

Gifts that Give

AUSTIN'S TRADITION OF GIVING

FOUNDERS OF TWO ORGANIZATIONS STARTED IN AUSTIN WITH GLOBAL OUTREACH AND PROJECTS THAT HAVE A LASTING IMPACT LOOK AT BEGINNING A NEW FAMILY TRADITION: GIVING GIFTS THAT HELP OTHERS.

Turk Pipkin, The Nobility Project

Founded by filmmaker and writer Turk Pipkin, The Nobility Project works with Nobel laureates and other inspiring global leaders on solutions to some of the world's most challenging problems and is supported by individuals, businesses and foundations that share the founder's concerns about the world we're leaving for future generations.

The Nobility Project films are seen in theaters and at film festivals, in community centers and churches, on DVD and television, and on the Internet. Short Films and Laureate Library are at www.youtube.com/nobilityproject. Educational materials are in schools and on college campuses across the U.S. and around the world. At the Teacher Sign-up, middle and high school teachers are invited to enroll in the Nobility in Schools program and receive DVDs and other materials free of charge. They also work directly in communities with need—building schools, computer labs and libraries, planting trees and supporting sustainable agriculture.

Austin icon Willie Nelson has jumped on the bandwagon to help build Mahiga High School in rural Kenya. Donations range from \$5, which buys a new text book, to \$5,000, which builds an entire classroom. "Support has come almost entirely from Austin where hundreds of people have joined together to provide a high school education for hundreds of kids in Kenya. Whether in Austin or in Kenya, we all benefit by it," says Pipkin.

The Nobility Project website also has several gifts for sale which include stunning framed photographic prints for less than \$75. Each gift purchased from the website benefits the project.

One Peace at a Time will be screened at the Regal Arbor Theater from December 4 through 11 with an opening night preview party and dinner at Manuel's. For more information go to www.nobility.org.



COURTESY CAROLINE BOUDREAUX

Caroline Boudreaux, The Miracle Foundation

After witnessing firsthand the terrible poverty and living conditions of Indian orphans, Caroline founded The Miracle Foundation. The Miracle Foundation renovates existing orphanages, builds new ones, raises money for construction and finds sponsors for children. The Miracle Foundation currently operates four Children's Homes and one home for unwed mothers.

"There's a quote from the actor Leonard Nimoy that says, 'The miracle is this—the more we share, the more we have,'" Boudreaux explained. "I feel it truly captures the idea that giving is a two-way street and that we always get back far more than we give. It is exciting and fun to give and make a big difference in someone else's life. Giving is addictive for me. The more I give, the more I want to give. Austinites are global thinkers and phenomenally generous. It blows me away that so many people in Austin give to children that are 9,000 miles away. They don't know the children and many will never meet them. Still, they give knowing that there is no way for these vulnerable orphaned children to return the favor. They give selflessly, with pure motives. It is inspiring."

Gifts that Give from the Miracle Foundation

Visit www.MiracleFoundation.org and make a donation—for one of the listed items—in honor of a friend or family member. The recipient of your gift will receive a card with a personalized message from you, along with a description of the gift you have donated in their name.

- \$25-50** Five Trees, Mosquito Nets, Backpack with Books, School Uniforms, Sheets & Towels, or an Infant Cradle
- \$75-100** Desk, Toilet, Dishes and Utensils, or a Birthday Party
- \$125-200** Immunizations, School Tuition, or an Armoire
- \$250-500** Bunk Bed or Dining Table
- Over \$500** Fridge and Washing Machine or Outfit an Entire Cottage

For more Gifts that Give see Wired, page XX.



COURTESY TURK PIPKIN