

# THE LOTUS LAMP

August 23, 1999

Volume 3, Issue 1

## Lotus Sojourn To The Motherland



Home sweet home. And how sweet it was. A group of fifteen Lotus students, parents, teachers, administrators, and supporters traveled to Ghana from July 31st to August 12th. There were also nine others who accompanied the Lotus group and they did much to add to the total experience.

Words can not really describe the feelings that everyone experienced in “coming home”. The land, the people, the customs, and the spirit of Ghana seemed surprisingly familiar and very comfortable. No one really needed to be told that they had returned to their roots. Though most of the people in Ghana live a very difficult life, they all went out of their way to lighten our load, and always greeted us with “WELCOME HOME”.

This was not a vacation, but rather a return to a place where one could speak with the ancestors. The tour was not about beaches and hotels, but rather was an historical and cultural journey. Schools, villages, markets, castles, thrones, rain forests, monuments, and museums were the focus of this trip. The images and glories of Nkrumah, DuBois, and Queen Mother Yaa Asantewaa very quickly became a part of our own personal life as we took pride in seeing and hearing the many tributes to them from our very proud countrymen.

Though we explored both the Cape Coast and Elmina slave castles, there was no despair in reliving those experiences. The will, strength, and determination of African people emanated from the walls of these infamous sites. All in all, it was an overwhelming trip that has moved all of us to make plans to pick up next summer in Ghana where we joyously left off this year.



“A person without a history is like a tree without roots.”

MARCUS GARVEY

# Lotus Caribbean Raffle Winners

If you can imagine the tat-a-tat of the drum roll, then you are in place for the exciting announcement of the 1999 winners of Lotus' get-away-vacation drawing. As most of you are aware, June was the time when raffle tickets were sold for the chance to win trips to exotic places home and abroad. We want to take this time to thank those parents who supported us in this effort by doing more than their fair share.

Leroy Butler was our third-place winner, and will be enjoying a 'Day on Broadway'. He will be treated to transportation, a dinner, and a show on Broadway, along with a guest of his choice at some time this fall. His ticket was sold by Amiyah Muhammad of Vishna I. The second prize of a three-day domestic cruise for two was won by Shamara Marchaman who purchased her ticket from William Gullins of Shana IIIB. The first prize winner, Marquette Moore, will enjoy a 'Four Day Trip For Two' to a Caribbean Paradise of her choice thanks to Tinasia Rucker of Shana IIIB, who sold her the winning ticket.

[Story contributed by Mothura Cathi]

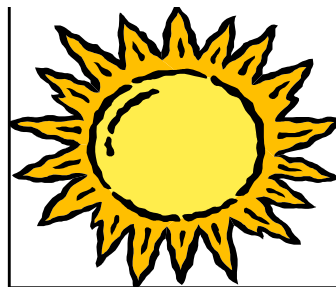
## The Lotus Development Office Has Taken Off

The Development Office of the Lotus Academy has now been established, and the team consists of Mothura Marcia, Mothura Cynthia, Mothura Terri, and Mothura Cathi who will be working primarily in the main office. The most important goal is to move the Lotus Academy into the next millennium with the resources, scope, and vision that tuition alone and fees simply cannot provide.

Each member of the Development Office has a specific role in the overall advancement of the Lotus Academy. We will be contacting parents immediately about their responsibilities relative to the Parent Partnership Agreement. Also, we intend to work very closely with the C.L.A.S. (Concerned Lotus Academy Supporters) Home and School Association to make the best use of the many talents that our parent body brings to the extended family of the Lotus Academy.

# Monthly Reminders

## Early Learning Center



- Mon., Aug 30 to Fri., Sep 3 – LOTUS ELC CLOSED**
- Mon., Sep 6 – LOTUS ELC CLOSED**
- Tue., Sep 7 – First Day Of Fall (2nd) Quarter**
- Wed., Sep 8 – General Parents' Meeting (7:00 p.m.)**
- Tue., Sep 21– Kwame Nkrumah Birthday Observance**
- Wed., Sep 22 – Parent Seminar I (7:00 p.m.)**
- Fri., Sep 24 – Seasonal Celebration (Red)**

## Kindergarten, Lower & Upper (Grades K to 8)



- Mon., Aug 30 – Teaching Staff Orientation Begins**
- Tue., Sep 7 – First Day Of 1999-2000 School Year**
- Wed., Sep 8 – General Parents' Meeting (7:00 p.m.)**
- Tue., Sep 21– Kwame Nkrumah Birthday Observance**
- Wed., Sep 22 – Parent Seminar I (7:00 p.m.)**
- Fri., Sep 24 – Seasonal Celebration (Red)**
- Wed., Sep 29 – Parent Seminar II (7:00 p.m.)**

“Learning is making decisions and acting upon them.”

ASA HILLIARD