

Investing in leaders, changing the status quo.



AT A GLANCE

Nearly all Daraja students were in the top tier of their primary schools

Students “pay” for their time at the academy through performing 30 hours of community service each year

100% of teachers are Kenyan with higher educational degrees. School maintains a 1:13 ratio of teachers to students.

The academy has partnered with GROOTS, a globally renowned grassroots female leadership program, to implement a leadership curriculum.

98% of students move to the next grade level each year

Average annual nomadic family income: \$100-\$300. Average cost of one year in high school in Kenya: \$500. Annual cost of quality secondary education at Daraja Academy: \$2,500.



The mission of Daraja Academy is to provide a quality secondary education to exceptional Kenyan girls because we believe educated girls can transcend poverty and change the world.

Student Population Breakdown in Kenya

Primary School	9,425,390
High School	1,796,467

There is an 80% student dropout rate from primary school to high school in Kenya. Compound that with the fact that the girls come from challenging home and regional circumstances, and it makes graduating from high school for this group nothing short of a miracle. It also makes educating them that much more powerful in shifting the global landscape.

Daraja



Nike's Girl Effect selected Daraja Academy as an official 2012 partner, recognizing the organization as one of the most effective and innovative initiatives conquering gender inequality in the world.



Yahoo! grant has provided internet for campus computer labs.



ActionAid, a large int'l NGO, brings over 300+ volunteers per year to campus as part of the cross cultural education program.

Contact us at info@daraja-academy.org or visit www.daraja-academy.org. P.O. Box 1507 - 10400, Nanyuki, Kenya

“GIRLS OF DARAJA” AMASSES MEDIA ATTENTION

LIGHTS. CAMERA. HELP. FILM FESTIVAL “BEST SHORT FILM”

“Girls of Daraja” wins best short film at the world’s first film festival celebrating nonprofit and cause-related films.

THE HUFFINGTON POST “HOW TO BECOME AN ACTIVIST”

The power of videos such as “Girls of Daraja” to spread the message of socially progressive institutions and inspire activism is highlighted.

THE NATION “NATION READERS’ TOP TEN VIDEOS”

Readers of The Nation, America’s widest read journal of news and political thought, voted “Girls of Daraja” as an inspirational video that deserves wider attention.

THE PHILANTHROPIST “FUND-RAISING VIDEOS THAT WORK”

The success of the organization’s fundraising strategies centered around “Girls of Daraja” is profiled.

THE GIRL EFFECT

The Girl Effect, a UN-backed international campaign to encourage investment in girls to reduce poverty, featured the film in their social media & the video received 1,100 hits in 2 days.



not your typical school

Our innovative educational model provides students a way to channel their brilliance and intellectual growth. In addition to a demanding academic curriculum, the school instills:

women’s empowerment

- Women of Integrity, Strength and Hope (WISH) class: This class focuses on empowering girls who have been impacted by issues including domestic/sexual abuse, being orphaned by AIDS or the to pressure to marry early. The course also focuses on key preventative measures such as sex education. WISH works to encourage girls to share their stories and rebuild their sense of inner self-worth.
- Grassroots Girls Club: Students work with local communities on projects focused on everything from environmentalism to women’s business issues to volunteerism.

cross-cultural education

- Tribal Diversity: In a country with a history of tribal violence, Daraja makes a point of accepting girls from various tribes in order to build bridges and break misconceptions.
- Global Relationships: To familiarize the girls with other cultures and generate a global perspective, the academy welcomes international visitors who eat meals, host workshops and participate in activities with the students.

social and environmental responsibility

- Local Student Enrollment and Employment: The academy makes a point of enrolling students and employees from the community.
- Permaculture Methods: Due to growing environmental issues such as deforestation, sustainable methods such as composting, bee keeping, agroforestry and organic gardening are practiced.

personal and career development

- Counseling: Students see counselors to manage emotional issues that accompany difficult home life situations, allowing them to stay focused in school.
- Transition Program: Students are taught practical skills to effectively bridge the gap between their high school experience and university, jobs or entrepreneurial endeavors.



TOP-RATED

NONPROFIT 2012

“PERSEVERANCE SHOWS SOCIETY THAT WE DON’T GIVE UP...THAT WE ARE CAPABLE OF DOING THINGS THEY THINK WE CAN’T DO.” - MERCY, 17

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