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Tilden J. LeMelle, Chairman  
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## EDUCATION FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S FUTURE

November 24, 1995

Dear Friend,

Apartheid education has left 45% of South Africans illiterate. A generation of Black young people are growing up without the most basic skills they need for today's economy.

Many teachers in Black schools do not even have a high school education. In rural areas the teacher may be someone with only a third or fourth grade education.

Nelson Mandela's government has asked The Africa Fund to help with urgent programs to upgrade today's teachers while the new, better educated, generation is being trained.

The Africa Fund sent a delegation of distinguished classroom teachers to South Africa for five weeks to investigate ways for American educators to help South Africa's schools.

The teachers saw white schools with science laboratories, computers, music and art, and impoverished Black schools that were little better than tin shacks. The delegation leader, Dr. Evelyn Jones Rich, described visiting "African schools where the buildings were made of sheet metal and they were so hot you couldn't breath inside."

This delegation was about more than helping South African schools. It was also building a partnership between Americans and people in southern Africa who are on the cutting edge of freedom.

When we build partnerships Africa becomes not an abstraction but real people with names, faces, families and life stories. The media image of Africa as a continent of famines and civil wars gives way to the reality that there is hope and progress as well. Our work is building a powerful voice for Africa in communities across America

Since returning to the U.S. the teachers are working with



The Africa Fund to mobilize resources for South African education:

- \* We are working to bring South African school principals to the U.S. next year for an intensive course on in-school teacher training.

- \* The teachers who went to South Africa have set up a World Wide Web page on the Internet to keep educators around the world up to date on the progress and needs of South African education.

- \* They are designing curriculum materials on South Africa to increase American understanding and support.

In the new South Africa students are encouraged to participate fully in their education. Recently Nelson Mandela asked the Africa Fund to create an educational program for a group of students he brought with him to the United Nations General Assembly. He wanted them to understand the importance and responsibility of membership in the international community.

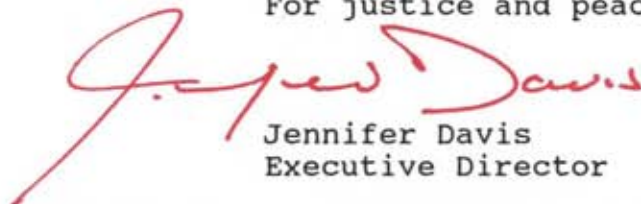
The students ranged in age from the early teens to a man in his early twenties who had just returned to school. I was inspired by their quick intelligence and their eagerness to cram as much knowledge as possible into the short time available.

South Africa's children are the hope of the future. Support for their education is absolutely indispensable for the South African dream of freedom to succeed.

That is why I am turning to you now to support this vital work.

As the holiday season approaches I hope you will give as generously as you possibly can so that the children can have the future they deserve.

For justice and peace,



Jennifer Davis  
Executive Director

P.S. As you probably know, all contributions to The Africa Fund are tax deductible. In closing I want to wish you and yours peace and joy for the holidays and the New Year. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart for all your help.



## Africa Fund Hosts South African Students



When President Nelson Mandela came to speak at the UN's 50th anniversary celebrations in October he brought along a high school student from each of South Africa's nine newly created provinces.

"You are the future of our country and I want you to meet all those that helped us in our struggle," President Mandela told them.

For their week-long stay in New York, President Mandela asked the Africa Fund to set up a program for the youngsters, who represent South Africa's people in all of their diversity.

We took them to the Sarah Hale High School in Brooklyn for a model U.N. program which involved three other New York City high schools.

In Harlem, they attended Canaan Baptist Church where President Mandela has worshiped on his first ever state visit to the U.S. At our offices, the students learned from Executive Director Jennifer Davis about the anti-apartheid campaigns that contributed to their country's freedom. The group is pictured above.