



I. STF 2012-2013: Right to Education Campaign

Campaign Highlights:

- Hosted the Fall Leadership Workshop, with co-sponsorship by the UCLA Visiting Fulbright Program, for over 80 educators, students and international scholars;
- Organized three STF schools for speaking events with Brooks Allen, ACLU Director of Education Advocacy, to discuss California's public education crisis;
- Initiated, organized and hosted the Candidate and Education Issues Forum with the League of Women Voters of Santa Monica, for over 110 community participants. STF leaders facilitated a discussion about California public education with representatives of Propositions 30 and 38 and California 50th District Assembly candidates Betsy Butler and Richard Bloom, and students reported the event for Santa Monica news outlets;
- Presented the STF Santa Clarita Valley

- Williams Research Project, HRW reports and resources and STF activities at the 2012 Human Rights Watch Annual Dinner. STF leaders and teachers also met with HRW Defender Abbé Benoît Kinalegu and HRW researcher Ida Sawyer. Abbé Benoît, a former high school teacher, told the students that human rights begin at the school desk;
- Gathered more than 600 petitions and letters of support for Pakistani youth education activist, Malala Yousafzai, after she was attacked last fall;
- Investigated, documented and presented SCV Williams Research Project findings to the William S. Hart District Administrative Council and district principals;
- Conducted a Human Rights Education (HRE) Workshop for teachers and administrators;
- Partnered with i-Act to rebuild the destroyed Human Rights Mobile Library

- in Darfuri refugee camp, Camp Djabal;
- Prepared and led presentations for the 2012-13 Local Right to Education Campaign, reaching out to over 25,000 students and teachers in combined STF school communities.

Maintained STF Chapters at the following 12 high schools:

- *Academy of the Canyons*, Santa Clarita
- *Canyon HS*, Santa Clarita
- *Carson HS*, Carson
- *Crossroads School*, Santa Monica
- *Golden Valley HS*, Santa Clarita
- *Hart HS*, Newhall
- *New Roads School*, Santa Monica
- *Palisades Charter HS*, Pacific Palisades
- *Santa Monica HS*, Santa Monica
- *Sierra Canyon School*, Chatsworth
- *Valencia HS*, Santa Clarita
- *Wildwood School*, Los Angeles



II. Major Advocacy & Education Projects

- **Candidate and Education Issues Forum, Oct. 25, 2012:** West Los Angeles STF chapters hosted California Assembly 50th District candidates Richard Bloom and Betsy Butler, and Propositions 30 and 38 representatives Eloy Oakley and Sandy Escobedo, for a candidate and education issues forum on the right to education. More than 110 people attended the event at the Santa Monica Public Library MLK Auditorium, co-sponsored with the League of Women Voters of Santa Monica.
- **Assemblyman Richard Bloom Follow-up Meeting, Jan. 25, 2013:** As follow-up to the Candidate and Education Issues Forum, students from three STF chapters met with Assemblyman Richard Bloom to discuss local right to education issues, including school security, the Local Control Funding Formula, teacher evaluation and interjecting human rights education into state curriculum. STF leaders urged Assemblyman Bloom to convene a committee of students and teachers to meet with him periodically regarding public education issues.
- **Santa Clarita Valley Williams Research Project Presentation, Feb. 27, 2013:** Students from Santa Clarita Valley STF

chapters conducted a multi-phased investigation over three months to identify important deficiencies in their schools. Students focused on missing Williams Compliance postings, deteriorating facilities and missing textbooks. They presented their findings to the William S. Hart District Administrative Council. District leaders expressed their appreciation to the students for bringing these critical issues to light and committed to taking immediate action.

- **Sierra Canyon Bridging the Gap: The Right to Education, Feb. 27, 2013:** Sierra Canyon STF students hosted an evening panel discussion open to the school community and general public, focused on the systemic issues plaguing the public education system in California, as well as potential solutions. Panelists included: Robin Keefe, Founder and CEO of BookEnds; Torre Brannon-Reese, Founder of FAMLl, Inc. and Vinit Sukhija, Teach for America.





III. Outreach Projects

- **Carson's HRE Classroom Presentations, Oct. 25-Nov. 5, 2012:** Carson STF presented the Williams Compliance Process to each Carson HS classroom to educate their peers about California public education standards.
- **STF at Human Rights Watch Voices for Justice Dinner, Nov. 12, 2012:** STF joined the HRW California Committee South to celebrate Abbé Benoît Kinalegu, the 2012 Alison Des Forges Award for Extraordinary Activism. Prior to the dinner, STF met with Abbé Benoît Kinalegu and HRW Africa Researcher, Ida Sawyer.
- **Academy of the Canyon's (AOC) Right to Education Week, Nov. 26-28, 2012:** By displaying California education statistics, posting images of damaged facilities and removing textbooks from the computer lab, students at AOC educated their campus on Williams Standards and gathered 274 petitions for their Williams Research Project.
- **HRE USA Network Launch, Dec. 10, 2012:** Over the last year, STF has been a leader in the development of Human Rights Educators USA (HRE USA), a new network dedicated to promoting human rights education in the United States, which is now open for general membership. STF is the Southern California Regional Coordinator for HRE USA.
- **A Path to Dignity Film Screening Events:** To enhance HRE efforts, STF hosted a series of *A Path to Dignity* screenings at Canyon (Feb. 4), Crossroads (Feb. 28) and AOC (Apr. 15-19). The film focuses on individuals' human rights issues with examples in India, Australia and Turkey.
- **Rebuilding the Mobile Library in Camp Djabal, Chad, Jan.-Apr. 2013:** Wildwood hosted Gabriel Stauring (Jan. 29) to kick off the Change 4 Change event to raise funds to rebuild Camp Djabal's destroyed Human Rights Mobile Library. Palisades Charter also hosted Gabriel Stauring (Mar. 5) to educate their campus about the right to education. Canyon students developed new human rights education materials for the Kindles used in the Human Rights Mobile Library. During Carson's Walk for Your Right to Education (Apr. 6), students raised additional funds to restore the library, wrote letters to the camp's librarian and took photos to send to the students in the refugee camp in Chad.
- **New Roads Hosts Zama Coursen-Neff, Feb. 11, 2013:** More than 150 students joined the HRW Children's Rights Division Director to learn about the "Schools As Battlegrounds" report and right to education violations around the world. A lively Q-and-A followed.
- **New Roads' Mock Human Rights Violation, Mar. 13, 2013:** To educate their campus about human rights, the New Roads STF workshop held a mock human rights violation. Pre-selected students were pulled from classrooms and put in the school's batting cages by campus security guards. Personal belongings were thrown on the ground and guards searched the students in front of the whole school during their outdoor weekly announcements. The general student body was told to ignore what was happening in the batting cage. The final announcement was by the school director, proclaiming searches would become a routine procedure and everyone on campus should expect to be treated like those in the batting cage. The students became quietly enraged at the news, but few objected or stood up for the rights of those in the cage. During the following workshop period, STF members debriefed each classroom on the implications of the event.

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IV. Human Rights Education (HRE) and Workshops

- **STF Leadership Workshop, Sep. 8, 2012:** STF chapter members and Fulbright Scholars were shocked and motivated to take action by keynote speaker Brooks Allen's, ACLU's Director of Education Advocacy, presentation on "Making Rights Real: How to Protect Your Right to Educational Opportunity." Gabriel

Stauring gave an update on the launch of our mobile human rights libraries in Darfuri refugee camps in Chad.

- **Santa Monica High School (SAMO) Teacher HRE Workshop, Apr. 24, 2013:** SAMO's STF chapter developed a student-led HRE workshop for instructors on campus. Students provided teachers and

administrators with techniques, lesson plans and materials for integrating HRE into English, history, psychology, and language classes.

- **STF Year-End Leaders Meeting, Apr. 30, 2013:** More than 50 students, teachers and special guests gathered to celebrate this year's accomplishments and work on improving leadership skills. Incoming STF leaders discussed leadership qualities, analyzed their strengths and weaknesses and set governance goals for next year. Many students emphasized the importance of gathering all chapters together to better appreciate their strength as a group.
- **HRE USA Regional HRE Gathering, May 11, 2013:** Human rights educators and students gathered at the HRW offices to learn more about HRE USA, get to know fellow educators, and determine the priorities for human rights education in the Southern California Region. Guest presenters included: Felisa Tibbitts (via Skype from Boston), international HRE expert; Todd Jennings, human rights educator from CSU San Bernardino and Santa Monica High School students Linda Gordon and Matthew Ware.

III. Outreach Projects *(continued from previous page)*

- **Hart's Human Rights Week, Mar. 18-22, 2013:** STF students held daily human rights awareness activities: die-in, information table at the school's open house, bake sale, all-school assembly and distribution of STF's HRE Survey to English and social studies classes.
- **Carson's Walk for Your Right to Education, Apr. 6, 2013:** Over 50 students, parents and community members walked a route at Carson High to learn about juvenile justice, the local right to education and the Human Rights Mobile Libraries at presentations along the route.
- **Crossroads' *Inocente* Film Screening Event, Apr. 19, 2013:** STF hosted a screening of *Inocente*, a documentary

about a teenage homeless girl in San Diego. More than 40 students discussed the rights violations depicted in the film and noted how seeing an example of violations so close to home affected them.

- **Valencia's Ordinary Heroes Presentation, Apr. 20, 2013:** More than 150 students gathered to watch a film and corresponding presentation about past HRW human rights defenders, inspiring students to take action and be aware of ordinary heroes.
- **First-ever STF Alumni Reunion, June 2, 2013:** Enlisted attendees in SB260 letter writing campaign and updated contact information for STF Alumni listserve, currently 593 subscribers.