

Rebuild South Sudan
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Rebuild South Sudan and Alley Cat Books Celebrate International Literacy Day

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

San Francisco, CA--On September 8, 2015 at 4 pm, Rebuild South Sudan (RSS) will present an interactive literacy exhibit hosted by Alley Cat Books on 24th Street. The event will celebrate the power of reading, writing, and storytelling to communicate South Sudan's determination to overcome illiteracy and how Bay Area citizens can be a part of supporting South Sudan. According to the UN reports in December of last year, 80% of the population in South Sudan is still illiterate. Present will be Gabriel Akim, who is a Lost Boy from South Sudan, a San Jose resident, and spokesperson for what education and literacy mean to South Sudan's national healing.

RSS is excited to invite all 24th street walkers to stop by their International Literacy Day exhibit featuring the tenacious and earnest story of the people of South Sudan who are still struggling towards stability. The exhibit will be out on the sidewalk in front of Alley Cat Books displaying books written in different genres including children's picture books, young adult fiction, and memoir. Visitors can stop by for a few minutes and record their early memories of reading and writing in a traveling exhibit headed to South Sudan this fall, or they can stay for awhile and ask Gabriel Akim questions about his story and experiences, learn how to say hello in his native language, and find out how to support literacy in South Sudan. Visitors will have the opportunity to purchase books and maps from Alley Cat that will be taken to South Sudan on September 13th and distributed to teachers there. Visitors can also purchase representative "book spines" to fill up representative "bookshelves" (printed on large posters) to raise money for education in South Sudan. Monetary donations gathered through the symbolic books will go towards RSS's primary literacy efforts: a school building designed to withstand the annual flooding of the rainy season and a teacher training set to take place in South Sudan's Jonglei state this September.

A FREE all-ages event in San Francisco's Mission District at Alley Cat Books, 3036 24th, San Francisco.

"An education is our father and mother."

--A common saying among the Lost Boys and Girls of South Sudan

"What I valued the most was education, because education has no borders. You can help anyone anywhere. So I founded Rebuild [South] Sudan to build a school for the orphans. The education they get can be used for the greater good of [South] Sudan."

--Michael Kuany, a Lost Boy and founder of Rebuild South Sudan

For more information about this event, and Rebuild South Sudan's vision and accomplishments visit:

<http://www.rebuildsouthsudan.org/international-literacy-day-2015-in-san-francisco/>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1682123335349132/>

<http://www.rebuildsouthsudan.org/aboutus/vision-2/>

<http://www.rebuildsouthsudan.org/school-project-wins-seed-award/>

For more information on Alley Cat Books visit:

<http://www.alleycatbookshop.com/welcome.html>