

KIBOKO PROJECTS

Kenya-USA Youth Project

www.kiboko.org

Presents

Eleanor Roosevelt High School, New York City

Okok Secondary School, Kenya

Oasis of Hope Secondary School, Kenya

June 7 & 8 2008

Saturday 6 -9:00 pm

Sunday 4-9:00 pm

St. Mark's Church in-the-Bowery
131 East 10th Street, New York, N.Y. 10003

Press-release

May 26, 2008

Kenya-USA Youth Project

Over the last five years, Kiboko Projects has implemented a cultural exchange and workshop program between students in New York City and various cities in Kenya. Through masks, photodiaries, and videos that they've created and exchanged, the students have been able to share with each other an unfiltered glimpse into their lives. The teens tell their stories using face masks with designs intended to convey a message to their counterparts. They use still and video cameras to capture and document their families, communities, and important issues in their lives.

Each resulting collection of designed masks, hard bound photodiaries, and video filmed and narrated by the students, is exhibited for the general community and presented to their counterparts for their perusal and their response. This dialogue has gone on since 2003 between Eleanor Roosevelt High School, NYC, and three Kenyan secondary schools: Moi Forces Academy, Nakuru, Okok Secondary School, Kisumu, and Oasis of Hope Secondary School, Kisumu. Each new exchange brings the project to a deeper level, and brings the students to a

The current exhibit displays the latest collection of work created by our students, along with the latest responses of their counterparts. The combination of media that is used – masks, writing, photos, video – allows them to capture a comprehensive view of their daily lives to be shared with us, and, as a result, allows us all to gain a better understanding of each other.

As a footnote: the Kenyan students have sent some thoughts, shown in this exhibit, detailing their experiences living through the post-election violence in early 2008. This is an enlightening addition to their already fascinating stories.

Future projects include "The Fishermen of Lake Victoria" and "Young Mothers of Kibera".