

Learn about Education in Uganda. Collaborate with Other Cultures.
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11:00 a.m. Friday June 28th
Santa Barbara Junior High School Globe Theatre, 721 Cota Street
“Uganda, Then and Now”
A Panel Presentation for Educators and Students

The discussion will focus on the challenges of Uganda’s education system, hope for the future, and the possibilities for teacher and student collaboration between Santa Barbara and Uganda.

Facilitator: Betsy Brenner, Ph.D. Professor of Education, Department Chair, University of California, Santa Barbara, Graduate School of Education.

Panelists: Harvey Shapiro, M.S. M.A., Peace Corps Uganda 1969-1971
Janet Shapiro, Ed.D, Professor Emeritus, Santa Barbara City College
Ben Drati, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education, Santa Barbara School District
John Wanda, CPA, Founder of Arlington Academy of Hope Primary School

Harvey Shapiro, Peace Corps, and Janet Shapiro, British Voluntary Service Overseas, remember Uganda, where they met and worked as teachers from 1969 to 1971. In subsequent years, hunger, disease and war have torn apart the country they love. The education system fell apart. But something new is bringing change, and now there is hope, in one small Ugandan village called Bumwalukani.

Ben Drati remembers Uganda from his early years as a child. Born in 1971 he lived for seven years in the West Nile region of Uganda, moved as a refugee to the U.S.A. with his parents in 1978. Ben recently returned to Uganda for the first time in thirty years, for his father’s funeral.

John Wanda grew up in one of the most impoverished areas of eastern Uganda. Through a State Department lottery program John and his wife Joyce won their emigration to the United States in 1996 and now live in Arlington, Virginia. John and Joyce are giving back. In 2004 they founded a new school in John’s Ugandan village of Bumwalukani - The Arlington Academy of Hope Primary School. Learn how the Arlington Traditional School in Virginia supports the primary school in Uganda.



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