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**THE
NUEVA
SCHOOL**

The Nueva School to Receive African Library Project's Compassion in Action Award

OCTOBER 18, 2018 – The African Library Project will recognize the Nueva School with their highest honor, the 2018 Compassion in Action Award, at their gala fundraiser in Palo Alto on Saturday, October 20. This international award is given annually by the [African Library Project](#) to book drive organizers that have made an extraordinary contribution to African literacy. Since 2011, the entire Nueva community has contributed over 16,000 children's books that have become 16 small libraries in Ghana, Swaziland (now eSwatini), Botswana, Lesotho, and Malawi.

Nueva's book drives engage their students in global literacy activism. For each library, the Nueva community has collected over 1,000 books, and they have raised funds to cover shipping costs through student-run bake sales and coin collections, and through parent donations. Students across grade levels and divisions contribute to the African Library Project each year: Lower school students write notes to put in the books, Middle school students create educational marketing material about the project, and the Upper school students sort and pack the books for shipping. In the process, students learn about the countries where their books are headed through presentations and luncheon information tables. The school is already planning its 2019 book drive to create two more libraries.

"At Nueva, we love the African Library Project for many reasons: the whole school gets involved and kids get to make a personal connection through the books they love to communities far away, they learn about Africa, about service, and get to recycle what is here an ordinary resource, into something special and rare over there," said Christina Bechtold, Nueva parent coordinator. "We are grateful that the African Library Project is helping us come together as a school, and share this spirit of community with others a wide, wide world away."

The Nueva School is an independent PreK–12 school for gifted learners, with campuses in Hillsborough and San Mateo, California. The school emphasizes global citizenship by encouraging students to engage with diverse perspectives and cultures. To learn more, visit www.nuevaschool.org.

The African Library Project is a Bay Area-based nonprofit that coordinates book drives throughout the U.S. and Canada to start and improve small libraries in sub-Saharan Africa. Since 2005, the organization has partnered with African NGOs and governments to start or improve 2,541 libraries in 12 countries, shipping over 2.5 million books. To learn more, visit: www.africanlibraryproject.org.