



# ETHIOPIAN EDUCATION FUND NEWSLETTER

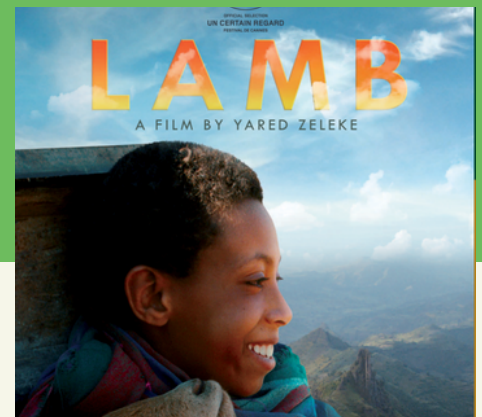
Spring 2023

**It is time for some public events after a long hiatus!**

## **"Lamb" film in Olympia April 16th**

Special showing of the film "Lamb." The EEF has secured the rights to show the movie Lamb at 6:30 pm on April 16th in Olympia in cooperation with the Olympia Film Society <https://olympiafilmsociety.org/lamb/> Join us at 6:30 pm for meeting/greeting with the film starting at 7 pm at the Capitol Theatre. Afterwards, we'll answer questions about our work and the challenges facing Ethiopia.

About the film: Ephraim, a half-Jewish Ethiopian boy, is sent by his father to live amongst distant relatives after his mother's death. Ephraim uses his cooking skills to carve out a place amongst his cousins, but when his uncle decides that his beloved sheep must be sacrificed for the next religious feast, he will do anything to save the animal and return home. "Sheer brilliance knits together the first Ethiopian film at Cannes" -The Guardian



## **Music for the Eyes, 314 First St, Langley WA August 20th at Music for the Eyes**

We will be having a Meet & Greet party. Join us on the south end of Whidbey Island to learn about Ethiopia and how the EEF supports students to be their best. Hosted by Fred and Sharon at Music for the Eyes, meet friends old and new, learn about our work, and appreciate amazing items from around the world courtesy of

Music for the Eyes. "Music for the Eyes has turned into a good place for our collections of antique memorabilia from Central Asia and other countries. It has also turned into gathering space for our ... community"-Fred & Sharon.



Check our website for details:  
[ethiopianeducationfund.org](http://ethiopianeducationfund.org)

**The EEF is growing!**

This year our exciting new goal is to add a regional manager and a community liaison specialist in Chiri to increase our local capacity. At the last Board meeting, we approved this expansion because the need is great and adding additional students beyond our 40 requires a new structure. We are working with our Country Manager Zelalem to hire a parttime Regional Manager who will work with schools and government officials, oversee the scholar's committee (the local committee that selects qualified students), and identify opportunities for the EEF to support more students. The Community Liaison Specialist will work closely with the students to help them realize their potential and allow us to better understand their needs.



**A CHALLENGE OVERCOME:**

One of our students became pregnant in her final year in technical college in 2022. Although she was studying Digital Technology, she decided to take a night course in cosmetology as well. Shortly after her baby was born she graduated from college and was immediately able to get work in cosmetology while looking for a permanent IT job. The EEF gives all students a leaving gift for graduation, so she also received a significant sum of money to help her during this transition. Statistically we know that her child will be healthier and get a better education because her mother is educated.

**SUCCESS:**

Sometimes we have a student drop out or disappear after high school. Sometimes those students reappear! Simign is one who graduated high school and went back home. Last year she called our manager and asked if we would support her in nursing school. We were pleased to say yes and that we could support her with living expenses while she attends a private nursing college in a distant city. We will provide her with the same amount of funds that we give to nursing students in government schools. Stephanie was able to meet with Simgn in October 2022 and happy to report that Simgn is able to pursue her dream. We applaud the initiative of the EEF students and we are ready to support them when they are ready to go (back) to school.

[ETHIOPIANEDUCATIONFUND.ORG](http://ETHIOPIANEDUCATIONFUND.ORG)



**The Ethiopian Education Fund**

has been working for almost 20 years to give poor students in an overlooked area of Ethiopia a chance to get ahead. Our program is successful because of the motivation of the students who are selected for the program and due to the personal attention and care for each one of the students. Thank you for helping our students improve their lives and achieve their goals.

Stephanie, Jeff, Annie, Azeb & Rochelle

