

Stephen Shames Foundation

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A BENEFIT FOR UGANDA'S FORGOTTEN CHILDREN SET FOR NOVEMBER 12 AT STEVEN KASHER GALLERY, NEW YORK

**Hosted by His Excellency Ambassador Francis K. Butagira
of the Permanent Mission of Uganda to the United Nations**

**Organized by Stephen Shames Foundation for
Concern For The Future, A Leadership Program for Ugandan Youth**

New York, NY – October 25, 2007 – The Stephen Shames Foundation, founded by award-winning photographer and social activist, Stephen Shames, announces a benefit to raise funds for Concern for the Future, an indigenous Ugandan non-profit (NGO), that turns Uganda's forgotten children into leaders by giving them the world-class 21st-century skills necessary to lead their country into the future.

The benefit, which will be hosted by His Excellency Ambassador Francis K. Butagira of the Permanent Mission of Uganda to the United Nations, will take place on Monday, November 12 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Steven Kasher Gallery, 521 West 23rd Street, 2nd floor, New York City (212-966-3978). The benefit is co-chaired by Ellen Harris, former Chief Executive Office, Aperture Foundation and her husband Fred Harris, Sr. Vice President Avalon Bay Communities; Joseph Baio and Anne Griffin; and Steven and Susan Kasher.

Concern for the Future (CFTF) locates bright, motivated AIDS orphans, former child soldiers, children living in refugee camps, among other vulnerable children in Uganda, who want to go to college but can't because of poverty, AIDS, and war. CFTF pays their school fees and prepares them for university; CFTF student-members attend the best primary and secondary schools in the country and are provided with everything they need to succeed.

"Concern for the Future represents a compelling prototype for the kind of global educational venture that is badly needed in Uganda and other third world countries," said Stephen Shames. "In just a few years, CFTF has transformed the lives of seventy-five young people in Uganda that previously had no hope. This program is truly unequaled anywhere in the world."

The benefit will feature a one-day-only exhibition of Stephen Shames's stunning 30 x 40 signed limited edition photographs depicting the daily lives of Ugandan children. Shames's prints will be sold at half price on the day of the auction only. Also on sale will be wonderful drawings by Ugandan children who are in the CFTF program. Attendees will receive a free 8-1/2 x 11 inkjet Stephen Shames print with a \$250 donation. One hundred percent of the money raised at the benefit will be used to educate orphans and children from refugee camps. Admission to the benefit is free.

The exhibit has been generously underwritten by Lynne and Harold Honickman and The Honickman Foundation. The show, "Uganda: The Forgotten Children", will travel to The Gershman Y in Philadelphia in April, 2008 and the Latin American & Caribbean Studies Gallery of Stony Brook University in November, 2007.

Stephen Shames creates award winning photo essays on social issues for magazines, books, foundations, advocacy organizations, and museums. Aperture published *Outside the Dream, Pursuing the Dream*, and *The Black Panthers* as monographs. Shames wrote and directed three videos: *Friends of the Children*, *Children of Northern Uganda*, and *Our Students*.

Stephen Shames's images have been exhibited and are in the permanent collections of the International Center of Photography, the National Portrait Gallery, the Museum of Photographic Arts, The Bancroft Library of the University of California, and Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. He received awards from Kodak Crystal Eagle for Impact in Photojournalism, World Hunger Year, Leica, International Center of Photography, and Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Foundation. Esquire and CBS Sunday Morning profiled him.

Stephen Shames Foundation, in partnership with Concern for the Future, is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization that collects donations to educate AIDS orphans, child soldiers, sex slaves, child laborers, street kids, siblings in child-headed families and other vulnerable children in Uganda.

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