



## **Bring Light Fuels Educational Funding with its Social Network**

*Projects from DonorsChoose and Room to Read address domestic and international needs*

**CUPERTINO**, California, September 5, 2007 – A new school year has begun, yet millions of students lack the resources needed to get a proper education. Using its philanthropic social network, Bring Light ([www.bringlight.com](http://www.bringlight.com)) has provided several nonprofit organizations and schools the ability to highlight projects that require immediate funding.

“We are proud to host projects from DonorsChoose, Room to Read and other nonprofit organizations focused on addressing educational needs in the US and throughout the world,” said Melissa Dyrdaahl, CEO and co-founder. “The focus can then shift from getting the proper resources, to giving students the quality of education they deserve to prepare them for the future.”



DonorsChoose is dedicated to providing public school teachers in the United States with the learning materials necessary to help students learn. As of August 2007, over \$13 million has been donated to over 620,000 students in need. [Projects posted on Bring Light by DonorsChoose](#) range from teaching employment skills to students diagnosed with mental retardation and autism in California, to helping a teacher in Louisiana teach geometry to elementary students through the creation of a class quilt.

“Fundamentally, Bring Light and DonorsChoose share the same values and approach to philanthropy,” said Charles Best, CEO and founder of DonorsChoose. “We are excited to introduce social networking to our donors as a new way to give to educational projects, and anticipate that students and teachers will get resources faster as a result.”



Room to Read's mission is to provide under-privileged children with an education to help them break the cycle of poverty and take control of their lives. [Projects posted on Bring Light by Room to Read](#) include the establishment of a library or the funding of girls' scholarships in countries like Cambodia, India, Laos, Nepal, Sri Lanka or Vietnam. To date, Room to Read has impacted the lives of over one million children.

Additional projects highlighted in the Education section of [www.bringlight.com](http://www.bringlight.com) include:



hosting a talented group of freshman from [New Orleans](#) on a two-day trip to Silicon Valley to inspire them to use technology to better themselves and their community.



funding innovative programs bridging early childhood literacy and parenting skills through [Grail Family Services](#) in San Jose, California.



sponsoring environmental education programs given by [SCLEEP](#) for students in Charleston, South Carolina.



equipping a technology center in rural Kenya through [Lacotec](#) in Cambridge, Massachusetts.



supporting families and their deaf or hard of hearing children to communicate with each other and lead a better life through [Hands and Voices](#) in Illinois.



enriching pre K-12 education and community group programs focused on math, science, technology and art through [RAFT](#) (Resource Area for Teaching) in San Jose, California.

Donors can also choose to provide school supplies for low-income families, sponsoring music education through a local youth symphony, giving girls ages 5-14 the opportunity to develop their skills and confidence in technology, and getting aid to an organization that helps autistic children become more socialized, or to stop bullies from teasing them at school.

All educational projects featured on Bring Light can be found at:  
[http://www.bringlight.com/projects/list/most\\_popular/Education](http://www.bringlight.com/projects/list/most_popular/Education)

Any qualifying 501(c)3 can upload their projects at no cost on Bring Light. More information can be found at:  
[http://www.bringlight.com/about/add\\_charity](http://www.bringlight.com/about/add_charity)

**About Bring Light, Inc.**

Bring Light's mission is to inspire a new generation of philanthropy. It is an online social network designed to make a bigger difference. Donors see where their donations are going and can engage friends and family who have a similar desire to give. It is a quick and simple way for nonprofit organizations to fundraise and build a giving community on the Web. For more information, visit [www.bringlight.com](http://www.bringlight.com).

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