



Our mission is to prepare tomorrow's critical thinkers and global citizens through language immersion and inquiry-driven study.

PRESS RELEASE -- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 11, 2015

Contact: Shannon Peterson, Director

P: 651-464-8989 • E-mail: speterson@mylila.org • www.mylila.org

**Lakes International Language Academy
Students Collect Change To Create Change**

Forest Lake, MN — Lakes International Language Academy sixth graders raised just over \$1000 as part of the We Create Change program, a month-long challenge to help free children from living in poverty in developing countries so they can attend school. Rather than designate a particular country to receive the donation, the sixth graders voted to send it to the communities with the greatest need through the organization Free The Children.

The funds will help parents, especially mothers, to generate sustainable income sources, increase their savings, and start their own businesses. This typically includes training, support and workshops, as well as the initial resources. Michele Donne, representing Free The Children, said, "Usually this would be livestock programs (goats and chickens), training about how to raise and profit off of livestock, community savings associations (micro-loans to young entrepreneurs in the community), and women's clubs (making jewelry or other cultural items)." The goal is long-term, sustainable solutions to economic challenges that are based on each community's culture, traditions, resources, habits, climate, environment and more.

As an International Baccalaureate World School, LILA encourages students to become caring problem-solvers and inquirers who take action that make change. "We're very proud of the dedication of these sixth-graders," said Justin Voss, dean of students at the Headwaters Campus. "They stuck with the challenge, learning about other cultures, asking for pledges for We Are Silent Day, and collecting donations. Together, they're making a real difference in peoples' lives around the world."

Lakes International Language Academy offers Spanish and Mandarin Chinese programs for K-6 as part of its accredited International Baccalaureate curriculum. The school, which is authorized by Volunteers of America of MN, is expanding to grades 7-8 in 2015 with partial immersion continuation for experienced language speakers and fast-track language programs for new language learners. A tour for prospective LILA kindergarten students will be held at the Main Campus on Monday, May 18, 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.; that evening, an information session for grades 6-8 will be held at the Headwaters Campus from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Additional session dates, application instructions, and more information is available online at www.MyLILA.org or call 651-464-0771.

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Main Campus · Primary Grades
246 11th Ave SE
Forest Lake, MN 55025
651-464-0771 · Fax: 651-464-4429

Headwaters Campus · Intermediate Grades
19850 Fenway Ave N
Forest Lake, MN 55025
651-464-8989 · Fax: 651-464-8990

LILA Annex · Kinder Prep
121 11th Ave SE
Forest Lake, MN 55025
651-464-0771 · Fax: 651-464-4429

MyLILA.org





Lakes International
LANGUAGE ACADEMY
AN IB WORLD SCHOOL

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Cutline: Sixth-grade students at Lakes International Language Academy are shown holding more than \$1000 in donations, which were sent to the international philanthropic organization Free The Children as part of the We Create Change program. The money will help children break free from poverty and go to school in developing countries.



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