



You come, too!

August 1, 2009

Dear Students, Parents, Grandparents, Alumnae, and Friends of the School:

Chatham Hall is off again this year for two weeks of social service (along with much sightseeing, big-game spotting, and other fun times) in and around Cape Town, one of the world's beautiful cities.

Please join us for our fourth year of this unique program!

From March 7-19, 2010, we will

- collaborate with teachers, purchase food, prepare meals, and undertake construction projects at the Lawrenca Primary School, a powerful force in the under-resourced Bloekombos Township.
- clear land, prepare and cultivate gardens, and renovate greenhouses in various townships through Soil for Life, a dynamic self-empowerment agency, and
- undertake environmental and community-relations projects at the Aquila Private Game Reserve.



Last March, twenty-four of us (including seventeen students) added books to the library (which we had constructed the year before), directed a reading program, constructed soccer goals and led soccer clinics, tutored students on computers, and much more at Lawrenca. We worked in large community gardens, attended to children in an orphanage, and undertook additional projects in other townships. I saw, once again, that Chatham Hall has a large heart, and a global sense of social responsibility. I saw us make a powerful statement about world peace and justice. I saw us build partnerships with our brothers and sisters in South Africa, and among the sisters (and brothers!) of Chatham Hall. At the end of last year's trip, **one out of every four Chatham Hall girls had worked in the townships of South Africa.** That is a statement about global citizenship!

In addition to our service work his year's program will include

- two safari trips to sight rhinos, leopards, elephants, lions, and buffalo;

- a guided tour of Robben Island (where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for eighteen years), a visit to the gorgeous Malay Quarter of Cape Town (including a traditional Cape Malay lunch) and a meeting with the Imam at the local Mosque, a trip by cable car up breathtaking Table Mountain, and trips to other beautiful sites in Cape Town;
- meetings with prominent social activists, including Bandi Biko, the sister of slain anti-apartheid activist Steve Biko; and
- accommodations in Cape Town and the countryside that are delightful, convenient, and most comfortable, and food that is delicious.



As is the past, a winter-trimester seminar will be offered to students on campus that will prepare them to understand the historical and social texture of contemporary South Africa. Adults off-campus will be provided with a syllabus to follow.

We travel to South Africa **to exercise our hearts, our minds, our bodies—and our souls.** Would love to have you come along ...

Gary Fountain
Rector

For **complete information about Chatham Hall in South Africa 2010** (including a **detailed itinerary**, a registration form, frequently asked questions, recommendations for immunizations, and information about financial aid for students), consult the Chatham Hall Web site (www.chathamhall.org or <http://www.chathamhall.org/academics/SouthAfricaOutreachchathamhall.html>) or write to me at gfontain@chathamhall.org.

Registration for Chatham Hall in South Africa 2010 is due on or before **October 15, 2009.**

