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Dear:

This letter is to inform you of an opportunity to participate in a special way in what is expected to be an extraordinary series of events that will occur this spring, in Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Tuskegee, Alabama, Boston, Portsmouth N.H., and New York; a national tour of Queen Mothers from Ghana.

From fairy tales to beauty pageants, queens hold an iconic status in our culture. Ironically, the knowledge and awareness of Africa's present-day queens is almost non-existent. Beginning the week of March 29, 2016, Ghana's queen mothers are honoring our communities on the east coast of the United States with a very special Return-Visit. The Delegation is sponsored by Pan African Multimedia of Accra, Ghana, and hosted by the Boston Pan-African Forum. The primary objectives are to introduce the African Queenship to Americans, extend the benefits of study abroad to all students and their faculty, and to bring about a cross-cultural dialogue between African, African American, and Native American communities on universal questions of family life and social goals.

Four Queen Mothers and their interpreters will discuss their role in African villages today, how they govern, the history of their communities having both female and male leaders, and their communities' hope and aspirations for the future. A visit with the Queen Mothers is an experience in formal African ceremony, offering honor and mutual respect between all participants, and a rare opportunity to interact one-on-one with question and answer exchanges. Throughout their visit, by demonstrating their culture, the Queens will enlighten our youth and families to the value of African heritage. Meeting the African Queens will be a life changing experience for young women and young men.

Areas that the queens will be conversant in are the following:

Nkosua (“Development”) Partnerships. The Queens anticipate addressing forums “What the Queens of Africa Are Doing: New Leadership for Economic and Social Development,” targeted to students, women’s associations and sororities, leadership and community members and entails their development projects with the assistance of students.

Good Governance. Queens will speak on "The Queen Mothers of Africa and Good Governance" with a brief video describing their position in society; traditional respect, constitutional recognition, and the institution of chieftaincy, Q & A w/forums showcasing their service to community and innovative use of tradition confronting contemporary problems of governance.

These educational events will create a lasting exploration of the little known power these women have, and have had historically, in governing and in leadership roles in Ghana. This is a story of empowerment our young people in particular need to be acquainted with. We are excited about the creation of a video and an online or hard-use teachers guide accompanying this project.

We aim to inspire Boston area youth especially, as well as the larger community, to appreciate the history and culture of West Africa, especially regarding the role of the institution of the “Queen Mother” in the traditional kingdoms of Ghana. Such kingdoms are still important in African society, and, indeed, often are considered by the general populace to be as the modern state, if not more so. Queen Mothers can play a crucial role in promoting good- governance, local community development, peace, and general geopolitical and economic advancement for their nation. They are effectively co-regents with the Kings, both of which can promote, or hamper, the authority of the modern, elected state leaders. A visit to the United States by leading figures among such traditional rulers can help correct misconceptions and ignorance in our own society, promote pride and achievement among our own youth, as well as broaden the experience and perspective of the Queens themselves, and help them advance their own community development projects at home.

The overall budget for the tour is \$100,000 including specific to Boston educational programming which we are seeking the funds for. We are hoping that you will be able to make a contribution to this effort in a one of the many ways available, such as sponsorships, donations of various kinds like, housing, transportation, hosting house parties, meals, honoraria, visas and tickets, etc.

Please let us know how you would like to help make this a stellar experience for all involved by making a timely contribution by sending a check to the Boston Pan African Forum, to 71 Windsor, St., Boston, Ma 02120 which is tax exempt, with a notation for the Queen Mothers Project.

Thank you for your concern and generous support.

Yours most sincerely,



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