



# Seeds of Hope

Annual Report 2013

## A Letter from the President

**D**ear Friends of Seeds,  
It's always exciting to have the chance to tell you about what's new and what's happening at Seeds. The Seeds ministry recently marked its 22nd anniversary in Waco, and, on behalf of the Council of Stewards, I thank you for your continued support through the years.

In late 2013, the Council welcomed Jaclyn Jeffrey as a new steward. Jaclyn sought us out, which is a reversal of the usual trend. A retired cultural anthropologist, Jaclyn recently returned to Waco, her home town. She worked for 13 years at Texas A&M International University in Laredo, Texas, during which she conducted fieldwork in Spain and Mexico.



*Above: Cultural Anthropologist Jaclyn Jeffrey recently joined the Seeds Council of Stewards.*

Jaclyn says, "I have some time now, and I want to do something that is meaningful to me and can make the world a better place." In her spare time, Jaclyn enjoys painting and is exploring the style of medieval illumination.

We are also happy that the materials produced at Seeds continue to have an impact around the country, both among subscribers and on the interns that pass through the Seeds office:

- J.L. Drouhard, Director of Missions for the Archdiocese of Seattle, writes: "I want to let you know of a use of your resource 'It's all about the Feast,' and our continuing gratitude for the work you all do!" Mr. Drouhard used Seeds materials on the cover page of the Archdiocese's most recent newsletter.

- Marie Vogel, who works in the Office of Social Justice for the Christian Reformed Church in North America, in Grand Rapids, MI, writes: "Thank you for the Hunger Emphasis packet! We're always so impressed with the materials you produce."

Three student interns have enhanced the work of Seeds this year. The interns, who will introduce themselves on pages 2-3, made significant contributions in research and writing stories, as well as in assisting in the daily operational tasks

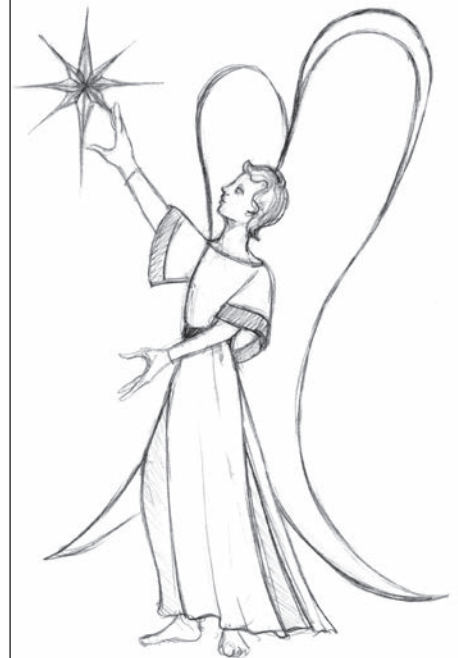
Please see "President" on page 3.

## What you'll find inside:

Pages 2 and 3—Bios and photos of Seeds interns and volunteers

Page 4—The 2013 Seeds budget

Page 4—A form that will help you sign up as a sustaining Seeds partner



Angel art (above)  
by Sally Lynn Askins;  
Seeds logo (above left)  
by Erin Kennedy Mayer

# Meet the Seeds Interns & Volunteers

**Jessica Foumena** completed a Masters of International Journalism (MIJ) degree at Baylor University in May of this year and is in Washington, DC, searching for a position in the nonprofit world. A native of Yaounde, Cameroon, she edits a blog and writes tirelessly about the empowerment of women in Africa.

During my Spring 2013 semester at Baylor, I completed an editorial internship at Seeds as part of my work for an MIJ degree from Baylor University. I had no idea how much fun and how educational my internship would be! I think I can



Above: Jessica Foumena with editor Katie Cook at a local charity event.

safely say this is my favorite internship of all time.

Katie Cook, my field supervisor, listened endlessly to my grandiose ideas about how I would go about changing the world when I graduated. She gave me the space and time needed to write articles on

poverty, hunger and my home continent of Africa. Throughout the process, I learned a great deal about all three. I felt so much smarter (!) after writing each article for Seeds, and very proud to know that my thoughts would be read by so many people.

I went with Katie on field trips in the Waco, TX, area, where I was able to put faces on what I knew about poverty and hunger in the US. I intend to provide whatever support I can to Seeds, always—including a story I am writing now for *Hunger News & Hope*, called “Africa Is Rich but Africans Are Poor.” I am grateful to all of the people at Seeds for a wonderful experience, and to Dr. Doug Ferdon in the Baylor Department of Journalism, Public Relations and New Media, for recommending this internship for me. ■

**Natalia Alas** just graduated as a Professional Writing and Psychology double major from Pearland, TX. She worked at Seeds as a Professional Writing intern during the fall of 2013.

I am a first generation college student. Both of my parents moved to the United States from El Salvador in their early twenties. Because of this, I was raised in a home that was rich with Spanish culture and I hope to one day become a bilingual Clinical Social Worker, working with low-income or disadvantaged Hispanic families, while researching and writing about some of the effects of poverty on mental health.

Through interning at Seeds of Hope, I felt that I was working towards causes that I feel passionate about, and I also became aware of social concerns that were new to me before coming here. I learned a lot about issues such as the rates of childhood obesity, programs being implemented for

homeless veterans and homeless students, and facts about hunger around the world.

At Seeds of Hope, not only did I get to read and write about a vast number of interesting current affairs related to hunger and poverty, but I also was able to write in a relaxed environment that allowed me to feel as though I was an important part of the publishing process. I had the opportunity to see each piece while it was in the editing process and before it was sent off to the printers.

In addition to this, I was also able to meet people who were also passionate about social issues and who actively advocate for the end of hunger, racism and homelessness. After just one semester of writing at Seeds, I have come to realize that words, along with passion, can spark change and movement throughout the community. ■

**Poplar Yuan** is from Changzhou, Jiangsu, China. She signed up for an internship for the Masters of International Journalism (MIJ) program at Baylor University. She met with the staff in the spring of 2013 and returned to China for the summer, where she conducted research for the articles she would write for *Hunger News & Hope* during the fall semester.

I am a student at Baylor University. Working at Seeds this semester has been full of fun and passion. I started working here with no experience in writing for a nonprofit publisher, and I didn't know how should I write and what I could write. I first started writing about NGOs in China, and it was more like an academic paper, focusing on statistics. However, I soon realized that my editor would give me the freedom to add more creativity and more of my own thinking to the article.

Since I am from China, my major topics are about China. My personal views and experience help me as I write. I'm trying to describe topics like China's real-estate bubble and the history of hunger in my country, in a way that all readers can understand. Writing about these problems is helping me to think more deeply about them. I didn't like writing before I started working here, but I love it now.

I am also learning about the process of publishing. We interns got to see how articles are edited, printed and reviewed before they come to the readers. We went to the printers with Katie to turn in publications, and they had some very old typewriters, one of the first Apple computers and a



Above: Natalia Alas (left) and Poplar Yuan worked together as interns for Seeds.

Please see “Interns & Volunteers” on page 3.

## President

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at Seeds. The dedication and skill of the interns make the production of Seeds editor and layout designer Katie Cook more efficient and less stressful. Without them, it would be difficult to continue our mission.

Interns come to Seeds for a brief period, yet their experience here makes a lasting impression on both them and the Seeds staff and council members.



*Above: A sample of 17-year-old Jesse Manning's Advent art.*

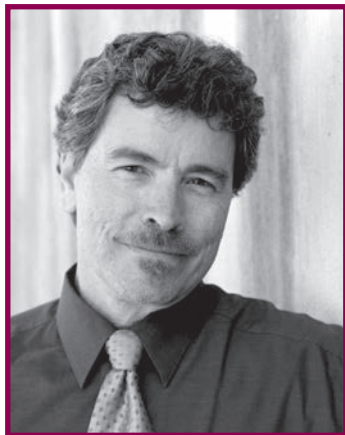
• *Christopher Bryan, a 1996 intern and currently an attorney in Aspen, CO, writes "Working at Seeds was one of the most life-affirming and life-changing experiences I have had.... It's not often that I*

*can say that I am a better person because of certain experiences. My internship at Seeds, however, is one of them."*

• *Elizabeth Walker, intern in 2002 and currently an editor in the Rio Grande valley, states, "Working at the Seeds of Hope taught me passion. It inspired me to turn rhetoric into action—not to simply write about peace and justice, but to live my life according to a heightened social consciousness. I know my soul was born again at Seeds of Hope. I know now my mission: with every fiber of my being, I wish to advocate for those too enfeebled and too impoverished to fight for themselves."*

• *In addition to a new cohort of interns, the current year also brought 17-year-old Jesse Manning to Seeds. Jesse was experiencing some upheaval in his personal life and was a temporary resident in Waco. We discovered that he can produce excellent art that adds profound meaning to our publications. He discovered an activity that could give him joy. Jesse's work is featured in the most recent Advent packet, and, even though he has moved away, he plans to contribute his art to future publications.*

Seeds cannot have this type of meaningful impact on the broader community without continued financial support. We have a couple of fundraisers planned for the next year—including a Chili Cook-off and Cupcake Throwdown in the spring, along with the sale of Seeds



*Above: Seeds Council President Michael Long.*

mugs and T-shirts, and a recipe book planned to come out next summer. Stay tuned for announcements and details about the fundraisers in the near future.

On the back page of this report, you will find a donation form. Please consider making a contribution to the Seeds ministry, so that the good work of raising awareness of hunger and poverty, in this country and around the world, can continue.

Respectfully yours,  
Michael Long, President  
Seeds Council of Stewards

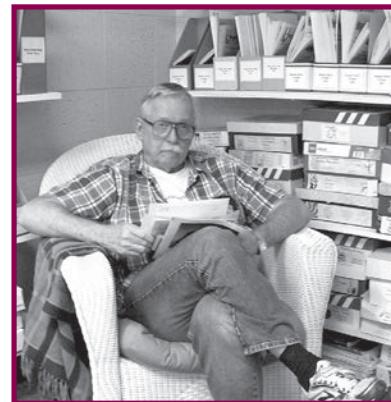
## Interns & Volunteers

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lead typesetting machine. It was like visiting a museum! On another field trip, we visited Caritas of Waco (a local assistance program) and the World Hunger Relief training farm. This was an opportunity for me to learn how nonprofits function.

When my internship was completed, I decided to volunteer for another semester—not only because it's a place where I can get more practice writing, but also because of the fun, the work environment and the thinking that come from this work. ■

**B**ill Hughes (right) has been our volunteer librarian since February 2010. He came to us from the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). He started by shelving and cataloguing 1,176 books, notebooks, videos and magazines. He then shelved and alphabetized more than 10 year's worth of



periodicals that we keep for reference. Once he finished that, he indexed and organized back issues of *Seeds Magazine* and *Sprouts* (1979-1998; 4,000 index entries), *Hunger News & Hope* (1999-2012; 706 entries) and *Sacred Seasons* (1999-2012; 1173 index entries). Then he organized and indexed all of the art that has been created for Seeds since the ministry moved to Texas—about 1,000 pieces. The only drawback about Bill's assignment here is that he keeps working himself out of a job! ■

## Seeds Wish List

- One gently used Mac computer with Intel Processor and 1 gigabyte of RAM
- Two copies or licenses of Creative Suite 6 for Mac
- Two copies or licenses for Microsoft Office 2011 for Mac
- One copy or license for Microsoft Office for PC

## Seeds of Hope Publishers

### Staff

Editor: L. Katherine Cook  
Business Manager: Kathy Gardner

### Council of Stewards

Sally Lynn Askins, V. Pres.  
Meg Cullar  
Deborah E. Harris, Secretary  
Jaclyn L. Jeffrey  
B. Michael Long, President  
Jo Pendleton

### Board of Advisors

Dale A. Barron  
H. Joseph Haag  
Daniel B. McGee  
Kathryn Mueller  
Jacqueline L. Saxon  
Jon Singletary

### Statement of Purpose

Seeds of Hope is a private, independent group of believers responding to a common burden for the poor and hungry of God's world, and acting on the strong belief that biblical mandates to feed the poor were not intended to be optional. The group intends to seek out people of faith who feel called to care for the poor; and to affirm, enable and empower a variety of responses to the problems of poverty.

### Editorial Address

Seeds of Hope is housed by the community of faith at Seventh & James Baptist Church. The mailing address is 602 James Avenue, Waco, TX 76706; Phone: 254/755-7745; Fax: 254/753-1909; Email: seedseditor@clearwire.net. Web: www.seedspublishers.org. Seeds of Hope, Inc., holds the 501(c)3 nonprofit tax status.



art by Peter Yuichi Clark

## Seeds of Hope Budget 2013-2014

|   | Budget<br>Jan-Dec 2013 | Actual<br>Jan-Dec 2013 | Budget<br>Jan-Dec 2014 |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Income</b>                           |                        |                        |                        |
| Hunger News and Hope Partners           | 12,000.00              | 12,000.00              | 12,000.00              |
| Sacred Seasons Subscribers              | 3,200.00               | 2,300.00               | 2,400.00               |
| Monthly Partners & Donors               | 2,600.00               | 2,400.00               | 2,600.00               |
| Grants                                  | 11,000.00              | 9,667.00               | 11,000.00              |
|   | <u>28,800.00</u>       | <u>26,367.00</u>       | <u>28,000.00</u>       |
| <b>Expenses</b>                         |                        |                        |                        |
| Local Phone Service                     | 1,200.00               | 1,080.00               | 240.00                 |
| Long Distance Service                   | 225.00                 | 230.00                 | 225.00                 |
| IRS Payroll Taxes                       | 6,480.00               | 6,840.00               | 6,500.00               |
| Office Supplies & Technology            | 1,200.00               | 1,196.00               | 1,200.00               |
| Internet                                | 430.00                 | 429.36                 | 450.00                 |
| Web Host                                | 50.00                  | 34.99                  | 50.00                  |
| Life Insurance                          | 300.00                 | 300.00                 | 300.00                 |
| Editor Retirement Account               | 1,200.00               | 0.00                   | 1,200.00               |
| Editor Health Insurance                 | 10,000.00              | 10,356.00              | 2,940.00               |
| Editor Salary                           | 8,400.00               | 7,200.00               | 8,400.00               |
| Business Manager Salary                 | 0.00                   | 0.00                   | 0.00                   |
| Travel Expenses                         | 800.00                 | 464.00                 | 1,000.00               |
| Hunger News & Hope Production & Mailing | 300.00                 | 300.00                 | 500.00                 |
| Sacred Seasons Production & Mailing     | 1,400.00               | 1,228.83               | 1,400.00               |
|   | <u>31,985.00</u>       | <u>29,659.18</u>       | <u>24,405.00</u>       |

Please return this portion with a check made out to Seeds of Hope, Inc., and send it to 602 James Ave., Waco, TX 76706.

**Yes, I want to support the Seeds of Hope ministry!**

Mustard Seed Partner  
\$10 monthly

Sprouts Partner  
\$25 monthly

Harvest Partner  
\$50 monthly

Other

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_