

INTERNATIONAL TECH-BASED INITIATIVE SET TO LAUNCH WITH PERFORMANCE OF NATIONAL ANTHEMS

BOCA RATON, FLORIDA – A new international collaboration is launching a cultural and education exchange project with planned live performances of national anthems of two countries. After recent increased focus on the importance of the national anthem in the USA, the group of partners decided to use the national anthems as an opportunity to educate and promote cultural appreciation amongst diverse communities, not only in the USA, but globally.

On Thursday, February 9, 2017, a group of South Florida youth from two Delray Beach-based schools, Daughter of Zion Junior Academy and Pine Grove Elementary School, will assemble at the Microsoft Store at Town Center at Boca Raton to perform the USA national anthem. A live SKYPE video call will stream their performance to students of Sirua Aulo Academy, located in Trans Mara West, in the heart of the Maasai Mara, Kenya, a region known for its exotic wildlife and safari experiences. In exchange, students from this remotely located school will sing their national anthem for the Florida students. A brief educational exchange will follow, where the youth will share their knowledge on the anthems and what each means to the respective country. This unique interaction is scheduled to go live at 9:00 am in Boca Raton (EST) and 5:00 pm in Kenya (GMT+3). It will be a first-ever experience and opportunity for all involved on various levels.

Three very different community service partners have joined together to launch this initiative with the technology support from the Microsoft Store at Town Center at Boca Raton. Estella's Brilliant Bus (West Palm Beach, FL), Dream Sponsors Incorporated (Wellington, FL) and Sirua Aulo Academy (Trans Mara, Kenya) are jointly on a mission to enhance education, peace, tolerance and cultural understanding through global partnerships using advanced global technology.

Estella Pyfrom, Founder of Estella's Brilliant Bus and CNN Hero Award nominee, explains, "Through technology we have begun a movement bringing training, global exposure, and overall education to underserved communities in Palm Beach County and beyond. Using our current relationship with the Microsoft Store, and given Dream Sponsors'

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existing partnership with Sirua Aulo Academy, we are coming together as a team to extend advanced learning and unique experiences to communities of both countries where such opportunities and resources are lacking. This

unique partnership provides the vehicle to extend this movement across borders and change the quality of life for the marginalized people of the Maasai tribe.”

Part of the Microsoft Store’s mission is to offer training and development through complimentary events and workshops at this state-of-the-art store located at the Town Center Mall in Boca Raton. Ana Sanchez, Community Development Specialist for Microsoft Store at Town Center at Boca Raton explains further, “The Microsoft Store at Town Center Mall at Boca Raton is committed to being part of the fabric of the Boca Raton community. We are planning a series of trainings that will be streamed live through SKYPE, offering teachers, parents, professionals and students in both countries the opportunity to interact, share problems, life stories and work collaboratively to provide solutions and education to impact positive outcomes.”

Estella’s Brilliant Bus is not only a customized, mobile learning center, but a movement in providing technological and educational outreach to children in targeted underserved communities in Palm Beach County and nationwide. The movement provides other needed services to the larger community, for example through its operation of two food pantries, serving more than 90,000 children and families over the past two years.

Dream Sponsors Inc., founded in 2006 and based out of Wellington, provides basic needs and school fees through sponsorships to orphans and vulnerable youth in various parts of Kenya. The organization recently expanded its mission to provide similar sponsorship opportunities to Palm Beach County youth living in impoverished areas and who are in need of after-school or summer enrichment educational opportunities. The organization is shifting its mission to more sustainable project-based work to benefit a larger number of needy orphans and vulnerable youth.

Sirua Aulo Academy is the top-ranked primary school in Trans Mara District, Kenya, founded by an indigenous Maasai educator and innovator. The school has defied great odds to educate over 400 students not only on the primary school level but as of recently, on a high school level as well. It is the first and only school in the region to invite and incorporate children with special needs and to enforce a school-wide, non-violence discipline policy for its student body.

For more information please contact Dream Sponsors, Inc. at (561) 795-2223 or www.dreamsponsorsinc.org; or Estella’s Brilliant Bus, (561) 985-1889 or www.estellasbrilliantbus.org or the [Microsoft Store at Town Center at Boca Raton](http://MicrosoftStorePR@assemblyinc.com) at MicrosoftStorePR@assemblyinc.com.