



Your Donations & Education

A newsletter exclusively for supporters of the Kosovo American Education Fund (KAEF)

Your Gifts Don't Cease In the Midst of Global Crisis, Your Gifts Give Priority to Education

Since the global crisis began in November 2008, donors like you have given almost \$300,000 to support the Kosovo American Education Fund, demonstrating your devotion to education. Your generosity comes amid an economic crisis in which global levels of giving have dropped.

“For many programs around the world, donors are giving less,” said William Brown, Vice President of Development. “That’s what makes it all the more impressive that giving to KAEF has increased. It shows that donors understand that the future of Kosovo depends on education.”

Your support has proven crucial to the success of KAEF. While many scholarship programs around the world were forced to cut back on the number of scholarships they offered, KAEF actually expanded in 2009, awarding nine fellowships for the first time in its history.

Since 2005, your generosity has helped to provide 48 fellowships to Kosovo’s most talented young leaders. Those that have completed their academic programs have returned to Kosovo, where they are working to improve their country.

As the economy recovers, your donations will continue to play a vital role in KAEF, and, through KAEF, in the prosperity of Kosovo.

Have You Seen It?

You can watch the new KAEF advertisement, “Breaking Barriers,” produced by Entermedia, online at:

www.support-kaef.org

Also at the website:

- watch interviews with alumni about the program
- learn about how the program works for the benefit of all Kosovars



Meet the 2010 KAEF fellows, supported by your contributions. From left to right: Shkelqim Daci, Jeta Krasniqi, Arben Limani, Agon Maliqi, Mentor Mehmedi, Emira Ajeti and Besian Mustafa. Without your support, these fellows might not be able to participate in the KAEF program.

KAEF Awards Nine Fellowships at Reception

Your Support Expands the Program to Largest Size Ever

With your generous support, The Kosovo American Education Fund officially awarded nine fellowships at a reception in Prishtina, Kosovo on Friday, May 28th. KAEF staff officially recognized the seven fellows who have accepted the fellowship to date, as well as the nineteen Kosovar businesses and organizations who have supported the program. The Minister of Education joined the guests at the reception in congratulating the fellows, and also in thanking donors.

Your generous contribution to the KAEF program will support the following students in the upcoming year:

Emira Ajeti (Bentley University), **Shkelqim Daci** (Minnesota State), **Jeta Krasniqi** (Johns Hopkins), **Arben Limani** (Kent Law School at Illinois Inst. of Tech.), **Agon Maliqi** (Duke), **Mentor Mehmedi** (Bowling Green), and **Besian Mustafa** (City University of New York). **Liridon Mavriqi** and **Vatra Qehaja** were also awarded fellowships but could not accept them for professional and / or personal reasons.

The 2011 Application Officially Opens

You Can Help Spread the Word!

The KAEF Application for 2011 is now officially open. You can help KAEF by spreading the word to friends, family, employees, colleagues, and others in your network. Applications are due on **September 6th**. Candidates should expect to spend significant time preparing their application, which includes written essays and recommendations. Applicants can go to the following web address to begin their application:

http://www.kaef-online.org/fellowship.php?page_id=10

If you would like an electronic KAEF flyer to distribute, please contact Nathan Truitt, ntruitt@americancouncils.org.

**“For every thousand hacking at the leaves of evil,
there is one striking at the root.” - H.D. Thoreau**

Poverty, joblessness, and corruption cause untold suffering for thousands of Kosovars. With your support, the Kosovo American Education Fund takes aim at the root causes of these problems. Your support of KAEF provides high-quality, life-changing educational experiences to young, talented leaders. Your contributions are creating a cohort of informed, committed, compassionate young people with the ability to change Kosovo for the better.

Your continued support is crucial. **Please consider additional donations to KAEF** in one of the following ways:

- You can donate online at www.support-kaef.org
- You can make a bank transfer to our account in Kosovo: Bank Account No: 150 115 0000 071 656 RAIFFEISEN BANK KOSOVA (American Councils for International Education - Kosova)
- U.S. donors can send a check (made out to “American Councils”, administrators of KAEF) to: 1828 L Street, NW, Suite 1200; Washington, DC 20036

Thank You, Donors!



KAEF Fellow Selim Selimi smiles and receives the congratulations of his classmates as he walks to give the graduation speech at the Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke. Mr. Selimi was chosen as the speaker from 93 graduate students, and spoke to an audience of 240 students from 21 countries, as well as their parents and the faculty of the Sanford School.

KAEF Fellow Chosen to Speak at Graduation

Selim Selimi Honored as Student Speaker at Duke

One of the fellows supported by your donations to KAEF, Mr. Selim Selimi, was chosen as the student speaker for graduation ceremonies at Duke's esteemed Sanford School of Public Policy. He was selected for the honor from 93 graduate students. On May 15, he spoke in front of 240 students from 21 countries, their parents, and the faculty of Duke.

Speaking both of his time in the United States, and of his homeland of Kosovo, Mr. Selimi said: “We have learned that change does not have a color, race, religion or social status. It is best achieved from the bottom up, through grassroots mobilization... During these past two years, we were able to see that no matter what part of the world our countries are in, or how far apart we live, we all face similar challenges in terms of development and poverty reduction... Development is not a local or regional concern. It is a global concern that cannot be achieved without alleviating poverty.”

Read the full text of his speech at the following web address:

http://sanford.duke.edu/news/features/Grad_Speech_MIDP_Class2010.pdf

Would you like to receive this newsletter via e-mail, or not at all?

Contact Nathan Truitt at ntruitt@americancouncils.org to change your delivery options.

www.support-kaef.org