



# NEWSLETTER



## WHAT IS LCA

The Leadership Committee for Africa is a student run organization on the Culver Academies campus that aims to “respond to the AIDS and poverty crisis in Africa by supporting programs that promote the health, welfare, education and advancement of women and children.”

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## FUNDRAISERS

LCA has various fundraisers throughout campus to support our partner organizations in Africa. Our market style venues give LCA opportunities to collaborate with our partner organizations to support communities within Africa.

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## BECOMING A MEMBER

LCA is one of the biggest clubs on campus and we take time to recognize all of our new members in meetings and schoology posts.

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## GPS TRIPS

Each year, LCA partners with Culver's GPS trip program to host trips to either South Africa or Tanzania. The trips give the students an opportunity to learn about different cultures and support schools in Tanzania and South Africa.

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# WHAT IS LCA

BY ALLY KIM, LCA CHAIR

Leadership Committee for Africa (LCA) is a non-profit, student-run organization with a mission to educate the Culver community about the various crises impacting different countries of Africa. LCA especially promotes health, welfare, education, and advancement of African women and children and provides opportunities for Culver students to learn and volunteer in Africa. LCA was founded in 2004 by members of Culver Girls Academy but has grown immensely since. LCA currently partners with Christel House South Africa, Amani Children's Foundation, ECHO, and the School of St. Jude.

Members of LCA have the chance to visit two of those organizations, Christel House South Africa and the School of St. Jude, during the annual Spring Break GPS Trips. By dividing the committee into four sub-committees, Fundraising, Research and Education, Communications, and Work Projects, LCA covers diverse areas of the Culver community. Each committee works to raise donations and awareness through beading sessions, sports concessions, and informative and interactive all-committee meetings.

In the future, LCA hopes to continue to spread the vision of empowering students, children, and women in Africa to Culver.

The impact of LCA is felt all in the various countries that LCA aids and through Culver. These impacts were recognized by the National Coalition for Girls. To learn more please visit:

<https://www.ncgs.org/networking/annual-prizes/moulton-student-global-citizenship-grant/>  
[https://www.ncgs.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Bio\\_Culver-Girls-Academy\\_edits.pdf](https://www.ncgs.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Bio_Culver-Girls-Academy_edits.pdf)



**PROMOTES HEALTH,  
WELFARE, EDUCATION,  
AND  
ADVANCEMENT OF  
AFRICAN WOMEN AND  
CHILDREN  
- ALLY KIM**



## SOUTH AFRICA TRIP, 2019

BY ABBY BECK,  
FUNDRAISING CHAIR

8,413 miles away I was lucky enough to meet some of the most inspirational, loving, and uplifting individuals I know. Despite over 20 hours of grueling travel, our arrival in Cape Town, South Africa was a truly remarkable experience. From the bright blue ocean with rays of sun sparkling on the surface to the colorful and song-filled streets, I could not help but take in everything happening around me. Our first bus rides took us to visit numerous museums and historical areas to better understand the culture of South Africa, in addition to more touristy places like seal island

(which is just what it sounds like – an island with hundreds of seals piled on top of each other) and table mountain. Our tour guide, Paul, thoughtfully answered each of our questions and even sang to us once or twice. During one of our misty morning bus rides, we even got to see a full rainbow spanning the entire city!

Afterwards, we were able to attend Christel House South Africa and lead workshops on teambuilding, communication, strengths, and compassionate listening. Despite us planning to teach the students about these topics, we also ended up learning valuable lessons from them in appreciation, optimism, and humility.

From our heart to heart conversations to teaching each other our culture's silly games and dances, such as cotton eyed Joe, we were able to develop lasting bonds that I still maintain today. After visiting Cape Town, we were able to spend a few days in Johannesburg, South Africa where we went to the Apartheid museum and a real African safari, among other amazing experiences. This trip allowed me to grow out of my comfort zone, step past my self-set limits, and expand my leadership potential. The work we did in Cape Town and various areas we visited made the South Africa mission trip a truly enlightening and unforgettable experience.

Learn more about the South Africa trip, this is the link to the blog: <https://culvergps.wordpress.com/category/2019-gps-trips/south-africa-2019/>

# TANZANIA TRIP 2018(UPCOMING 2020)

BY REGINA HERRERO, FUNDRAISING CO-CHAIR

There is so much about Tanzania's beauty that it is hard to fit it all in a couple sentences. What is the first thing that comes to mind when Tanzania is mentioned? For me, it was poverty. But Tanzania proved me wrong and demonstrated me that rather than living under miserable conditions, they were, in fact, rich.

The only way I can seem to explain the experience of incredible wealth of the Tanzanian people is through this short story I read in 2015: "One day a rich dad took his son on a trip to a village, he wanted to show him how poor someone could be. They spent time on a farm of a poor family. The dad asked "Did you see how poor they were? What did you learn today?"

The son replied, "We have one dog, they have four, we have a pool, they have a river, we have lanterns at night, they have stars, we buy foods, they grow theirs, we have gossip magazines, they have Bibles." I had the pleasure of having lived among individuals that deeply care about each other. People that beat all odds –and by odds I mean unemployed single mom with 8 children to feed, no electricity, and a 5 mile daily walk to school at 4 am- in order to reach their goals.



And if you were to ask 9 year-olds about their dreams most of them will respond you with a "I want to be a doctor so I can help my community" or a "I want to be an engineer so I can build everyone in my community a house" or a "I would like to be a teacher so others don't have to suffer as much as I did." The trip of Tanzania searches to show how incredibly lucky we are to have all the opportunities we do and to help, in any way we can, the school of St. Jude. But more importantly, the trip of Tanzania is about learning a new culture, about connecting with others and about asking ourselves, are we really rich or are we poor?

Learn more about the Tanzania trip, this is the link to the blog: <https://culvergps.wordpress.com/category/2018-gps-trips/tanzania-2018/>

## FUNDRAISING

BY GIGI MARONEY, WORK PROJECTS CO-CHAIR

The Leadership Committee for Africa participates in a variety of fundraising opportunities to raise money for the various organizations we support, including Christel House South Africa and The School of St. Jude in Tanzania. Some of the fundraisers we organize are concessions at an assortment of sports games, selling beaded bracelets and other jewelry to support the Amani Children's Foundation, and participating in the Winter Farmers Market in downtown Culver. Currently, we are planning a fundraiser to sell red beaded bracelets to raise awareness for World Aids Day on December 1st. We are proud to be so involved in the community, raise money for these amazing organizations, and bring awareness to such meaningful causes and we hope to continue these practices long into the future.





# SUMMER BEADING

BY MAGGIE BIALEK, LCA DORM REP

A new class was started this summer at camp in which we beaded and made bracelets for LCA. People come from all over at camp and is even more diverse then school. Every day we had a discussion question usually having to do with ourselves and helping others. It was amazing to see so many people come together and learn about LCA and become very interested in it.

Most schools do not have a club like LCA and I think the beading over the summer truly impacted many people and even made them become interested in starting something similar at their own school. I hope that this class can continue and further help spread what we do in LCA and how it impacts the world.

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MAGGIE BIALEK



## CHOCOLATE BAR

BY SAM BIALEK,  
RESEARCH/EDUCATION  
CHAIR & HEALTH/NUTRITION  
RRC

With a recent visit to Davis Chocolates, it has been decided that the chocolate will now be peanut butter cups with amaranth in it! We expect to start producing the bars soon and getting them sold around Culver. Through brainstorming, the new name of the peanut butter cups is KUKUA, meaning Growth in Swahili. The designing of the packaging is in progress right now and we are only two months away from production. The KUKUA peanut butter cups are special because they are the only of their kind to have amaranth in it! Get excited to buy KUKUAS soon!

## TANZANIA DRIVE

BY PALOMA GUERRERO,  
WORK PROJECTS CO-  
CHAIR

For our senior service project, Taylor Lewandowski and I are organizing a drive for the Tanzania GPS trip. For this LCA will be collecting various items such as school supplies, textbooks and other necessities. These items will be donated to the School of St. Jude in Tanzania. The children that go to this school come from extremely rough backgrounds, and the fact that they can go to school is a great privilege. Therefore it is extremely meaningful that we can provide for them.

## BEADING SESSIONS

BY BRIANA SMALL,  
FUNDRAISING PROJECT  
MANAGER

During beading sessions, we make bracelets for the Amani Children's Foundation, which supports infant orphans in Kenya. Through this activity, not only can we help one of our partner organizations, but we can also bond with one another and have fun. You do not have to be creative to participate in beading sessions. While some students make intricate beaded or string bracelets, others show up to help organize the beads and clean up. Beading sessions are a good way to release stress and take a break from our busy lives.

# PARENTS WEEKEND SALES

BY ABBY BECK, FUNDRAISING CHAIR

For over 10 years, LCA has been able to participate in Parents' Weekend lunch sales, becoming a popular and exciting attraction for many families. Not only has this expanded our network of outreach to encompass individuals outside of our current student body, but it has also allowed us to support orphan infants in Africa through our relationship with Amani Children's Foundation.

This year, we were able to raise \$380 in support of this cause. I want to extend a huge thank-you to Brianna Small and Mrs. Strobel for helping organize the beading sessions and the Parent's Weekend booth, in addition to everyone who participated by making jewelry and working a shift or who bought a bracelet. This is an extremely meaningful fundraiser for many and LCA is proud to continue our tradition of care.



## BECOMING A MEMBER

To become a member of LCA you must attend at least 5 events, whether that be meetings or concession events. New LCA members are recognized at the LCA meetings and join a new supporting family connected in the will to help people around the world.



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I really enjoy how LCA makes me appreciate everything that I have, and it helps me feel like I am making a difference in the world. In addition, the people in LCA are really helpful and welcoming, which helps make joining the club really easy and fun.  
-Stella

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One of the main reasons why I have loved LCA so far is because it has given me the opportunity to meet many new people. Since joining in the beginning of the year, I have made so many new friends and gotten to know so many people.  
-Ally B

“

I have really enjoyed working the concessions at the football games. Although I have only gone to two concessions so far, I have been able to interact with many other people. I love the chaos of getting people's orders and everyone is so helpful and kind  
-Anna







### LCA Mission:

*“Respond to the AIDS and poverty crisis in Africa by supporting programs that promote the health, welfare, education and advancement of women and children.”*

### PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS:



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