



# Reason2Smile Gazette

JANUARY 2012

WWW.REASON2SMILE.ORG

## Happy New Year!!

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Photo by [jessicascranton.com](http://jessicascranton.com)

Hello Friends,

I hope this New Year is starting off well for all of you! It's been very frigid up here in Lake Placid but we're finally getting some decent winter weather so no complaints.

2011 wrapped up strong and 2012 is starting the same way, thanks to all of you! As you know, our big push the last couple of months was filling all the child sponsorships. I'm very happy to announce that every single one of the 123 students who I had enough information on to create biographies for are either fully sponsored or well on their way to being so! This is such a wonderful way to start the New Year! Thank you!!

In the last couple pages of this newsletter (as well as on our website) you will see multiple lists of donors. This is our attempt to recognize those of you who have made a financial impact this year. Each donation, whether large or small, on a monthly basis or in support for a Jog-a-Thon, has made a huge difference in the lives of so many children. As many of you know, we have never listed donors in this manner before. I made a strong attempt to contact each donor about how he/she would like to be listed, if at all. I know I probably made some mistakes and inevitably I missed someone. I appreciate your understanding and forgiveness in this matter. Please pass any feedback on to me and I'll do my best to address it right away. As you can see in the lists, Reason2Smile has a wide spread support base! Thanks to each and every one of you, we are truly growing!

In the Reason2Smile office the year has started off with a splash of color. We're starting 2012 right with a fresh look to our beloved bracelets. Red, green, blue, purple, pink, and yellow! These bracelets are still \$2 each and we're taking orders so let us know if you're interested!

A new year brings with it a whole new world of possibilities and we are excited for the new adventures to begin! Thank you for travelling with us on this journey and touching the lives of many children along the way! Together we truly are giving so many a reason to continue smiling!



Blessings and Smiles,  
Keela Dates  
Executive Director, Reason2Smile Inc.

## Kenyan Update



Kindergarteners enjoying a snack.

A new school year began at Jambo Jipya on Tuesday January 3rd! The children piled back into the school grounds with smiles on their faces and hope in their hearts for another successful year! Keela will travel to see them during the first two weeks in February. She is eager to hear their laughter and feel their joy as they share with her all that has happened in their personal lives since she last visited in January 2011. If all goes as planned, the next newsletter you receive will be written in the Kenyan heat. It will be filled with new pictures and new stories just waiting to be shared with all of you who love and believe in the orphaned and at-risk children of Kenya!

## A Note From Duncan's Corner

Happy New Year! This has been quite the month in Lake Placid! We are finally starting to get some freezing temperatures, which is great for the area, but sure makes typing a little more difficult!

Mid-December we launched an ambitious campaign to raise the money to buy all 45 children in the Jambo Jipya orphanage a new uniform. We were a little worried about being able to raise the \$450 needed, especially during the holiday season, but all our worries were for naught! We raised \$570, which will allow us to buy 12 uniforms for children who don't live at the orphanage, but could really use a new uniform! It will be a fantastic way for those 57 students to start out the New Year, feeling good about themselves, and excited to begin their studies!



Duncan during his trip abroad to London in 2010.

Gearing up for 2012 is very exciting! Soon we will be publishing a page on [www.reason2smile.org](http://www.reason2smile.org) that describes our goals, and how the money will be put to use. We're still crunching the numbers, but it looks like 2012 will be a busy year! We have high expectations for what we can accomplish, and are very excited to have all of you with us!

# Students Have a Reason2Solve!

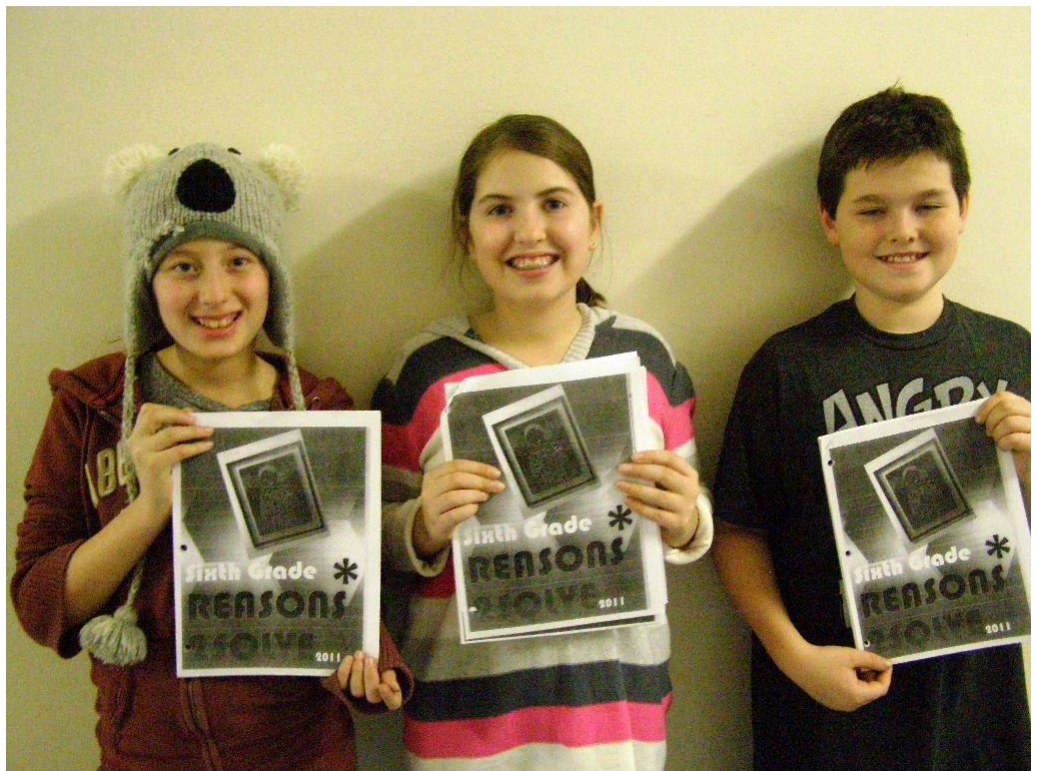
The sixth grade at Chatterton Elementary School in Merrick, New York started a Math-a-thon, which included a packet stocked full of 100 math problems. It wasn't homework; it was purely done to benefit Jambo Jipya School and its students. Each student was asked to tackle as many problems as she/he could. Students were also encouraged to get as many sponsors as possible to raise money for Jambo Jipya School. Sponsors could pay a flat rate, or pay per problems that were correctly solved. Mrs. Cain, one of the sixth grade teachers at Chatterton, distributed the packet to all sixth graders and sponsored each of them for \$1 flat rate. That was \$62 from just one person. The children raised a little over \$2000 in all from family, friends and other teachers!

The sixth graders had a lot to say about this venture:

“There were many questions, but it paid off in the end,” said Brittney Wallach, a sixth grader.

Kate Brady, another student, said, “It was really great that we could help people by doing math problems, and getting sponsors was fun too!”

Finally, Madeleine Eichhorn says, “It was worth all the trouble to give a child a Reason2Smile!”



Kara, Phoebe, and Jack – authors of the article.

“We are so proud of our sixth grade students and teachers. They have learned compassion, empathy and responsibility while improving their math skills!” said Chatterton’s principal and assistant principal, Mrs. Davidowitz and Ms. Chimento.

We were glad to participate in this Math-a-thon not only to sharpen our math skills, but also to help give the kids in Jambo Jipya a “reason to smile”.

*Written by Kara Vecchione, Phoebe Goldberg, and Jack Frohnofer*

## 2012 Reason2Smile Student Writing Contest



Now that it is 2012, the Reason2Smile Writing Contest is upon us! Love to smile?! Love to write?! We are starting a **new annual contest for students in grades two through six**. The contest offers students the opportunity to showcase their talent in response to a specific theme. This year's theme is **"What is Your Reason 2 Smile?"** Competition categories include **prose** and **poetry**. Students are **not** permitted to submit work independently so kids and parents, tell your teachers about this contest! Entries must be submitted by **March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2012** and winners will be notified by April 27<sup>th</sup> 2012. Winning entries will be displayed on the Reason2Smile website as well as right here in the newsletter! To download the contest details and submission release form please visit the "Teachers and Students" portion of the website found on the "How to Help" page or by clicking the link below. You can also contact Keela at [keela@reason2smile.org](mailto:keela@reason2smile.org) for more information. We look forward to having you participate and reading all about why you smile! <http://reason2smile.publishpath.com/teachers-and-students>

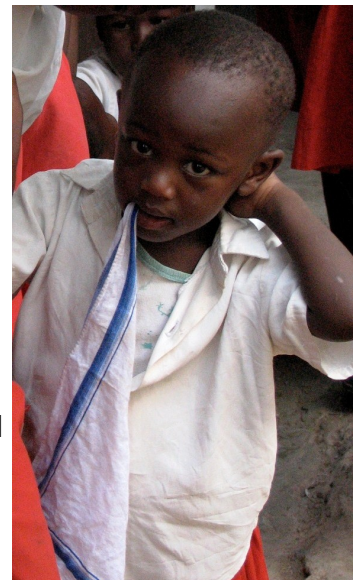
### Give Them a Reason 2 Smile!

Tax deductible donations can be made by giving online via the website [www.reason2smile.org](http://www.reason2smile.org) or by making a check payable to "Reason2Smile Inc." and mailing it to:

Reason2Smile Inc.  
151 Hillcrest Ave.  
Lake Placid, NY 12946

For any questions or further information please contact Keela at:  
[keela@reason2smile.org](mailto:keela@reason2smile.org)

Thank you for everything you did to make 2011 a successful and blessed year for the children at Jambo Jipya School! Here's to another year filled with exciting new adventures and opportunities to share what we have with those less fortunate!



# 2011 Donor Recognition

Many thanks to all of you who made a financial impact in 2011! Big or small, every penny goes a long way towards helping children in need. We hope that the smiles on the children's faces help you recognize just what kind of an impact you made this year! Thank you!!

## Donors

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 Dr. Kathleen Liang and her class at the  
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 Sarah Wardner  
 Margaret Washington  
 Stacie Wiggins  
 Dr. and Mrs. Thomas G. Woodman  
 Betty Wright  
 Guillermo Zuniga

(For those of you who have already given donations to sponsor children for 2012, please know that you will be recognized in January 2013. You will receive tax receipts for your donation given this year but you will be recognized as 2012 Child Sponsors next year. Sorry for any confusion. Thank you for making an enormous difference in the life of a child!)

## In Kind Donations Given

Anonymous  
 Anonymous – printing of the Reason2Smile pamphlets and greeting cards  
 Joanne Court

Carl Dates  
 Christopher Dyer  
 Lake Placid Elementary School  
 Lake Placid UPS Store  
 Richard Meyer

Nip Rogers  
 Rosenblum family  
 William Windsor  
 Erica Younglove

As well as countless others who have donated clothing, shoes, school supplies, health supplies, etc. Not to mention those of you who have used your time, energy, talents, and skills to help in some way. Thank you!!!