



DEAR PARENTS, STUDENTS & COMMUNITY

We are excited to invite your 9th through 11th grade student on a Summer 2024 sponsored educational travel opportunity.

- One week long, all expenses paid trip to Africa for up to 16 deserving Fort Worth area high schoolers.
- Up to 8 boys and 8 girls, carefully selected, at-risk 9th 11th graders.
- Emotionally gripping visit to former slave castles and the "Door of No Return" where captured natives were forced on to ships.
- Welcome Home Ceremony including students being given an African name and presented with a scarf of Kente clothe.
- All major direct costs underwritten by the R D Howard Foundation. Pre-trip incidental costs donated by local organizations and donors.
- See attached student criteria, application deadline and key date timeline, pre-trip requirements, trip itinerary, and how you can be apart of this life-changing event.

Contact Information

info@FWTeensGo2Ghana.com



Fort Worth Teens Go 2 Ghana

We are thrilled to extend an invitation to your esteemed organization or individual members to join hands with us in a meaningful partnership. Our mission is to provide life changing **FREE OF CHARGE** experiences for underprivileged students, and your support can turn this vision into reality.

About the Trip:

- **Destination & Dates:** Ghana, in west Africa, a land of vibrant culture, history, and natural beauty, for one week June 27, 2024 to July 4, 2024.
- **Purpose:** To empower students through education, cultural immersion, and global awareness and learn more about the history of slavery.
- Participants: A diverse group of deserving students who lack the means to explore beyond their immediate surroundings.

Benefits of Partnership:

- Impact: By partnering with us, your organization directly contributes to transforming lives and expanding horizons. (If your organization decides not to do so, members are welcome to step forward as an individual or jointly with your organization or other individuals.)
- Visibility: Your organization's logo and name will be prominently featured in our promotional materials, including group t-shirts, media outlets, press releases, and at all events.
- Recognition: Public acknowledgment during pre-trip events, post-trip reception, and any media coverage.

Your Unique Opportunity: As part of this collaboration, your organization will have the privilege to:

- Select Two Students: Hand selects two deserving students to participate in this lifeenriching experience meeting student criteria.
- Witness Impact: Observe firsthand the positive impact your support has on these young lives while preparing to travel aboard and upon their return.
- Connect with Students: Serve as a positive role model as you share the pre-trip excitement while helping students prepare for this experience and gain their lifelong appreciation and friendship.

Pre-Trip Sponsorship Costs: Each students require assistance with various expenses related to this journey; and that is where your organization or individual members come in.



preparation.

Fort Worth Teens Go 2 Ghana

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•	Daily Expenses : We would like for each child to have available a minimum of \$40 per day spending change to cover snacks, gifts, and miscellaneous expenses or 8 days x \$40 per day =	0.
•	Personal Hygiene Kit & Special Occasion Outfits: Covering personal essentials and one dressy casual and culturally respectful outfits to attend an African Naming Ceremony and church service	
•	Total Pre-Trip Costs per student, for which we are seeking sponsors, is= \$900).
Trip 7	Timeline Commitment	
•	Pre-trip Commitment Sponsor The pre-trip sponsor commits to signing the pledge to assist students financially and step by step preparing documents and getting them to travel. Each student needs two (2) adults to assist and alternate	February 23, 2024
•	Final Student Selection and Parent Permission Forms Signed The pre-trip sponsors will finalize the selection by choosing the two students who will participate in the trip. Parent agreements must be obtained within two weeks after the signed pledge. Two students will require 4 adults, or 2 adults each.	March 7, 2024
•	Meet & Greet with Lead Sponsor The lead sponsorship will arrange a meet- and-greet session with the pre-trip sponsors, selected students, and parents to discuss trip details and expectations.	March 7, 2024
	Passport Appointments and Processes The pre-trip sponsor ensures that their selected students have scheduled passport appointments and are in the process of obtaining their passports.	March 11-15, 2024
	Meetings with Lead Sponsor The lead sponsorship will hold a follow-up meetings with pre-trip sponsors, selected students, and travel chaperones to	March 30, 2024 April 11 & 25,
	review logistics, travel requirements, safety protocols, and trip planning.	2024
•	Turn In Passports and Funds for Visa Processing The pre-trip sponsor collects all students' passports and supply needed funds for visa. Promptly submit them to the lead sponsorship for visa applications to be expedited.	May 9, 2024
•	Immunizations Appointments The pre-trip sponsor must ensure that students receive necessary immunizations, including Covid vaccinations, as needed for travel to Ghana.	May 20-24, 202-
•	Finalization of Processes and Paperwork All paperwork, permissions, daily expense funds and travel-related processes are completed by the pre-trip sponsor and are submitted to the trip lead sponsor.	June 4, 2024
•	Final Pre-Trip Meeting The lead sponsor will arrange a comprehensive pre-trip meeting to address any last-minute details, safety guidelines, and cultural	June 13, 2024

• Send-Off from DFW Airport The pre-trip sponsor will participates in the

send-off as students depart from DFW airport to Ghana.

June 27, 2024



Fort Worth Teens Go 2 Ghana

- Arrival at DFW Airport The pre-trip sponsor will welcome students back upon their safe return to DFW airport.
- Post Trip Reception The lead sponsor will organize a "Show & Tell" reception for pre-trip sponsors, trip chaperones, parents, community leaders, and media where students will give a briefing on their experience.

RD Howard Foundation: The lead sponsor has generously committed to covering the main direct costs and insurance for this trip, including:

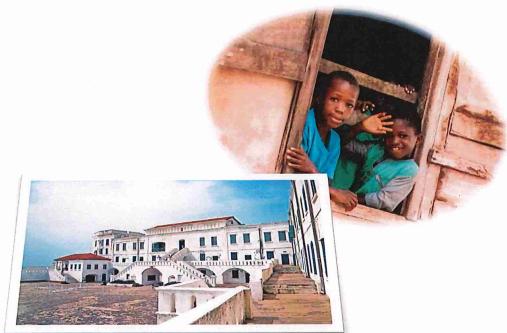
- Travel Expenses: Flights to and from Ghana with insurance coverage.
- **Meals & Accommodations**: The students will be staying in safe, comfortable lodgings with up to 4 students with one prescreened adult chaperone. All meals are provided except snacks.
- Local Transportation: Within the capitol city of Ghana, Accra, and surrounding areas.
- Agenda: Will include cultural tours and a visit to a rural village for a "Day of Building & Giving" community service project.

Next Steps: We invite you to be a vital part of this transformative journey. Your partnership is crucial in making this trip a reality. Let's empower these students to dream bigger, broaden their horizon and transform our community upon their return.

We know you may have additional questions. The following link will provide you with a short video by the lead sponsorship, Randle D. Howard, Founder & Executive Director of the R.D. Howard Foundation. Please feel free to reach out if you have any additional questions or would like to discuss this opportunity further. We look forward to embarking on this incredible journey together.

Thank you for considering this partnership. Together, we can create lasting memories and inspire change.







Criteria for Student Delegates:

1. Academic Standing:

- O Students must be currently enrolled in grades 9th through 11th at O. D. Wyatt High School, Dunbar High School, Eastern Hills High School, or Poly High
- OR currently enrolled in grades 9th through 11th at any high school in Tarrant Count and his or her family receives SNAP, CHIP and or Federal Housing Assistance with proof required
- Student's report card showing all passing grades is required along with exceptional or a minimum of above-average conduct.

2. Teacher Recommendations:

O Students must provide **two teacher recommendations**. These recommendations should highlight the student's character, work ethic, and potential for growth.

3. Personal Qualities:

- Students should demonstrate qualities such as being manurable, respectful, and well-kept.
- We seek participants who will represent their schools and community with pride.

4. Parental Consent:

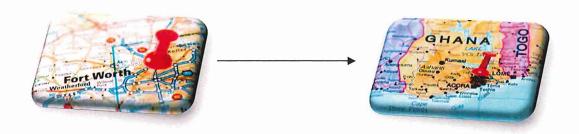
- o Parents or legal guardians must agree to their child's participation in the trip.
- A signed consent form is mandatory.
- Parent or guardian must cooperation and assists "volunteer pre-trip sponsors" with gathering documents timely, filling out papers and getting to group meetings, etc.

5. Gender of Students:

A maximum of 8 boys and 8 girls will be able to participate, NOT excluding students with disabilities or special needs.

Next Steps: We invite you to carefully consider eligible students who meet these criteria. Your organization's involvement is vital in ensuring the success of this educational journey. Selected students will not only gain knowledge but also broaden their perspectives and create lasting memories.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or need further information. We appreciate your commitment to empowering our youth and fostering global understanding.



Lead Sponsor – 2024 Fort Worth Teens Go 2 Ghana tour!

Established by Randle D. Howard, President of R D Howard Construction, the mission of the **R D Howard Foundation**, **Inc.** is developing and supporting programs and activities to broaden the horizons of students in the less affluent southeast quadrant of Fort Worth, Texas, where he grew up. The goal is to expose deserving youths to the world beyond their immediate surroundings to inspire them to excel in school and later in life, equipping them

to inspire and uplift others.

Growing up, his dad owned a small construction business and mother was a public-school administrator, which allowed Howard to be able to attend summer camps, youth conferences and go on yearly summer vacations, unlike most of his peers. Howard graduated from Texas State University in San Marcos in 1981 and worked for Motorola Electronics for two years. His dad turned over the family business to him in 1983 and in 1992 the company organized and sponsored the Texas Teen Tour. For five years, Howard took a bus load of 36 at-risk kids on a 4 day-3-night tour around Texas to colleges and places like Blue Bell Ice Cream in Brenham, Texas, NASA's Johnson

Space Center, and Galveston Beach.



In 1946, Howard's dad started the business by building a set of concrete steps for an elderly woman for \$40. Howard has grown the business with annual sales as high as \$11 million and as many as 40 workers. The cities of Fort Worth, Dallas, Killeen, Arlington, Austin, and Irving are among over 40 cities the company has as clients along with businesses like Wal-Mart Stores, Lockheed Martin, Bell Helicopter, Miller Brewing, Frito-Lay, Home Depot, and entities like the DFW Airport, Amtrak, U S Army, Navy, and Air Force to name just a few.

Giving back has always been important to the Howards, be it youth programs, second chance jobs for ex-offenders or targeted employment outreach to special needs members of the community. In fact, the company has employed at least 12 individuals who were completely or legally blind, wheelchair bound or required mobility assistance, or had some other obvious condition that sometimes caused them to be overlooked and underutilized.

In 2022, Howard's company teamed with Houston-based Linbeck Construction and was selected, as the Linbeck-Howard team, by the City of Fort Worth to oversee the construction of their new 20-story city hall facility. Aligned with Fort Worth Mayor Mattie Parker's - Mayor's CommissiPon for Persons with Disabilities, where the city leads by example the city's commitment to diversity and inclusion, at Howard's recommendation, the Linbeck-Howard team hired Ms. Rebecca Hill, who has been wheelchair bound since birth, as the very first hourly worker on the city's \$137 million project.



Fort Worth Teens Go 2 Ghana -2024 Tour - is but a continuation of the Howard family's commitment to giving back to the community. As a salute to one of Randle Howard's classmates and dear friends who was wheelchair bound her entire



life, the late Cookie Russell, and his freshman year college roommate, Jamie Ferrara, who was born totally blind and deaf in one ear, Howard plans to make an extra effort to have at least one special needs student travel with the group as the recipient of the "Cookie Russell-Jamie Ferrara Youth Travel Fellowship." By serving as the lead sponsor for Fort Worth Teens Go 2 Ghana, the R D Howard Foundation hopes to positively change the lives of the participants, and, thus, the entire southeast Fort Worth community.

The Howard family and staff thank you for your continued patronage and support over the years, but most of all for your prayers for the success of this endeavor and safety of the participants.