

AFRICAN
SPLENDOUR

Dear friends,

We recently won our tenth first-place *Travel+Leisure* award for World's Best Safari Outfitter (I'm proud to say that no other company has more than three wins), but among all our many accolades, perhaps the most heartening is also from *Travel+Leisure*: "The Pintos treat their guests like well-loved, out-of-town relatives."

Micato's dedication to expert, familial service is the legacy of our founders, my parents Felix and Jane. Their willingness to go many extra miles to ensure that a Micato safari is the trip of a lifetime—as it is for so many of our guests—was the rock on which Felix and Jane built our family-owned, family-operated company and remains our guiding principle today. It is also why every member of the Micato team will become your welcoming family—from the Safari Director who will be with you from touchdown to takeoff, to our large staffs in the U.S. and East and Southern Africa.

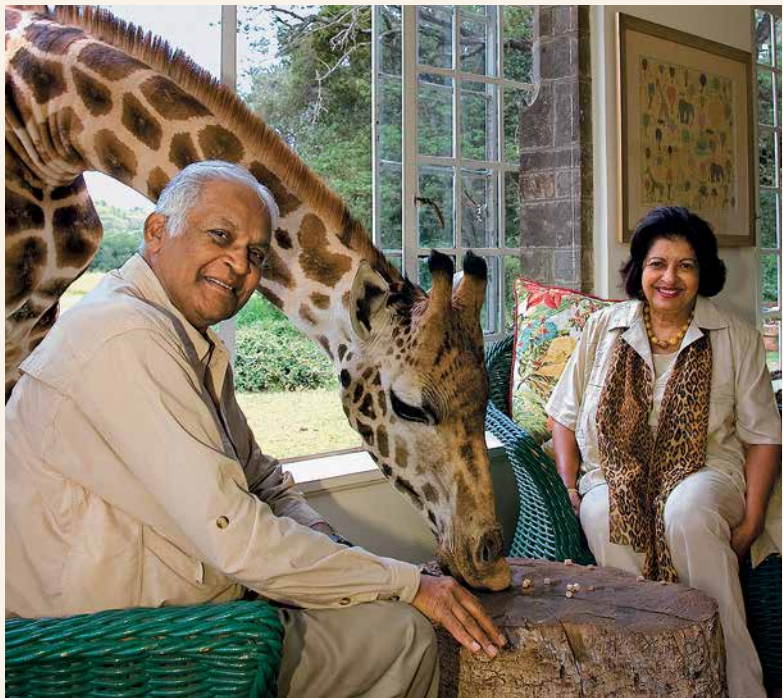
And so, I hope you'll enjoy an armchair safari with this brochure, and that you'll consider joining us for hilltop sundowners overlooking the guileless and gorgeous African game lands.

We'll clink our glasses in celebration of the safari life Isak Dinesen said "makes you forget all your sorrows and feel as if you had drunk half a bottle of champagne—bubbling over with heartfelt gratitude for being alive."

Sincerely,



Dennis Pinto
Managing Director



Micato founders Felix and Jane Pinto, with a friend, in Nairobi



Your Safari Team in the Bush

Safari Directors: Guides, Helpers, Friends

And they're with you every step of the way. Safari Directors meet you upon landing in Africa and are with you until the moment you depart, always nearby and on prompt call around the clock—not just during business hours.

In addition to a thorough education in the theory and on-the-savannah practice of our state-of-the-science safety protocols, every Micato Safari Director in Kenya has earned prestigious Gold or Silver certifications from the Kenya Professional Safari Guides Association. Seasoned professionals, most of whom have been with us their entire

careers, graduates of Kenya Utalii College or Tanzania's College of Wildlife Management, they're creative choreographers of safari: guiding flexible, always-on-the-lookout forays into the bush, lecturing on flora and fauna, deftly handling logistics, and imparting fascinating nuggets of African history and local folklore. They will also become dear friends.

And the same highest standards and credentials—and affable, unstinting service—apply to Micato Safari Directors in all the East and Southern African countries in which we safari.

From the minute we stepped off the airplane in Nairobi, to the moment we said good-bye to our Safari Director, the trip far exceeded our expectations. He delighted us with his enthusiasm, his knowledge and love for the animals. He gracefully took care of all travel needs—airport check-ins, boarding passes, border crossings, hotel check-in/out, many wonderful surprises, and overall hand holding. Elisabeth Brown





*The Pintos treat
their guests like
well-loved, out-
of-town relatives.*

Travel+Leisure

The Many Micato Differences

How does a safari company amaze and excel for 60 years? By a cheerfully relentless dedication to service and innovation. With painstaking discernment, profound expertise, and the generosity of spirit that arises from a family's bedrock commitment to hospitality.

- *Travel+Leisure* has named us #1 World's Best Safari Outfitter ten times. No other company comes remotely close.
- Exclusive access to people, places, and experiences available only through the Pinto family's longtime connections.
- Itineraries perfected by our large in-country staff's generations of experience and the generational knowledge that comes from living in Africa.
- Luxurious camps and lodges—obsessively, continually curated.
- Safari Directors—all Silver and Gold certified—accompany every safari from beginning to end.
- A wonder-working Concierge Team, at your beck and call every moment of the day and night.
- All tips included, even to Safari Directors and Driver Guides. All meals included. And we unhesitatingly pick up the tab for meals in any local restaurant on all Custom Safaris.
- At mealtimes, regional wines, beer, and bottled water are included. In Southern Africa, spirits are often included, too.
- Free valet laundry service, everywhere, every day (and complimentary, custom-designed luggage to put it in).
- Small-group, boutique safaris of fewer than 18 travellers, and only 12 in Southern Africa.
- 100% guaranteed departures on our scheduled Classic Safaris, even for parties of two.
- The finest, well-stocked safari vehicles, Wi-Fi equipped, with guaranteed window seats for all.
- Surprises. We're famous for them. You'll be amazed.
- And—this could well be at the top of the list—we pay for an African child's education for every safari we sell.



A Typical Day on Safari

Early Morning Game Drive

The sun rises early and eagerly on the savannahs, and after some tea, coffee, and pre-breakfast snacks, we and our Safari Director hop into our uniquely designed safari vehicles for an exploration of what the great lover of Africa Peter Beard called “a paradise caressed by light and air in their most special forms.”

The multitude of free-ranging animals, going about their ancient and immediate business, untroubled by our presence, is astounding. Our Safari Director knows the hangouts and comings and goings of the animals, where that big lion pride is getting ready to go to work, the daily routes of the elephant clans, the two cheetah siblings who’re having a territorial dispute with a grumpy leopard.

Back at the lodge, we tuck into an English-style breakfast, or perhaps we enjoy an acacia-shaded picnic in the bush.



At the Lodge

One of safari’s subtle charms is the opportunity to mix the excitements of game drives with the pleasures of relaxation—by the lodge’s pool, reading that book we don’t have time for at home on the veranda of our tent, taking a comfy nap, or, if we’re in

an active mood, choosing from one

of the many activities our Safari Director will brief us on and arrange (and which vary from camp to camp): guided mountain biking; jogging with a Maasai, or taking a specially-arranged helicopter jaunt over the game lands.



Afternoon Game Drive and Sundowners

After a festive lunch, with talk of sightings and amazements (high on the list of safari surprises: the fresh and tasty food), we take an afternoon game drive, on the lookout for what seems a never-ending cavalcade of magnificent animals found nowhere else on earth. And as the sun lowers, we’ll suddenly come across a serene clearing or a hilltop overlooking guileless infinity, and enjoy classic sundowner cocktails and snacks before heading back to a lovely dinner at camp and some time around the campfire before heading off to bed.

Flying Over Africa

You may remember—it's hard to forget—the scene in the film version of *Out of Africa* when Denys Finch Hatton (played by Robert Redford) lands his Gipsy Moth near Karen Blixen's (Meryl Streep's) farm. She rushes out to the spiffy little biplane, and Finch Hatton doesn't take off his flying goggles, he barely throttles back his engine, he just says, "Get in," and thus begins one of cinema's great moments: a heart-firing poem of a swooping flight over the incomparably eloquent landscapes of East Africa.*

Isak Dinesen, Blixen's nom de plume, remembered her many African flights as "the most transporting pleasure of my life. . . . Every time I have gone up in an aeroplane and looking down have realized that I was free of the ground, I have had the consciousness of a great new discovery. 'I see,' I have thought, 'This was the idea. And now I understand everything.'"

It's as true today as it was in the 1920s: flying low and easily over the continent in small planes is a

matchlessly intimate way to appreciate its subtle and dramatic colours, its tectonic dramas, and its cavalcade of creatures. We fly over villages, waving to their residents, and in a few moments, we're on the ground, shaking their hands. One of our guests said it well: "For me, flying over Africa is about as *flying* as flying gets."

Our Custom Safaris offer as many flights as your personalized itinerary calls for, and we—and our guests over the years—think the flights that link lodges and camps on our Classic Safaris (six on *The Micato Grand Safari*, for instance, and five on *The Hemingway Wing*) are safari highlights, airy dalliances with Africa's incomparable landscapes.

* Before she climbs into the plane, Blixen asks Finch Hatton, "When did you learn to fly?" And he answers with a Redfordian grin, "Yesterday." Rest assured our pilots have hundreds upon hundreds of times more experience than that—and many of them have movie-star smiles. (As for the practicalities—and Micato-exclusive 44lb baggage allowance—on bush flights.



THE WORLD'S Most Awarded SAFARI COMPANY

**TRAVEL+
LEISURE**

World's Best
Value Winner

**TRAVEL+
LEISURE**

Trips of
a Lifetime

**PORTRHOLE
CRUISE MAGAZINE**

Best African Safari
Tour Operator



Legacy in Travel
Philanthropy Award

**TRAVEL+
LEISURE**

Global Vision Award

Development, Youth Education
Micato One for One
Commitment



Best Tour Operator
Africa / Middle East

**WORLD
TOURISM
AWARD**

Micato-AmericaShare

For philanthropic
work that has
improved many
thousands of lives



Virtuoso Winner

Best Sustainable Leadership
Best VAST (Active) Operator
Best Escorted Tour Operator
Best Destinations & Experiences
Custom Tour Partner
Family and Celebration Partner
Virtuoso Performance Award
Luminary Award Winner

**1,000
PLACES
TO SEE
BEFORE
YOU DIE**

#1 New York Times
Travel Guide
Preferred East Africa

Sorry for the fine print, but here are some other Micato Awards and Accolades:

Luxury Lifestyle Award: Top 100 Travel Agencies & Tour Operators of the World • Shorty Global Impact Award for Fighting Poverty:
Huru International Global Travel Collection, Best Community Involvement • World Tourism Award • 73-Time Winner, Travel Weekly Magellan
Awards, including Gold for Best Tour Operator, Best Education Program, Best Giving Back Initiative, Best Social Media, Best Consumer Brochure,
Best Marketing Campaign, Best Direct Mail, and Best Trade Website Travvy Award: Gold, Best Escorted Tour Operator, Africa and Silver, Best
Escorted Tour Operator, Adventure • Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International's (HSMIA) Adrian Awards: Leadership in Corporate
Social Responsibility; Gold, Best Trade Brochure and Best Consumer Brochure, multiple years; HSMIA and National Geographic Traveler Gold
Winner, Leader in Sustainable Tourism • Ubuntu Tourism Award • Travel Weekly's World Travel Market Global Award • Tanzania Tourist Board
Cruise Development Award • TORCH (Together Our Resources Can Help) Inspiration Award, to Lorna Macleod, head of Micato-AmericaShare
William D. Littleford Award for Corporate Community Service Travel Agent magazine's Tour Operator of the Year: Leaders in Luxury — Dennis Pinto
LuxuryLink.com's World's Best Luxury Tour Company National Geographic 50 Tours of a Lifetime

AFRICAN SPLENDOUR

South Africa's Cape Town ▪ Zambia and Zimbabwe's Victoria Falls
Kenya's Maasai Mara ▪ Tanzania's Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater & Lake Manyara

17 days door-to-door | Includes days en route to/from Cape Town and Nairobi

*Feeling the cool wind of the night and smelling
the good smell of Africa, I was altogether happy.*

Isak Dinesen, *Out of Africa*

We're not sure why, but great journeys often involve great contrasts. *African Splendour* is a case in point.

We range through 34 degrees of latitude and four countries, but, most engagingly and contrastingly, we experience the diverse excitements of Cape Town's urban and scenic pizzazz, the watery colossus of Victoria Falls, and the wondrous game lands of the Serengeti-Maasai Mara ecosystem, where the wandering rains compel the planet's most momentous movement of big, interesting mammals. (And then there's the Ngorongoro Crater, which really can't be contrasted with any other place, because there really isn't any other place remotely like it, at least on our home planet.)



DAY 1 Depart home

DAYS 2-4 Cape Town and environs

After a late afternoon or early evening arrival in South Africa's second-largest and most scenic and snazzy city, we'll settle into Cape Town's grande dame hotel, the pink, very pretty, much-loved **Mount Nelson**. Nelly, as it's affectionately known, lies in the centre of City Bowl, the rocky amphitheatre that embraces Cape Town. During our two full days we'll make a massively scenic excursion to the Constantia Winelands for tastings and lunch—with a heartlifting visit to Micato-AmericaShare's Red Hill Library and Community Centre. We'll visit Cape Point Nature Reserve and the Cape of Good Hope (a dramatic point around which the world's history once spun), take a private tour of the world wondrous Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden, and ride the Aerial Cableway to Table Mountain's stroll-inviting flat top—which has more plant species than the entire United Kingdom—a World Heritage site that is centre stage in Cape Town's amazing natural and human extravaganza.



DAYS 5 & 6 Victoria Falls

A lovely flight northward via Johannesburg delivers us to Victoria Falls, Mosi-oa-Tunya, "The Smoke That Thunders," not the highest or the widest but the world's grandest and most booming waterfall, a large lakesworth of water flinging itself 360 feet straight down every minute of every day, right before our delighted eyes.*

We have a couple of days to appreciate the Falls, cruising on the Zambezi River, watching elephants and giraffes. We'll helicopter over the Falls on the Flight of Angels, and we'll wander from one misty vantage point to another, returning for sustenance and leisure to our stately **Victoria Falls Hotel** in Zimbabwe, within walking distance of the world wonder.

* He had been intrigued by their towers of mist from many miles away, and when David Livingstone, the first Westerner to see the Falls, finally reached them in November 1865, he was so moved that for the only time in his 32 years in Africa, he "vandalized" nature by carving his initials on a tree, as if to verify to himself that he had actually seen such as sight as Victoria Falls.

DAY 7 Nairobi

We fly northeast from Zimbabwe and Victoria Falls to Nairobi and **Hemingways**, a quietly ravishing haven for lovers of old-style panache mixed with modern amenities and great cuisine, wonderfully set in the lush suburb of Karen.

DAYS 8-10 The Maasai Mara

We fly west from Nairobi to the Maasai Mara, the northern, more verdant section of the single most salubrious wildlife habitat on this or any known planet, the Serengeti-Maasai Mara ecosystem.

Game drives in the Mara are especially fruitful....Our Mara headquarters is Sir Richard Branson's **Mahali Mzuri**, whose innovatively designed, yet very African tents "resemble the tents of our youth like a Gulfstream G650 resembles a Piper Cub," as we said a while back. Mahali Mzuri is auspiciously set next to one of the Mara's prime migration pathways.





DAYS 11 & 12 The Serengeti

Now — these are thrilling safari words! — into the Serengeti, amazing in its enormity, its almost infinite skies and long, golden reaches, its million-year quiet.

We'll make far-ranging game drives on the great plain and in its riverine forests, based from the stunningly deluxe **Four Seasons Safari Lodge Serengeti**, set on rocky bluffs, giving us vast, endlessly stimulating views.



DAYS 13-15 Lake Manyara and the Ngorongoro Crater

A typically spectacular flight and pleasant drive deliver us to **The Manor at Ngorongoro**, a marvelous 10-cottage, 20-suite retreat set within a 1,500-acre Arabica coffee estate adjacent to the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. Those of us who began **African Splendour** in South Africa will recognize the Manor's elegant Cape Dutch style; those who haven't will simply be charmed. Our three nights at the Manor are a rare idyll. We'll enjoy a restful afternoon (or a very active one; the Manor offers horsebacking, mountain biking, swimming in the Manor's pool, and estate walks, among other enjoyments), before a classic high tea and dinner in the private dining room or wine cellar.

And the next day we visit one of the earth's natural masterpieces. We've got a lot of affection for Ngorongoro, and here's the essence of the crater's tremendous charisma: 25,000 or so large and very viewable mammals — from apex predators to galumphing hippos — inhabit the crater's 100-square-mile floor, and zigzagging up the old volcano's forested wall to its rim, and gazing for the first or fifth time at the lush lands and their

inhabitants in the crater below, is a great moment in any traveller's life.

We'll descend to the crater and excitedly roam from morning to afternoon, stopping at mid-day for a charmingly luxurious bush lunch, before heading back to a serene evening at the Manor.

Your Safari Director will discuss with you a variety of individualized activity choices at every safari location.

Now we encounter Lake Manyara. Africa is blessed with epic lakes (Tanganyika is the world's second deepest; all the Rift Lakes are gigantic stunners), but many, including Ernest Hemingway, consider the smaller gem of Lake Manyara—with its diamond-white alkali rim, its

million or so coral-coloured flamingos, and the deep sapphire waters at its centre—the loveliest of all. After a relaxed (or active) morning at the



Manor, we'll embark on a fine afternoon of game viewing around the lake (many tree-climbing lions frequent Manyara's Africa-embodying scrublands, mahogany forests, and bird-thronged marshlands). And after cocktails and canapés in the bush, we head back to the Manor for a final night before regretfully getting ready to head home.

DAYS 16 & 17 Depart, arriving home Day 17

After flying back to Nairobi, we'll relax in a full-service, meals-included day room at the **Four Points Nairobi Airport**, have a quiet dinner, and head out with our Safari Director to nearby Jomo Kenyatta Airport for our late evening flights home.

Words are not adequate to describe the genuine attention to detail, down to the small gifts on the bed at night. Awaiting us on Valentine's Day was a pack of heart-shaped homemade cookies. That's class!

Leo P. Lavellee





Make Your Safari a Private Classic

African Splendour can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your friends or family group's own Safari Director, private vehicles, with the freedom to set your own schedules, to enjoy private meals in the bush, and many etceteras.

2027 Dates

Door-to-door from home, including days en route
Departs Saturday to Monday | Every date is a guaranteed departure

Jan. 02 – Jan. 18	May 22 – June 07	Aug. 07 – Aug. 23	Oct. 23 – Nov. 08
Jan. 09 – Jan. 25	May 29 – June 14	Aug. 14 – Aug. 30	Oct. 30 – Nov. 15
Jan. 16 – Feb. 01	June 05 – June 21	Aug. 21 – Sept. 06	Nov. 06 – Nov. 22
Jan. 23 – Feb. 08	June 12 – June 28	Aug. 28 – Sept. 13	Nov. 13 – Nov. 29
Jan. 30 – Feb. 15	June 19 – July 05	Sept. 04 – Sept. 20	Nov. 20 – Dec. 06
Feb. 06 – Feb. 22	June 26 – July 12	Sept. 11 – Sept. 27	Nov. 27 – Dec. 13
Feb. 13 – Mar. 01	July 03 – July 19	Sept. 18 – Oct. 04	Dec. 04 – Dec. 20
Feb. 20 – Mar. 08	July 10 – July 26	Sept. 25 – Oct. 11	Dec. 11 – Dec. 27
Feb. 27 – Mar. 15	July 17 – Aug. 02	Oct. 02 – Oct. 18	Dec. 18 – Jan. 03
Mar. 06 – Mar. 22	July 24 – Aug. 09	Oct. 09 – Oct. 25	Dec. 25 – Jan. 10
May 15 – May 31	July 31 – Aug. 16	Oct. 16 – Nov. 01	

2027 Rates

Land arrangements, per person

	Nov, Jan-May	June-October	December
Double Occupancy	\$42,250	\$47,750	\$49,750
Single Supplement	10,450	12,450	11,950
Internal Flights	6,550	7,150	7,450

(Cape Town / Johannesburg / Victoria Falls / Livingstone / Nairobi / Maasai Mara / Serengeti / Lake Manyara: Lake Manyara / Nairobi) Connections may apply.

2028 Dates

Door-to-door from home, including days en route
Departs Saturday to Monday | New rates and dates may apply

Jan. 01 – Jan. 17	May 20 – June 05	Aug. 05 – Aug. 21	Oct. 21 – Nov. 06
Jan. 08 – Jan. 24	May 27 – June 12	Aug. 12 – Aug. 28	Oct. 28 – Nov. 13
Jan. 15 – Jan. 31	June 03 – June 19	Aug. 19 – Sept. 04	Nov. 04 – Nov. 20
Jan. 22 – Feb. 07	June 10 – June 26	Aug. 26 – Sept. 11	Nov. 11 – Nov. 27
Jan. 29 – Feb. 14	June 17 – July 03	Sept. 02 – Sept. 18	Nov. 18 – Dec. 04
Feb. 05 – Feb. 21	June 24 – July 10	Sept. 09 – Sept. 25	Nov. 25 – Dec. 11
Feb. 12 – Feb. 28	July 01 – July 17	Sept. 16 – Oct. 02	Dec. 02 – Dec. 18
Feb. 19 – Mar. 06	July 08 – July 24	Sept. 23 – Oct. 09	Dec. 09 – Dec. 25
Feb. 26 – Mar. 13	July 15 – July 31	Sept. 30 – Oct. 16	Dec. 16 – Jan. 01
Mar. 04 – Mar. 20	July 22 – Aug. 07	Oct. 07 – Oct. 23	Dec. 23 – Jan. 08
May 13 – May 29	July 29 – Aug. 14	Oct. 14 – Oct. 30	

The Micato One For One Commitment

*For Every Guest on
Safari We Send a
Child to School*

*Education is the most powerful weapon
which you can use to change the world.*

Nelson Mandela

Hundreds of thousands of Kenyan children don't attend school because their families are too poor to pay even the most nominal school fees. In principle, primary education is free in Kenya, but myriad fees often put it beyond reach: parents are obliged to buy their child's desk; to pay for term exams, the wood for cooking fires, and a portion of the cooks' salaries. Then there are schoolbooks, uniforms, writing supplies, and notebooks.

All this adds up to many, many thousands of eager and worthy children staying at home.



The Micato One for One Commitment

For over 40 years, Micato-AmericaShare has been a passionate advocate for East African children and their families. Under the Micato One for One Commitment, simply by signing up for a Micato safari, every guest on every safari sends a child to school — year after year.

Thousands of Kenyan children are able to attend school thanks to our guests who join us in this commitment. Every child deserves an education, and we're overjoyed to be contributing to this unalienable right.

Micato-AmericaShare

For over 40 years — Micato's tribute to our birth continent has been our nonprofit, Micato-AmericaShare. In the next six pages we'll tell you what AmericaShare does, but first, here's why:

It all began with one little boy, going from person to person in a Nairobi shopping centre with a note from his school headmaster. The note said that he was an orphan and needed to raise 700 shillings for a school uniform before he could come to class. He had only collected 100 shillings. The boy approached Micato's Lorna Macleod. She read the note and handed him the 600 shillings — the equivalent of \$15. Tears running down his face, the boy stood there for a moment, said "God bless you," and dashed away.

At that moment Lorna realized that Micato was an ideal bridge between some of the poorest people on the planet, and some of the wealthiest, our travellers. So we gave that bridge a name: AmericaShare, and have been helping to change lives for the better ever since.

School Sponsorship

It's not unusual for inspired safari guests to decide on the spot (or back home for that matter) to sponsor a child to attend a carefully vetted boarding school, and our School Scholarship Programme provides every resource necessary for many hundreds of children to graduate high school (and beyond, if the spirit is willing). Sponsors and students are kept in touch by letters, deep relationships are built, and many lives are changed. As one of our sponsors wrote, "You start out writing a check, but what you get back is the joy of seeing the impact, the happiness. Our sponsee George, getting ready to attend university, is a joyous human being."

The Harambee Centre

The heart of Micato-AmericaShare's Kenya operation is Harambee Centre, a multi-building oasis of calm and purpose in the midst of Mukuru, one of Nairobi's largest informal settlements (the word slum doesn't do justice to the stubborn hope and vitality of those settlements). Harambee Centre serves Mukuru—where a staggering 60,000 children are unable to attend school—with a Community Centre; a beautiful 30,000-volume library (with more than 60,000 yearly visitors); a secondary, specialized library; and a Computer Centre with more than 120 computers, laptops, and tablets and a 12-week programme in digital skills training.

The Red Hill Library and Community Centre

AmericaShare's Red Hill Library and Community Centre, on the seaward side of the glorious Old Cape Road, south of Cape Town, is joyful place considering it's a town with a single part-time clinic, 37 per cent unemployment, and no school for its more than 2,000 school-age kids, who, if they attend school, have to take long bus rides to state schools in the vicinity.

Red Hill's bright, cheery library is staffed with trained librarians, a computer centre, and a welcoming community meeting place. Its Literacy and Numeracy Programme meets for 3 ½ hours daily, kids are taught basic and advanced computer skills on its expanding bank of computers, and its beautiful, ocean-view Umbono Wempunelelo—View to Success Deck—has become an integral part of Red Hill's commitment to meeting the needs of young, energetic minds by engaging the kids in outdoor learning activities.

Learn More

At our website, AmericaShare.org, or email us at Inquiries@AmericaShare.org.

5 to 1

The number of students in many Kenya public schools who share a single textbook

\$10

The average cost of a textbook in Kenya

1 Million

The number of Mukuru resident visits to Harambee Centre Library and computer centre



8X Higher

The likelihood a child in the Sponsorship Programme will go on to college, compared to the national Kenyan average

200,000

The number of computer sessions to date



Huru Means Freedom

African girls who can't afford sanitary pads very often avoid school during their periods, losing as much as an entire month each school year. The consequences are significant: girls who miss school or work fall behind, drop out or quit, perpetuating a grim cycle of poverty and gender inequality.

Micato is a major donor and proud supporter of Huru, founded in 2008 by AmericaShare's co-founder Lorna Macleod. Huru manufactures reusable sanitary pads—more than 2,700,000 to date—which have been distributed in free Huru Kits to more than 450,000 girls in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda.

Huru Kits have proven to be a simple, sustainable, and wonderfully practical way to alleviate this world-wide problem.

Each Huru Kit consists of a colourful drawstring backpack with six reusable pads; two pairs of underwear; detergent-grade soap for washing pads; two resealable waterproof bags for safe storage of used pads; and educational materials on life skills.

All Huru pads are locally produced by women and men from underserved communities, and are designed for the resilient girls and women who use them. Each pad lasts a minimum of 24 months, making them a cost-effective and environmentally friendly alternative to expensive disposables.

Since Huru pads came we are comfortable and we do not feel left out. We are able to attend classes without fear or shame. It brings so much joy to know there are people on earth living far away from you who can rescue you.

Charity, age 16

450,000+

The number of girls who have received Huru Kits throughout East Africa

2.7 Million+

The number of Huru Reusable Sanitary Pads produced to date

24 Months

The minimum number of months each Huru Pad lasts

The crucial and heartening bottom line: Huru Kits have saved girls upward of 32,400,000 school days that otherwise would have been lost. Independent evaluation shows that girls who receive Huru Kits are three times less likely to miss school during their periods.

Huru also leverages its extensive network to reach girls most in need, through its menstruation and reproductive health app, and by sending Huru teams to schools, rescue centres, and community hubs, distributing essential supplies and providing vital education to girls and young women, not only about menstruation, but sexual hygiene and awareness.

Almost 900,000 girls have benefited from those distributions and education sessions, and the much-visited app.

Learn More

About Huru's important and effective work. And about its highly successful Skills Development Program, a targeted, practical programme that addresses East Africa's huge problem of youth unemployment, which disproportionately impacts girls; 65 per cent of the Skills Development Program's trainees have no income whatsoever. Huru's informative website is accessible 525,600 minutes a year at HuruInternational.org.

We educate women because it is smart. We educate women because it changes the world.

Drew Gilpin Faust, first female president of Harvard University





My Ambitions Were Given a Chance to Shine

Micato-AmericaShare and Huru Success Stories

From *The New York Times*

Not long ago, Pulitzer Prize-winner Nicholas Kristof and journalist Trisha Mukherjee travelled to Africa. The result: “The Shame That Keeps Millions of Girls Out of School,” a *Times* op-ed column in which Mukherjee writes: In Nairobi’s bustling settlement of Mukuru, Celestine Wanza, 18, used to tear off a piece of her mattress to use as a pad, a workaround common in Kenya. Ms. Wanza is charming, sharp and quick to speak up when her classmates are shy — the kind of student any

teacher would want. For years, she stayed home while menstruating. But once she had to attend school for an exam. Blood seeped through the cloth shred and onto her clothes, sending her running home. That day, Ms. Wanza decided she had had enough. Asking around, she learned of Huru International, a non-profit that provides free kits of six thick, washable pads, along with panties, instructions and an odor-proof storage bag for when water is scarce. When I ask whether she still misses school because of her period—even one day a month — she proudly shakes her head no.

This collaboration with Micato-AmericaShare has brought light to our community. Scholars are able to do their homework and research in the library, which provides a great environment for their education and homework clubs. The Forum is also benefitting from having a productive space in which to meet. This project has uplifted the entire community by making resources available to everybody.

Luyando Lombo, Red Hill Development Forum member

From Scholarship Sponsors

Caroline Wainaina [who was in university when this was written] has been our “adopted daughter” for six years now. The depth of her thankfulness, her gratitude and joy are sustaining for both of us, but we don’t want to take credit. All we did was give her some financial stability to use her considerable talents to shine. If truth be told, her success is really all about her, not us. We feel so lucky to be part of her life.

Juliet Walters

I am fortunate to sponsor two children, Evalyne Lucinda, and Dennis Mburu. It was their letters that really made me feel connected to them. Their personalities shone. People would be surprised by the effect that being a sponsor has on one’s daily life. I want to thank them for adding to my life, and for widening my perspective.

Albert Herrera

Irene [Nduta Njuki] had been living in a ghetto with her grandmother and uncle. She is very bright and loves academics, so going to a boarding school offers her protection, good medical attention, direction, and most of all, hope. I want Irene in my family’s life. Her example is one of overcoming adversity and pressing on to succeed. It is women like her who will change the world.

Bonnie Scripps

From Micato-AmericaShare Scholarship Students

I am proud to say that Micato-AmericaShare has been nothing but a blessing to me.... Later this year I will begin my studies at Nairobi’s Multimedia University. If it were not for Micato-AmericaShare I surely could not have had a future to dream about. My ambitions were given a chance to shine.

Edwin Odwori

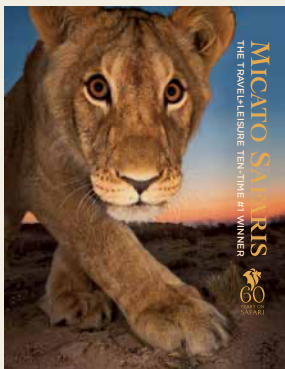
My mother died when I was two years old and my father died a year later. I lived with my Aunty in Nairobi, but she had seven children of her own and couldn’t afford to pay for my school fees, but I somehow got by. In the sixth grade, Micato-AmericaShare came looking for children from needy backgrounds, and I was enrolled in a boarding school near Nairobi, with all the tuitions and school items I need thanks to AmericaShare....[After graduating from high school] in 2013, I entered the Bachelor Degree of Medicine program at the University of Nairobi, again with AmericaShare’s full support.

Dr. Justus Omondi Okeyo

(At the time of this writing Justus is a resident Obstetrician Gynecologist at Kenyatta National Hospital, Kenya’s largest teaching and referral hospital. He’s also pursuing, with Micato-AmericaShare support, a Master of Medicine in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Nairobi.)



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