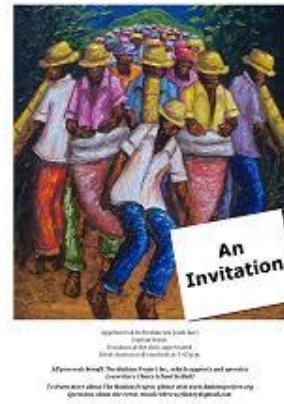


The Haitian Project, Inc.
Community Update: Making It Happen in the Big Easy
November 16, 2011



*Top Row: Workers from the Rag A Muffin Sewing program, overseen by Salomon Asmath (LCS '96)
Bottom Row: Art work being prepared for the upcoming "Rockin' Art" Event in New Orleans, LA*

I recently shared with the Governor Chafee of the great state of Rhode Island that I have come to appreciate that there are two types of knowledge really worth praying for: Knowledge of God and knowledge of Economics. I am not sure if it is Haiti or the United States that inspires this thought the most.

The more we know about God, the more we know what the Kingdom is to look like. The more we know about Economics, the more we know how to build that Kingdom well. There are all types of cars. There are all types of engines. But, cars without engines go nowhere. Clearly, a nation's economy is its engine.

The Haitian Project focuses on the formation of leaders--well educated, multi-lingual, positively motivated, concerned, integrated, and capable leaders driven to build their country. We also put efforts behind the university education and professional development of our graduates. We work hard as a community to improve the quality of life of the families of Santo 5 through direct outreach, encouragement and Christian love.

We recognize this work as God's work—as the work required of every good human being, intent on making the world a better place for everyone. But, we also know that economic development is key to sustained civic stability and human advancement. So, we are working to develop "work" in Haiti. This takes on many shapes and includes direct and indirect efforts. One of our most colorful is our sewing program, Rag-A-Muffin, developed by Christina Moynihan and a local tailor named Herntau--an effort which is becoming more formal and is headed up now as a for-profit business by one of our 1996 graduates Salomon Asmath. This initial job idea is adding the transport of local art to the US through a formal process to create additional jobs through exports for Haiti.

To celebrate this beautiful craftsmanship produced by the sewers and the artists, as well as bring support and awareness to THP, Volunteer Rebecca Finney is working with her dad in New Orleans, Peter Finney, and my wife Christina to put on an art auction event called "Rockin' Art" at the Rock 'N' Bowl in Mid-City New Orleans the Saturday after Thanksgiving. To tell you about the event themselves, Rebecca, Christina and Peter have this to say:

"The idea of holding an art auction as a way of networking with our communities of support in the U.S. is an excellent way to generate jobs here in Haiti. Not only are we employing artisans who expose how beautiful Haiti really is, we're also employing our neighbors and graduates as well." -- Christina Moynihan, Director of Community Outreach and founder of Rag-A-Muffin

"I am so looking forward to this opportunity to marry the two communities that mean the most to me. My family and faith community in New Orleans has always been supportive of my work in Haiti, and it is only fitting that we try to bridge the gap between my two homes. I think that the people of New Orleans, having experienced hurricane Katrina and its aftermath, understand the necessity of reaching out in solidarity to others. My hope for this evening is that we can strengthen existing relationships as well as forge new ones, all while having a "Rockin'" good time." -- Rebecca Finney, THP Volunteer

"We're doing this event to raise awareness for the work of the school—and the more awareness we can raise the better. My wife, three sisters and others are all pitching in to help out on "game day," ready and willing to help out with whatever is needed. We're excited about the venue, Rock N' Bowl, which is an iconic gathering place in New Orleans with good food and a great place for some fun. Fr. John Morin, OMI from Our Lady of Guadalupe parish, spent 4 years in Haiti, has been a big supporter of Rebecca's work with THP and is helping to cover the cost of food at the event." -- Peter Finney, Jr., Executive Editor/General Manager for Clarion Herald.

More information about the “Rockin’ Art” event can be found here on our website:
<http://haitianproject.org/content/community/neworleans>

Educate; Employ; Enjoy!

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