

Dear friends,

Greetings of the New Year! Welcome back to the Firelight Newsflash.

As always, we welcome your comments, feedback and ideas for Newsflashes in 2010.

This is a new year, and thus a wealth of new opportunities to impact change on our communities. Please use this Newsflash as an opportunity to plan goals for the upcoming year, find inspiration, and learn from peers.

We hope that you had a great holiday break, filled with relaxation, reflection and invigoration for the new year. We also wish much peace, health, and happiness for you, your colleagues, families, and friends in the coming year!

All the best as you make children's futures brighter in 2010!

Blessings from The Firelight Team

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African Health Summit

The 2010 African Health Summit will focus in understanding health and human rights in Africa. Papers are solicited covering a broad range of topics in African health and human rights including local availability (urban versus rural, physical infrastructure for health services, human resources and the health work force), accessibility (gender inequality, discrimination and vulnerability, economic as well as infrastructural discrepancies), acceptability (communication and other ethical issues), and quality (poor working conditions, quality of medical care, the role of poor nutrition in promoting health challenges) are eligible for presentation at the 2010 African Health Summit. The summit welcomes all interested or involved in African public health, human rights and development. For more information visit the African Studies at Ohio University website:

<<http://www.african.ohio.edu/Conferences/healthsummit.html>>

*******Sports in Africa**

Since its inception in 2004, the Sports in Africa Symposium has sought to foster meaningful dialogue on the interface of sports and Africa among academics, practitioners, media, NGOs and the public. The first five conferences covered a range of topics across time and disciplines. The presentations have explored the relationships among sport and broader themes such as politics, culture, gender, disability, cooperation, conflict, history, migration, mass media, and development.

The multi-disciplinary approach has allowed scholars and practitioners to explore multiple dimensions of African sports. In continuing the multi-disciplinary exploration and study of African Sport, the theme Politics and Globalization will represent the leading topic of 2010 symposium. The FIFA World Cup in South Africa in 2010, the global presence of African soccer players demonstrates the presence of Africa on the global sport stage. Therefore, the 2010 conference will focus on themes such as sport politics, politics and sport, African participation and contribution to global sport, global media networks and sport, sport and African development, women in sport, and youth and sport.

Although we encourage the submission of papers that focus on politics and globalization in African sports, conference organizers are also open to the submission of papers that deal with other aspects of sports in Africa. For submission guidelines or for more information about the symposium, <<http://www.ohio.edu/sportsafrica/politicsglobalization/>> or contact Gerard Akindes <akindesg@ohio.edu>

At least four out of five children in orphanages around the world have a living parent, a leading charity says.

In a report, Save the Children says some institutions coerce or trick poor parents to give up their children. As a result, the report says, millions of children are put at risk through living in an institution, and face rape, trafficking and beatings. BBC reports on Save the Children's findings that resources should go into projects which support families so they can look after their children.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/8375579.stm>

GLOBAL: SEEKING JUDGES FOR CHILDREN'S ESSAY COMPETITION 2010

<http://www.lornajones.net/>

Men and women of African descent wanted from across the African diaspora to Judge essays written by children aged 8 to 16 years for "The Annual Essay

Contest for Children of African Descent". Essays will be submitted in both English and French. Schools in English- and French-speaking Africa and the diaspora are invited to indicate their interest in participating in this contest.

Visit: <http://www.lornajones.netfor> previous years' winners. email@lornajones.net

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: XVIII INTERNATIONAL AIDS CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

The conference organizers are committed to making AIDS 2010 accessible to people from resource-limited settings and communities, researchers, young people, community activists and civil society representatives. For AIDS 2008 in Mexico over 800 scholarships were granted. For AIDS 2010 the same share of the total budget has been allocated for international and media scholarships. The organizers therefore have the ambition to be able to offer the same level of scholarships as that for AIDS 2008. Scholarship applications are accepted from 8 December 2009 to 10 February 2010.

Scholarships will be offered to people from a variety of backgrounds, including those who are submitting abstracts, workshop proposals and programme activity proposals (Global Village or Youth Programme). A number of applicants who are not submitting directly to the conference programme, as well as media representatives will also be granted scholarships.

Please note that funding is limited and demand for scholarships is high.

International Scholarship Programme

Scholarships provide financial assistance to a number of people from resource-limited settings and communities, key affected populations, people living with HIV, young people, researchers and students to help them attend the conference. The International Scholarship Programme is open to everyone around the world. Priority will be given to those whose participation will help enhance their work in their own communities, to those who are able to assist in the transfer of skills and knowledge acquired at the conference, and to those whose abstract, workshop or programme activity (Global Village or Youth Programme) submission has been selected.

Scholarship selection is made based on a non-biased scoring system established in advanced.

Although every attempt will be made to assist as many people as possible, we regret that there are only a limited number of international scholarships available. On average, less than 10% of applicants are awarded. Applicants are therefore strongly encouraged to seek other funding as well.

Terms and conditions of the International Scholarship Application are found at:

<http://www.aids2010.org/WebContent/File/AIDS> 2010 International Scholarship Application Terms and Conditions.pdf

Types of Support

Scholarship applicants will be able to request a full or partial scholarship.

A full scholarship includes:

- registration to the conference (includes access to all sessions and exhibitions)
- economy-class travel (pre-paid ticket at the lowest fare available)
- accommodation (shared in hotel twin rooms for the days of the conference)
- modest living allowance for the conference duration (18-23 July 2010, the equivalent of EUR 30 per day)
- travel insurance for the duration of the conference

A partial scholarship includes any combination of the above.

Application Criteria

Applications are open to anyone working in the field of HIV and AIDS.

Most of the questions asked on the application form are related to personal details and work experience. There are also four essay questions which ask for further details regarding the applicant's organization, occupation or involvement in HIV/AIDS, motivation to attend the conference and how the applicant's organization or community would benefit from the scholarship.

General scholarship applicants will be asked to submit a letter of recommendation after completing the scholarship application. No general application will be accepted without submission of the letter of recommendation.

Media scholarship applicants will also be asked to provide media accreditation and supporting documents. No media application will be accepted without submission of the required supporting documents.

For further information and to apply for the scholarship, please go to: <http://www.aids2010.org/Default.aspx?pageId=181>

As part of the Firelight Foundation's Capacity Building Program, Firelight provides "Newsflashes" to share relevant resources and information with our active grantee-partners via weekly emails and via post on a monthly basis. We hope that by facilitating access to information for grassroots, community-focused organizations, programming for children and families, as well as organizational development, is enhanced. Past editions of the Firelight Newsflash can be found on our website: <http://www.firelightfoundation.org/newsflash.php>.

We welcome your comments, feedback and ideas for upcoming Newsflashes at newsletter@firelightfoundation.org.