

The Haitian Project, Inc.
Community Update: Flowers for Everyone!
March 13, 2013



Beauty is in the eye of the beholder – or as is often the case at LCS – in the hands of The Garden Club. Fortunately, the club has agreed to transfer some of their treasure to the ground level of the school.

The Garden Club has taken over the rooftop garden from past owners which have included Volunteers, visitors, and staff. The original creator of the garden is former board member and frequent visitor, Sue Williams. Sue has since moved on and is now a master gardener who designed her parish's school garden and is near completion of a degree in landscape architecture. However, we would like to believe all that started here.

Over the years, the rooftop garden has produced lettuce, tomatoes and other vegetables. Now, the concentration is flowers and grass. We are also attempting to produce sod to put in front of the JJ Dessalines building, LCS's oldest school building, which just underwent important seismic renovations

Of course, the work of the Garden Club blossoms in more ways than one. We'd like to share with you what some of our current garden caretakers at LCS have to say about their involvement with the Garden Club:

"Working in the garden is one of the most rewarding jobs around campus. Not only is our end product obvious and useful, but it's really beautiful. Garden Club is also an equalizer in some ways. It doesn't matter how old you are or how much experience you have, everyone can learn how to water, plant and weed." --Tara Kingsley, THP Volunteer and advisor for the Garden Club.

"When I was little my mom used to let me plant things sometimes and I have always been happy to see them grow. I am happy to have the opportunity to participate in the Louverture Cleary Garden Club and grow beautiful things." – Mike Thompson Louis, sizyem (7th grade) student.

"I started doing Garden Club when we studied plant biology in twazyem (9th grade). As a kid, I always loved playing with dirt and plants and garden club taught me how to make it practical - how plants can provide shade, oxygen, flowers and vegetables for everyone to enjoy. As a leader this year, I teach the younger students how to use compost to make the soil good for growing and how to choose the best place to plant certain things." –Jerry Norestan, Rheto (junior) student and a student leader of the Garden Club.

The rooftop garden's ability to send its fruits to brighten various corners of the school is a good metaphor for what our graduates are doing in Haiti. I hope this will inspire you to invest in our future "harvests." Your support is the support we have to give to young Haitians ready to make a stronger future for Haiti.

Peace, Patrick

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To make a donation or to read recently posted community updates go to www.haitianproject.org

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“What you receive as gift, you must give as gift.”
“Se gratis nou resevwa, Se gratis tou pou nou bay.”

---Matthew 10:8