

The Smith School of Business and Team Maryland is Changing the World, One Book at a Time

Smith Students, Alumni and Friends Raise Funds to Promote Youth Literacy in China

Students and alumni from the University of Maryland's Robert H. Smith School of Business are setting an example for social responsibility in China. The Smith Executive MBA program community in Shanghai successfully held the second annual Team Maryland Charity Fundraiser Dinner at the Shanghai Howard Johnson Zhangjiang Hotel on November 29, 2008 in support of The Library Project, a non-profit organization that provides books and libraries to schools and orphanages in remote or impoverished areas in China. The event raised more than 60,000RMB (USD8,800) which will be used to build approximately 10 libraries in Anhui province, Maryland's sister state.

Twenty-one companies, including platinum sponsors Under Armour, Black & Decker, W.R. Grace, Howard Johnson, The Children's Place, Jaguar, Land Rover and Microsoft donated products and services that were auctioned off at the charity event.

"We are extremely thankful for the support from Team Maryland and all the sponsors and donors who made contributions," said Tom Stader, founder of The Library Project. "The fact that we raised 35 percent more this year than last goes to show that even in a difficult financial environment giving to people in need still brings out the best in all of us. We look forward to working with the Smith School on the third annual event next year."

The donations for The Library Project will go toward books, furniture, supplies and librarians training that will substantially improve the education children receive at schools in Anhui province, Maryland's sister state in China. This supports The Library Project's ambitious goal of constructing and equipping more than 110 libraries for orphanages and elementary schools in rural China by 2008, and 350 libraries by 2010.

The second annual Team Maryland Charity Fundraiser Dinner



"I am really grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the Smith School's efforts to advance The Library Project," said Paul Mauerman, financial controller at Black & Decker Suzhou and a Smith EMBA program participant in China. "This is something that needs to get done."

"As China's economy grows it's important to ensure that all the nation's children have equal access to knowledge that will help them realize their dreams," said Theron Chen, market segment manager for food and personal care products at W.R. Grace Asia Pacific and a Smith School EMBA program participant. "As a member of the Smith School community in China, I am proud that the Smith School initiated this event and appreciative that W.R. Grace generously supported The Library Project with its donations."

The following day Team Maryland, which consisted of 150 runners including alumni and students from the Smith School's Executive MBA program in China, competed in the Shanghai International Marathon as part of the fundraiser.

Team Maryland Participate the 2008 Shanghai Marathon in Support of the Library Project



On April 10-11 2009, 15 volunteers made up of Smith students, alumni and friends traveled by overnight train to Taihe county, Fuyang city in Anhui Province for a two-day trip supporting the donation of two Library Project libraries. These were the libraries that were funded by the TEAM MARYLAND fundraising dinner last November 2008, and were named after the main donors, such as the Smith School, Under Armour, Black & Decker and W.R. Grace. By April 2009, 16 libraries sponsored by Team Maryland were established for elementary schools in Anhui Province.

The Smith School is continuously committed to providing opportunities for students to have an impact on the environment and humanity as well as to sharing resources that have a positive impact on China and China's development.

Volunteers from Team Maryland Helped to Build Libraries for Elementary Schools in Anhui





About the University of Maryland's Robert H. Smith School of Business in China

The Robert H. Smith School of Business is an internationally recognized leader in management education and research. One of 13 colleges and schools at the University of Maryland, College Park, the Smith School offers undergraduate, full-time and part-time MBA, executive MBA, executive MS, PhD and executive education programs, as well as outreach services to the corporate community. The school offers its degree, custom and certification programs in learning locations on three continents - North America, Europe and Asia. More information about the Robert H. Smith School of Business in China can be found at www.rhsmith-umd.cn

About Maryland Center China

Maryland Center was created in 1996 to develop commercial relationship between Maryland and China. Sponsored by the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED), in collaboration with private-sector members of the Maryland business community, Maryland Center represents the State of Maryland's interest in the expanding market of China. It has assisted over 300 Maryland firms and has achieved totaling over 200 million USD in export sales. Maryland Center has provided a wide range of export assistant services including China market analysis and customized research, distributor and agent location, project identification, bidding, negotiation, agreement and contract implementation. More information about Maryland Center China can be found at www.mccusa.org

TEAM MARYLAND CHARITY FUNDRAISING



One Book At a Time

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