

PRESS RELEASE

Elimu Recognized at Kenya National Library Awards

Sept. 22, 2017. NAIROBI - After just 15 months in operation, **Elimu Resource Centre** was honoured this weekend at Kenya's National Maktaba (Library) Awards which review and rank over 70 libraries in Kenya each year.

Elimu took 2nd prize under the “community library” category which evaluates alternative facilities involved in reading, information services and literacy. Twenty-four facilities were considered under that category. The award recognizes Elimu's excellence in developing self-directed learners and in providing digital resources to improve classroom performance. The prize included a glass etched trophy and 200 new books from Book Aid International.



The Maktaba Awards are an initiative of the Kenyan Library Association in cooperation with Goethe Institute and the Jomo Kenyatta Foundation. The project is financially supported by the Kenyan Ministry of Culture. Other partners such as Worldreader, Book Aid International and eKitabu donated prizes for the winners. The purpose of the award is to strengthen libraries in their important role for Kenyan society and to motivate them to excel through the competition.

Elimu founder, Nina Chung, who had just returned to Kenya three days before, was on hand along with Elimu's Director of Programming, Jonah Ndung'u and Program Manager, Diana Gwiyo to receive the award. After the event Ms. Chung said, “It is really gratifying to be recognized in this industry for the work we have achieved, especially after such a short time. Elimu Resource Centre is truly having a huge impact in the community. So many people, both children and adults are finding benefits from our services.”

Elimu Resource Centre uses digital technology to put textbooks into hands that have never held one. Class sizes can reach 50-60 kids in Kenyan public schools And some children never get their hands on the textbooks they need to do their homework or to remedial studies.

Elimu's **Worldreader** Kindles are loaded with 200 books relevant to the Kenyan school curriculum. That's a total of 7,000 books available for students in the Malindi community. The Centre also hosts a computer lab which students use to access math games, science tutorials and videos and storybooks. It is the first of its kind in the area and students are flocking to it to benefit from the educational tools and the conducive learning environment. In its first year of operation, the Centre registered over 8,000 visits from students looking to improve their performance at school.

To find out more

Elimu website:

www.Elimu.ca

Elimu on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/pages/Elimu/356962017726048

Elimu on Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/Elimucanada>

-30-

Founder/President Nina Chung: nina@elimu.ca

Elimu is a registered Canadian charity. BN 828374134RR0001

Donations of \$20 or more receive an official receipt for income tax purposes. Receipts are valid for Canadian residents only. All proceeds go direct to projects as all administrative costs are covered by Elimu founder. Donations can be made at **Elimu.ca** or by cheque payable to Elimu mailed to **P.O. Box 4765, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1S 5H9.**