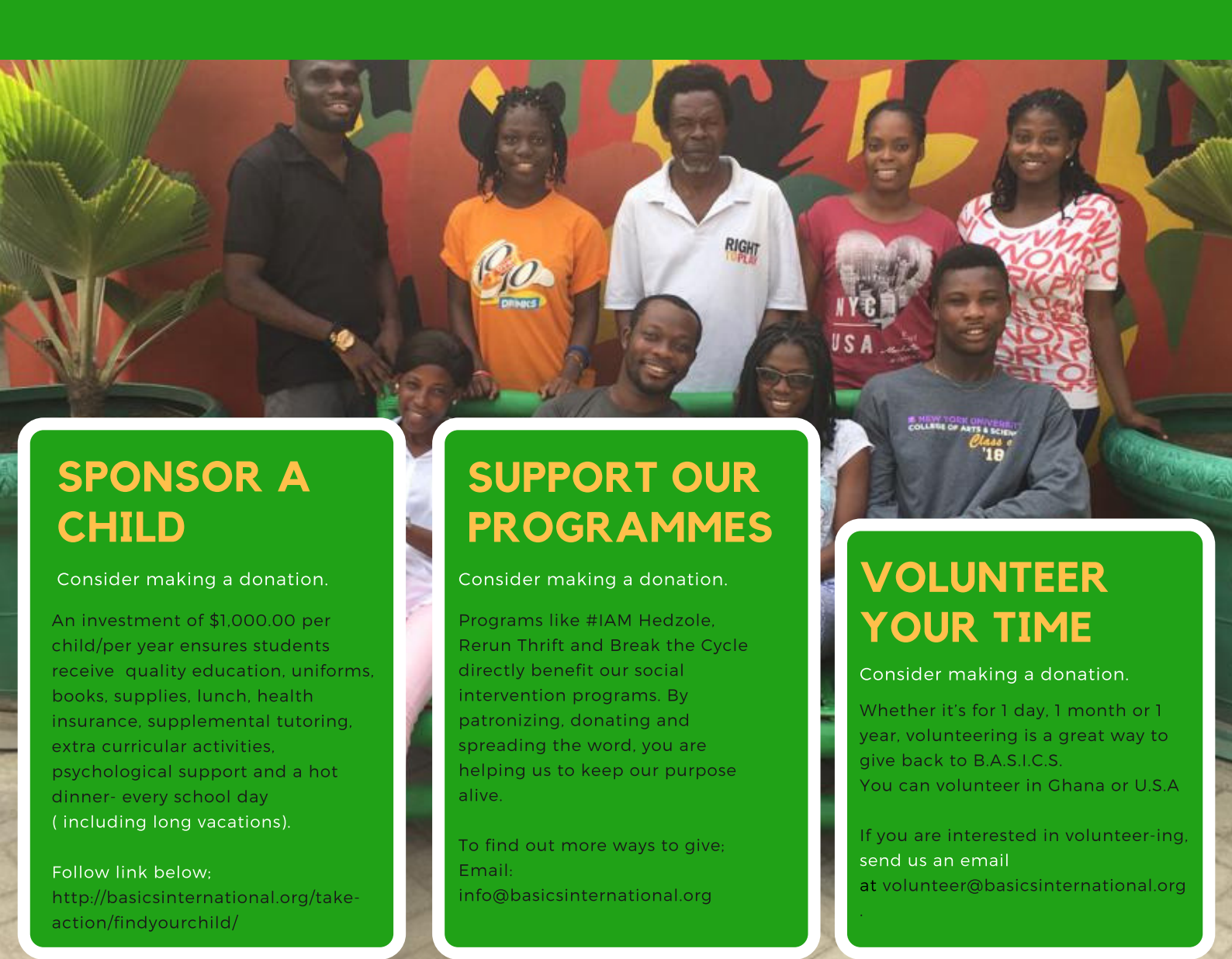
Each of us has a sponsor, that pays our school fees, uniforms, books, stationary, lunch, and dinner each night. I am a member of the chess team that plays for Ghana.

We started playing Chess last year and through our hard work and assistance from Auntie Pat and our coaches, we have visited many places like DPS international, Roman Ridge, Jack and Jill School and Cape Coast (African Under 16 Tournament).

I love Basics because, they always teach us to become good people and learn to achieve our goals in life.

Article by
John Allotey
Age: 14
Grade: 7





SPONSOR A CHILD

Consider making a donation.

An investment of \$1,000.00 per child/per year ensures students receive quality education, uniforms, books, supplies, lunch, health insurance, supplemental tutoring, extra curricular activities, psychological support and a hot dinner- every school day (including long vacations).

Follow link below;

<http://basicsinternational.org/take-action/findyourchild/>

SUPPORT OUR PROGRAMMES

Consider making a donation.

Programs like #IAM Hedzole, Rerun Thrift and Break the Cycle directly benefit our social intervention programs. By patronizing, donating and spreading the word, you are helping us to keep our purpose alive.

To find out more ways to give;

Email:

info@basicsinternational.org

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME

Consider making a donation.

Whether it's for 1 day, 1 month or 1 year, volunteering is a great way to give back to B.A.S.I.C.S.

You can volunteer in Ghana or U.S.A

If you are interested in volunteer-ing, send us an email at volunteer@basicsinternational.org

Contact details: Ghana

Project location

4 Kojo Armah Road

Chorkor, Accra, Ghana

Located on the road behind Chorkor Police Station.

BASICS International

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Ghana, West Africa.

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