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Christel House outlook

Transforming Lives



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Christel House

A Tale of Two Cities—and Two Schools

New Christel House learning centers open their doors, along with a world of opportunity for hundreds of students

Lavasa is a city being built on a dream. Street by street, structure by structure, developers are creating a dynamic metropolis in India to attract some of the country's brightest and best.

Half a world away, Indianapolis is a well-established city with a dream of its own. Officials and parents are urgently seeking a new blueprint for education that can help turn around underperforming schools and improve one of the worst high school graduation rates in the United States.

In both of these places, Christel House is offering an answer.

The summer of 2010 saw two new Christel Houses open their doors—Christel House Lavasa and Christel House Watanabe High School—which will provide hundreds of students a solid foundation upon which

to build their futures. From India to Indianapolis, dreams are now within reach.

Christel House Lavasa

How do you plan and construct a city the size of Paris from the ground up? Just ask officials at Lavasa Corporation and Hindustan Construction Company, who are doing just that. And when the time came to find an education partner that shared their goal of not only alleviating but ending poverty for some of India's poorest children, they turned to Christel House.

Christel House Lavasa, which opened June 15, is educating impoverished children from surrounding villages and some children of the workers who are building the city of Lavasa.

"In Christel House we have found a partner whose approach to educating the

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Honors, Awards & Recognition

Commitment to Excellence

Christel House is pleased to be recognized for its unwavering commitment to guard the public trust through its rigorous business practices, high measures of accountability and absolute transparency.



Nothing "Average" Here!

For the second consecutive year, students at Christel House Academy surpassed the statewide average on Indiana's ISTEP+ school achievement test. Nearly 80 percent of Academy students passed both the language arts and math portions of the exam administered last spring. ■



Wanda Matshaya representing South Africa

An Olympic Performance

Who could imagine that a 16-year-old girl from a Cape Town squatter camp would carry the South African flag at the opening ceremony of the inaugural Youth Olympics in Singapore? In August, 16-year-old Christel House student, Wanda Matshaya, did just that. She was the only fencer from South Africa to qualify for the global games. ■



From Student to Diplomat

Ronald Berrios was more than a little nervous when he was invited to participate in EDUMUN 2010, a program in Caracas organized by Andrés Bello Catholic University and modeled after the United Nations. But nerves soon gave way to confidence as he and five Christel House classmates joined high school students from private schools throughout Caracas to discuss educational issues and propose solutions. "We were focused on gaining experience and learning from this opportunity," Berrios said. "I was very proud of my school and our performance." ■

COVER STORY (CONTINUED)

underprivileged is holistic and unique,” said Rajgopal Nogja, president of Lavasa Corporation. “Their firm belief that education can break the cycle of poverty resonates with our commitment to improving the quality of life for everyone in Lavasa.”

Christel House Watanabe High School

In Indianapolis, a study conducted by America’s Promise (Cities in Crisis 2009) showed that fewer than a third of students graduate from high school. Against that backdrop, the newly opened Christel House Watanabe High School stands as a beacon of hope.

Located on the city’s near south side, the school shares the same campus with Christel House Academy, a K-8 charter school that opened in 2002. The Academy boasts stellar academic achievement, as well as student attendance and annual retention rates of close to 97 percent.

The new high school offers Academy graduates the chance to continue their education under the same high standards—and enroll up to 20 more new 9th grade students who will be able to escape the struggling inner-city school system. Christel House Watanabe High School has set a goal to achieve a 90 percent or higher graduation rate, and for 100 percent of its graduates to pursue university or vocational studies.

By the numbers: Christel House Lavasa

- 180 students enrolled in grades K-2, adding one grade per year up to grade 12
- 780 students at full capacity
- 200 program days per year

By the numbers: Christel House Watanabe High School

- 53 students enrolled in 9th grade, adding one grade per year up to grade 12
- 240 students at full capacity
- 200 program days per year



Christel House Watanabe High School



Christel House Lavasa



For Watanabe, Education was Everything

Education, hard work and the desire to help others propelled August (Gus) Watanabe, M.D., to the pinnacles of success in medicine, academia and business. His wish to give impoverished children the same opportunities for a bright future led him to be a champion for Christel House; and now, its newest school is fittingly named in his honor.

Christel House Watanabe High School will continue the legacy of Dr. Watanabe, who died in 2009 following a distinguished career as a cardiologist, researcher, university leader and corporate executive.

Dr. Watanabe was a founding board member of Christel House International and a passionate advocate of its mission.

Progress Toward Campaign Goal

Through the dedication, hard work and personal contributions of many individuals—and a \$2 million matching grant from founder Christel DeHaan—Christel House has reached 93 percent of the capital campaign goal of \$4 million for Christel House Watanabe High School. To help Christel House raise the remaining \$275,000—and achieve 100 percent of the campaign goal—please call (317) 464-2030.

A special thanks to the commitment and stellar work of our Campaign Steering Committee!



100% Graduate

The 2010 graduating class from Christel House Venezuela received their diplomas in July—54 students who will now begin our important Work-Study program, where they will pursue university or vocational studies, apprenticeships and internships.



A Beautiful Job

More than 100 volunteers from The Home Depot, RCI and Raintree Vacation Club worked from dawn 'til dusk on June 16 to ready the grounds for the August opening of the new Christel House Watanabe High School. Supported by a grant from The Home Depot

Foundation, the beautification project represented one of the largest single-day volunteer efforts in Christel House history.



Presidential Voices

The angelic voices of more than 50 Christel House Mexico students serenaded U.S. First Lady Michelle Obama during her April visit to Mexico. First Lady of Mexico Margarita Zavala invited the students to sing for Mrs. Obama.



Mexico Bound

In July, Tom and Sherrie Kegley, Joan SerVaas and Mark Koning joined a group of Christel House Mexico students to explore the ruins of Teotihuacan and the Pyramid of the Sun.



You Can Help Us Raise \$20,000

Wyndham Worldwide will donate \$1 for each new Facebook user who "likes" the Wyndham page (www.facebook.com/wyndhamworldwide) before November 30. Up to \$60,000 will be divided equally among the three signature *Wishes By Wyndham* charities—one being Christel House. Visit the Wyndham Worldwide Facebook page and click "like" at the top of the page. (Don't forget to check out our Christel House International Facebook page, too, at www.facebook.com/christelhouse.)



Have the latest Christel House news sent straight to your inbox! Subscribe to @ChristelHouse, our online newsletter at www.christelhouse.org

Donor Spotlight



GROUP RCI™
*Christel House
 Open*
 INTERNATIONAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT



Golfers Swing “Fore” Christel House

Nearly 1,600 golfers at 17 tournament sites worldwide tee off in June as part of the eighth annual RCI Christel House Open. One hundred percent of event proceeds benefit Christel House students. Thank you to the golfers, volunteers and sponsors who made this year’s Open a success. And a special thanks to all event-wide sponsors—especially title sponsor, RCI.



The RCI Christel House Open would not be possible without the generous support and hard work of our tournament champions and site hosts:

- Bluegreen Corporation (Daytona Beach, FL; Myrtle Beach, SC; Palm Beach Gardens, FL; and Gatlinburg, TN)
 - The Christie Lodge, Avon, CO
 - Orange Lake Resorts, Kissimmee, FL
 - Festiva Hospitality Group, Myrtle Beach, SC
 - GOODMANagement, Williamsburg, VA
 - Grand Pacific Resorts, Vista, CA
 - Grand Lodge on Peak 7, Avon, CO
 - Lodging Kit Company, Booneville, NY
 - The Noble Company, Myrtle Beach, SC
 - RCI Europe, Perivale, Middlesex, UK
 - RCI Mexico, Mexico City, MX
 - RCI South Africa, Johannesburg, SA
 - Scottsdale Camelback Resort, Scottsdale, AZ
 - Sun Hospitality, Myrtle Beach, SC
 - Virginia Resort Development Association, Williamsburg, VA
- (Tournaments in Bangalore, India; Cape Town, South Africa; Caracas, Venezuela; and Indianapolis, Indiana, are hosted by Christel House.)

Plan to join us for the 9th annual RCI Christel House Open JUNE 13, 2011

Photo (top): RCI CEO and Christel House Board Member Geoff Ballotti enjoys picture-perfect weather with Academy students and Christel DeHaan at the Indianapolis tournament; Photo (lower left): FedEx employees (from left) Pearl Davis, Steve Flynn, Jackie Feldman and Dan Lorentz greet golfers with a “special delivery” on the green in Indianapolis; Photo (lower right): Concord Servicing team members (from left) Barry Harkness, Evan Green and Juan Pablo Saiz line up their shot at the tournament in Scottsdale.

Photo (top left): New classroom at Christel House Lavasa; Photo (top right): Christel House Lavasa staff; Photo (lower left): Christel House Watanabe High School dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony; Photo (lower right): A beaming student at Christel House Lavasa.



Photo by Bill Rasdell



Christel House®

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Christel House is a registered, 501(c)(3) public charity and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. **One hundred percent of your contributions directly benefit Christel House children. No donations are used for administrative expenses, professional solicitors or fundraising consultants.** The Christel House registration number with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services is SC10875.

Christel House admits students of any race, color, religion, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

A Letter from Christel

Dear Friends,

New doors are opening for the children of Christel House.

2010 marks our biggest single-year expansion since 2002. Two new schools—Christel House Lavasa and Christel House Watanabe High School—are now offering hundreds of students the opportunity to break the cycle of poverty and gain the knowledge, skills and confidence to become self-sufficient and productive citizens.

In India, we are building on the record of success we began years ago with our learning center in Bangalore. In Indianapolis, we are welcoming graduates of Christel House Academy into our new, state-of-the-art high school so they can prepare for their futures with a sense of purpose and direction.

As we listen to TV broadcasts and read newspaper articles about education, an overarching message emerges...many schools are failing many students. It is a great joy to share with you that at every Christel House our students are learning, improving and achieving extra-ordinary results. Christel House is a beacon of hope for these children and a place for them to forever transform their lives.

Thank you warmly for believing in us and for generously supporting our mission.

Sincerely,

Christel
Christel DeHaan

Chain of Custody
Certification
HERE