

The Haitian Project, Inc.
Community Update: A Positive Three Ring Circus
October 23, 2013



Top: Notre-Dame du Perpétuel Secours (Our Lady of Perpetual Help), painted by a local artist, hangs in the LCS chapel; Second-year Volunteer Tara Kingsley puts the finishing touches on Our Lady of Guadalupe; the completed mural. Bottom: Cyrene Rickenson (LCS Facilities Manager), Patrick Brun, Patrick Faustin (LCS Director of Maintenance) and Deacon Patrick Moynihan (President of THP) examine the foundation of the Agora building; Aimee Maier and Marjorie Mombrun (Principal of LCS) explain THP's Abuse Prevention policies to senkyèm (8th grade) students; Volunteer Natàlia Soares practices syncopation with children from the zone in the Koukouy Sen Kler program.

There is always a lot going on in a vibrant community. The Haitian Project and LCS are no exception. The commonality present in this week's collection of activity: good decisions.

First, of course, the Virgin Mary, on our behalf, made a great decision. We continue to present her as a model of saying, "Yes." Most recently, this involves a series of Marian icons around the LCS campus. The first was produced by a Haitian artist and depicts Haiti's patron saint, Notre-Dame du Perpétuel Secours (Our Lady of Perpetual Help). It hangs in the LCS chapel. Second-year Volunteer Tara Kingsley lent her tremendous talent, and a great deal of time, to the production of the second: a mural depiction of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Thanks to the constant help of Patrick Brun, our liaison to our local engineering and architecture firm, we are making excellent decisions on how to finish the last of the seismic reinforcements for our buildings. Patrick Brun is pictured above, along with the heads of LCS Facilities.

Aimee Maier visited this week to provide Safe Environment training for LCS students and staff. Aimee is a Volunteer alumna ('98-'99) and a former THP Board Member. She holds Masters degrees in Social Services and Law and Social Policy from Bryn Mawr College of Graduate School of Social Work, as well as a certificate in Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy. She is also a licensed social worker. Aimee was instrumental in developing this curriculum specifically for the LCS community. I can't think of anyone more qualified to help our community continue to make good decisions in the way we relate to one another.

Along with this important curriculum, Aimee also brought a symphony's worth of tambourines, clackers and other age-appropriate musical instruments for the Koukouy Sen Kler (Fireflies of Saint Clare) early-childhood development program. The instruments were a donation from an ambitious high school student who prepared the instruments and a music curriculum specifically for our Koukouy. Volunteer Natàlia Soares has already put the instruments to good use, working with the youngest group on rhythm.

Peace, Patrick

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Office of Community Development

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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