

IF YOU ASK ME
WHAT I HAVE COME
TO DO IN THIS WORLD
I WILL REPLY
I AM HERE
TO LIVE MY LIFE
OUT LOUD



little
and  **LOUD**

**ALMOST A THIRD OF THE
WORLD'S POPULATION IS
BELOW THE AGE OF 18**

**THEY ARE THE FUTURE LEADERS
OF FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES AND
NATIONS, AND THEY WILL BE THE
TRAILBLAZERS OF IDEAS AND
GLOBAL MOVEMENTS TO COME.**

BUT 9 OUT OF 10

**LIVE IN PLACES WHERE THEY
FACE INEQUALITY, POOR
EDUCATION, DISCRIMINATION,
EXPLOITATION AND WEAK
INFRASTRUCTURES THAT DENY
THEM ACCESS TO INFORMATION,
TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION,
MEDIA. AS A RESULT, TRUE STORIES
ABOUT LOVE, LOSS, FRIENDSHIPS,
FAMILY AND SURVIVAL THROUGH
THE EYES OF CHILDREN REMAIN**

UNHEARD.

So many of the world's 'grown up' issues directly affect the youth yet they prevail **AS MODELS OF RESILIENCE**, and no adult or global leader could ever truthfully convey the stories they have to tell.

To be truly heard, we must let them speak, paint, dance, sing and shout for themselves.

**THEY MAY BE LITTLE
BUT THERE ARE MANY
AND THEY ARE LOUD**

Story by story, piece by piece, and hand by hand, we contribute to the global dialogue between children and agents of change by creatively connecting and exchanging stories and experiences of a world they share and build **TOGETHER.**

STORY BY STORY

Oral folklore is a familiar tradition in all cultures. To honor and preserve this heritage, Little & LOUD are collaborating with children to transform these stories into books. Composed of the children's drawings, the myths and legends are brought to life and together we advocate storytelling, literacy and stimulating the imagination.

Each purchase of a Little & LOUD kastom* story will allow us to buy one book for a school library in Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu or the Solomon Islands. To assist in language learning and teaching global awareness, we aim to deliver english books, bilingual books and books that promote multiculturalism. Our first priority however, is to ensure that native authors are well represented by sourcing and providing local publications.

* **KASTOM:** a pijin word used to refer to traditional culture, including religion, economics, art and magic in the Pacific islands

PIECE BY PIECE

Oftentimes ideas cannot be expressed by words alone. Our hands after all, were built to CREATE. Little & LOUD encourages the use of art, media and technology to stimulate conversation and build understanding.

Inspired by the concept of penpalling, our first project **The Scrapbook Swap** engages Little & LOUD in a visual dialogue with four schools across four countries in Oceania. Over a period of time, we will swap and build scrapbooks containing views about our customs, our food, music, loves, fears, the environment and our ways of life. Our messages will manifest in a collage of text and images made from anything that can be pasted or folded into a book.

Children all over the world will be able to see our patchwork progress documented online and will be invited to respond in their own creative way be it through image or text.

HAND BY HAND

Little & LOUD believe that we are not divided by monetary wealth at heart. It is only through understanding, awareness and learning from each other that we acquire true richness. We are committed to creative capacity building for the benefit of the community and are dedicated to accomplishing things through collaboration.

In addition to building a collection of books for children in need, our first key objective is assisting Fote Primary School (Solomon Islands) in the renovation of their classrooms and the building of a reading/activity room. Funding will primarily rely on private donations and fundraising events.

Future projects also include facilitating workshops, called LoudLabs, to educate youth in image-making through photography, video and art and craft, demonstrating a responsible use of media and its power to deliver their messages and convey their stories.

WHO ARE LITTLE & LOUD?

Little & LOUD is a global non-profit initiative founded by three friends and travellers from three different continents. Mirjam Verkleij, a nurse from Utrecht, The Netherlands, Rhoda Lazo, a digital producer from Los Angeles, USA and Michelle Roldan, a visual communications designer from Sydney, Australia. In June 2008, a visit to Fote Primary School in the Solomon Islands brought to attention the severe underrepresentation of children and their culture in the South Pacific. Despite their modest living conditions, these children embodied brightness and loudness, eager to be heard from their little known country.

Little & LOUD's first project focus is on Melanesian Culture as it is one that exists very close to Australia but is still largely unfamiliar.

Future prospects include book productions and LoudLabs with orphanages and schools in the Philippines, Indonesia, India and Mexico.

**FRONT COVER QUOTE
BY FRENCH NOVELIST,
JOURNALIST AND ACTIVIST
EMILE ZOLA
(1840 -1902)**

**FOR MORE INFO ON OUR
PROJECT AND THE FOUR
SCHOOLS WE ARE WORKING
WITH, PLEASE VISIT:
WWW.LITTLEANDLOUD.ORG**