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If you want to help for a day, give them rice;
If you want to help for a while give them a tree;
If you want to help for an eternity, give them an education

Winter 2007

Year 2006 in Review



World of Children Humanitarian Award



World of the Children Humanitarian Award Recipients: Susan Scott Krabacher, Jane Aronson, M.D., and David Lynch at the United Nations Plaza

On Nov. 9, 2006, at the UNICEF House on United Nations Plaza in New York City, I was honored to receive the *World of Children Humanitarian Award*. The event was attended by United Nations Ambassadors, the Board of the World of Children Foundation, other award recipients who came from as far away as Chile and India, Cristina Marselli LaRosa –my summer coworker of 24 years - as well as my family and friends. For more information on this award, you can go to <http://www.worldofchildren.org/2006awards.htm> . . . (Past honorees include Eunice Kennedy Shiver, The former First Lady of Brazil, and the Dali Lama's sister.)

Our School: La Escuela David Lynch



Our main emphasis at Responsibility is education for the children living in the dirt-floored shacks around the Tijuana municipal dump. It is there where we operate a preschool/kindergarten, a computer lab for the kindergarten and elementary school children, art classes for inspiring artists, and tutoring.

Profe Felipe continues to be our assistant director of Responsibility. Profe Lili has taken over as principal, and Profe Jaime is in charge of the computer/art/tutoring school.

And like any school, new teachers are hired as others move on in their careers. Both Profe Laura and Profe Mari left this year and were replaced by three new teachers. We all wish Profe Laura success as she pursues her career as principal in a public school kindergarten.

This years with all our combined schools and classes we have 417 students.

We all like to hear success stories: Cristian, Profe Felipe's son, started his own business this year. He opened an Internet Café with four computers. He also repairs computers and gives basic classes in computer literacy. Cristi, a former scavenger of the dump who was married with two children by age fifteen, took computer literacy classes at our school and became proficient with her skills earning her an office job. As we have been saying for 27 years, "If you want to help for a lifetime, give them an education."



Kindergarten Graduation

Actress Susan Sarandon attended our kindergarten graduation. Her visit hit the media around the world. It was in the Himalayan Times in Tibet, on the radio in Vancouver, Canada, on CNN news in the United States, in the Albany Times in New York, and a friend of mine vacationing in Barcelona, Spain, at the time, send me the article from that city's newspaper. These are just a few that covered the story. For more in this, go to our website to media. Approximately \$25,000 was raised from Ms. Sarandon's visit.

Unites States Outreach Program

Along with us teaching the children living in the dump, we have been operating educational and outreach programs for American students. The La Salle Christian Brothers Schools located all over the United States bring their students to Tijuana to do their required social service work. These high schoolers come prepared with lessons and activities for the kindergartners. Others do repair work such as roofing and painting. This is an eye opener hands-on experience that these students remember for a lifetime

Central High School in Florida does an annual Christmas caroling event in Spanish to raise funds for our school. And several schools in the San Diego area participate in the Christmas program. Every fall semester fifteen classes at Southwestern College donate creative theme gift baskets for our annual fund raiser. These students also help transport the Christmas presents across the border. Each year roughly 2500 students through the United States get involved in some way with our school.

And what do they get in return? That good feeling we all get when we help someone else.



Summer School/Camp



Cristina Marselli LaRosa continues to spend her summers with us running our camp. This past year, you sent 100 kids to camp. As always, the kids favorite times are the trips to the beach. For many, it is the only time they get to go.

Christmas

We played Santa Claus to 700 children in Tijuana. (We include surrounding neighborhood kids along with the students from the special education school where Jorge's, our coworker for the past 21 years, daughter attends school.) Each child wrote a letter to Santa and attached his/her photo. We distributed the letters to you, churches, businesses, schools, and Rotary Clubs.

In mid December with \$42,000 worth of the presents Santa and his many helpers crossed the border into Mexico.



2006 Award Recipient



NRG, an electrical power company based in Princeton, New Jersey, was this year's honoree at our annual banquet. NRG is giving our school a \$140,000 grant to build a new school, replacing the one we outgrew. The project is divided into two parts: the computer/art/teen center building, and then the kindergarten. Those in the community who help take down the old buildings are using the materials to improve or add onto their own homes -- a win win situation for all.

Sharing My 2006 Coorespondence and comments

(I enjoy your letters and appreciate those pats on the back once in a while.)

- "What I like about this organization is that former students have returned to become teachers," Susan Sarandon stated at our graduation ceremony
- My donations are small and given from my heart and encouragement for the continuance of your work.
- Keep on doing your good work and God Bless you. Wish I could do more but I'm just making it. I'll be ninety God willing in April. So, if you don't hear from me once a month, take me off your list.
- I am enclosing a check for 4 bikes for your kids. I have 4 of my own sons and this is part of their Christmas Gift as it was last year. We were flooded by Katrina but we are now in our beautiful home, happily decorating for Christmas.
- As a 76-year-old bike rider myself, I am so happy that you are providing bikes for your students this Christmas. I do hope this little donation will give a child the joy a bike brings.
- The reason that I have always tried to share with others is that my family has been blessed with good health and the ability to work their own way out of poverty. My parents were welcomed to Ellis Island and New York City with signs "Help Wanted...No Irish Need Apply" and here I'll be in Pasadena on May 12th watching my baby, Noreen, graduate from medical school WOW! It can happen to everyone if they want it and are willing to work hard.
- The World could use a thousand more David Lynches...
- We love you and are so proud of you for the many lives you have changed.

Special Thanks

Thank you for giving me the oppportunity to continue working with the children whose families scavenge the city dump for survival. We at Responsibility wish there were a million more of YOU. Your support is truly appreciated and needed.

If you are ever in the area, please look me up. I would be glad to bring you down to our school and have you meet the children you are educating.

Gratefully,

David Lynch, Teachers, and Kids



From left to right: Picture 1 & 2: David , Gloria Steinem, Ray & Pat Newland(David's sister and brother-in-law), David, Christine & Dan La Rosa, at World of Children Award Event in NYC. Picture 3: Graduation, Picture 4: Susan Sarandon & Laura Galinson at our graduation: Picture 5:, Fox News Anchor Marc Bailey with SWC Staff at our annual fund raiser