



WORLD
FORESTRY
CENTER

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For Immediate Release

World Forestry Center Discovery Museum

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***ZoomUganda* Opens at World Forestry Center Discovery Museum
12 Girls, 12 Cameras: A Day in Their Lives Through Their Eyes**

(Portland, Oregon) The World Forestry Center is pleased to announce the opening of *ZoomUganda*, an extraordinary photo essay created by 12 orphaned girls in Uganda, Africa. The exhibit will open June 16 and run through August 31, 2007 at the Discovery Museum in the Special Exhibits Gallery.

These stunning and thought-provoking photos tell the journey of 12 girls who were each given a camera and asked to capture her own story in a 24 hour period. Most had never seen a camera before, let alone operate one. The girls, aged 14 through 18, are from the AIDS ravaged Rakai district of southern Uganda and are all orphans of the AIDS epidemic. They are students at St. Andrew's Secondary School in the village of Kalisizo.

Presented by the Harambee Centre, a nonprofit organization that connects people and groups in the US with the peoples and cultures of the African continent, *ZoomUganda* was directed by Julie Resnick, who joined The Harambee Centre's cross-cultural exchange trip to Uganda last year. Recalling the first day of the project, Resnick says, "I handed out the cameras with their names written on duct tape to each girl. I drew a camera on the blackboard and explained each part: 'This is the lens. This is the shutter. This is the zoom.' The girls immediately repeated 'zoom! zoom! zoom!' in many voices. They had named their project."

The Harambee Center is particularly committed to empowering girls to continue their educations, as girls in Uganda are far less likely than boys to receive support for their studies and disproportionately bear the burden of the ways that AIDS has ravaged their community. St. Andrew's Secondary School is a participant in The Harambee Centre's Sister School Program and is the sister school to Southridge High School in Beaverton, Oregon.

The World Forestry Center is located in Portland's beautiful Washington Park, five minutes from downtown Portland, just off Highway 26. The Center is also accessible by MAX light rail line. WFC visitors are encouraged to ride MAX or take TriMet bus #63. Call TriMet Customer Service, 503-238-RIDE (7433), or visit www.trimet.org for fare and route information. The museum is open daily from 10:00 -5:00. Admission is \$7.00 for adults, \$6.00 for seniors, \$5.00 for children 3-18. The museum is free to members and children under 3 years old. For more information, please visit www.worldforestry.org or call 503-228-1367.

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