

Nwagni (pronounced *wah nee*) means "education" in Sie'e, a Bantu language spoken in Batchingou, Cameroon.

The Nwagni Project was inspired in January 2006 when six Albion College seniors visited Batchingou, the hometown of their professor Dr. Emmanuel Yewah.

the Nwagni project

Spring 2010



The Batchingou school in 2006



The completed school, 2010

Greetings from the Nwagni Project!

My name is Abby Schonfeld, and I am the group's current president. We have done many exciting things this year, and I am very happy to share them all with you!

Last year, the elementary school that we funded in Batchingou, Cameroon, was finally completed! First and foremost, I want to thank you all for your support, both monetary and otherwise. We could not have done it without you, and I assure you that we appreciate you, the students of Batchingou appreciate you, and the entire village appreciates you! I was fortunate enough to be able to travel back to Cameroon this past January. We were actually able to see the school, and there was no better feeling than being able to walk through the classrooms and see the culmination of all our work. The most meaningful experience for me though had to be with the chief, as he graciously thanked us and asked us to pass his message along to everyone at home. Believe me when I say this: Batchingou, the Chief, and the children appreciate your support. The relationship we have begun to form is truly special, and I cherish and thank you all from the bottom of my heart. (Continued on back)

Contact us:

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Cameroon is a nation on the West African coast, home to 19 million people, over 200 ethnic groups, and richly diverse landscapes. The country is known for its native music and successful national soccer team. Compared to many other African nations, Cameroon enjoys relatively high political and social stability. However, there are still many problems to overcome. The Nwagni Project hopes to make strides in the vital areas of education and clean water access.

Now that we've achieved phase 1 of our mission, we are moving on to a new goal: providing clean, environmentally friendly and sustainable water to the school and the entire village of Batchingou. As it is now, children have to walk several miles to get water. We are also starting up a new pen-pal initiative between the children in Cameroon and the children in the Albion Public Schools system. We were able to take photos and letters from the children in Albion, bring them to the children in Batchingou, and bring letters from Cameroon back to Albion. I have never personally learned anything as much as I did from the letters; it was not only an incredible experience for all of the children, but for us as well. We wish to move away from simply giving to the community of Batchingou, instead focusing on bringing Albion and Batchingou closer together and creating a lasting relationship.

We have several events coming up this semester, and we would love to see you or hear from you! Feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, suggestions, or concerns.

Gratefully yours,
Abby Schonfeld



This plaque commemorating Nwagni's work was installed on the school.

Events this spring

April 12-16: Africa Week! Activities include a campus-wide soccer game and an awareness campaign.

April 15: African dinner in Tennant Hall, Albion, catered by Blue Nile restaurant

May 20: National Day in Cameroon

May 21: Sheep Festival in Cameroon