



## Post Fellowship Reporting - Project Summary

**Report Title:** Ghana: Sankofa -Retrieve the Past to Create the Future  
**Name:** Delphine Fawundu-Buford

**Other Team Members:**

**Program:** New York City Program

**Trip Dates:** 11/30/-0001 - 11/30/-0001

**Location Visited:** Ghana West Africa

**Post Fellowship Reporting Template:** PFR Template 01

**Project Summary:** Ghana has a rich history; the Ashanti and Akan people developed the region into a powerful empire by trading gold and other goods well before European exploration and colonization. Extremely important to World History, located on Ghana's coast are the 42 fortifications and castles that were used as dungeons for millions of African captives that now make up the African Diaspora. Today UNESCO recognizes these sites as World Heritage Monuments. In 1957, Ghana was the first African country to gain its independence from colonization under the rule of Dr. Kwame Nkrumah. I planned this trip to further investigate Ghana's rich history while documenting youth culture. This information would enhance my unit: Who Am I? How Are We Connected? It would also strengthen my students' background knowledge about Ghana and the Trans Atlantic Slave Trade as we read the book Copper Sun by Sharon Draper. I returned to the states with much more than I expected. Traveling to the slave dungeons of the Elmina and Cape Coast castles was an extremely moving and educational experience. Although, I've seen photographs and heard stories, nothing could prepare me for the solemn spirit that took over my body as I stood in the dark dungeons.

Through interviews and interaction with everyday Ghanaian youth as well as hip life (hip-hop) artists I gained great insight on some of my questions before traveling: What are the everyday realities for the younger generation living in Ghana? What social and political issues do they face? How do Ghanaian youth relate to youth in America? What are expressions of youth activism?

This fellowship makes me a stronger educator, as I will be able to share a life changing experience with my students while strengthening their knowledge and social awareness.

**Career Impact:** \*Created an opportunity for me to strengthen my students' comprehension and social awareness in my English Language Arts class

\*Visited a high school, middle school and elementary school to gain insight on the educational system in Ghana.

\*Interviewed and interacted with students and teachers

\*Gained a wealth of knowledge about the Trans Atlantic Slave Trade from an African perspective

\*Gained a wealth of knowledge about youth culture in Ghana

\*Created a new curriculum

**Classroom/Community Impact:**\* Created an opportunity for me to strengthen my students' comprehension and social awareness in my English Language Arts class

\* Visited a high school, middle school and elementary school to gain insight on the educational system in Ghana.

\* Interviewed and interacted with students and teachers

\* Gained a wealth of knowledge about the Trans Atlantic Slave Trade from an African perspective

\* Gained a wealth of knowledge about youth culture in Ghana

\* Created a cross-curricular instruction in English Language Arts/Social Studies

\*Collected addresses of high school students in Ghana to begin a pen pal project

\* Broaden students' perspectives on Africa

\* Broaden fellow teacher perspectives on Africa

\* Created original artifacts including photographs and video to strengthen students' investigation

\* Artifacts such as money, fabric, carvings, newspapers, and music

\* Artifacts will be shared with the entire school community

**Open Response:** \* A photo essay on hip life culture in Ghana

\* A photo essay based on the five geography themes in Ghana

\* A mini video documentary on youth perspectives in Ghana to be shared with school community

\* Interdisciplinary English Language Arts/Social Studies curriculum

**Quote:** Traveling to Ghana was a life changing experience. I learned a great deal about the Trans Atlantic Slave trade from an African perspective.

Photos:



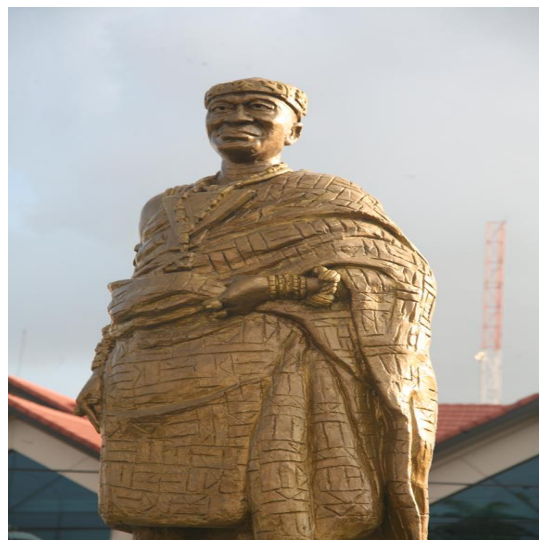
Cathedral Kumasi, Ghana



Delphine and students at Accra Academy, High School



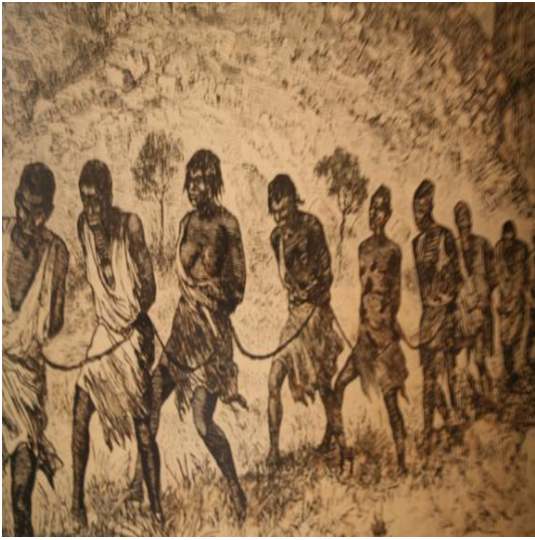
Critically Acclaimed Hip Life Group Praye' performs to promote Presidential candidate



Statue of King Prempeh, Asante Region, Kumasi



Manhyia Palace Museum



Painting at the Elmina Castle



Weaving Kente Cloth in Bonwire