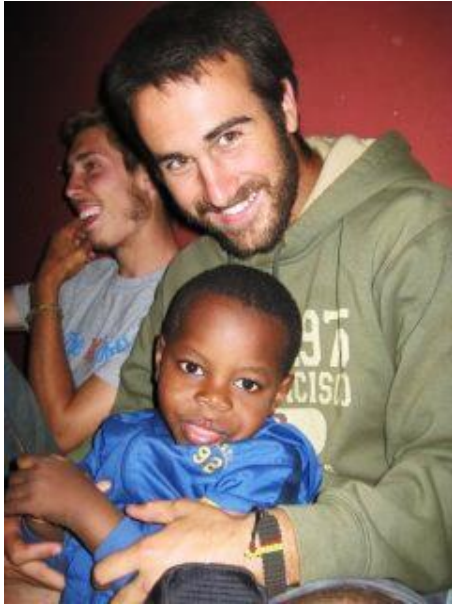


Eric Jorgensen's Humanitarian Service in Tanzania

Eric Jorgensen (Class of 2011),
past recipient of the Smyth Service to Humanities Award,
wrote this story before graduating.



For the past two summers I've been working with a non-profit organization called [One Heart Source](#) in Tanzania. I lead volunteers in teaching HIV prevention and English in local schools and in the community, tutor and mentor kids living in our children's home, and work on other community development projects.

During my first few weeks in Tanzania, we switched the children in the One Heart Source home from public schools to private schools. We had been debating about this decision for a while because private school is much more expensive and farther away, but we decided that a better teaching environment made the change worthwhile. However, it was a large expense, so I was happy that I could use part of the Smyth Award funds to pay for some of the kids' school uniforms.

The 15 American and Tanzanian volunteers I helped lead expressed interest in re-painting the classrooms because creating a more conducive learning environment inspires students to take pride in their education. I used the remaining Smyth Award funds to buy quality paint to paint some of the classrooms. It was a great project for the volunteers to help beautify a school in which they had been interacting with many of the students for the previous six weeks.