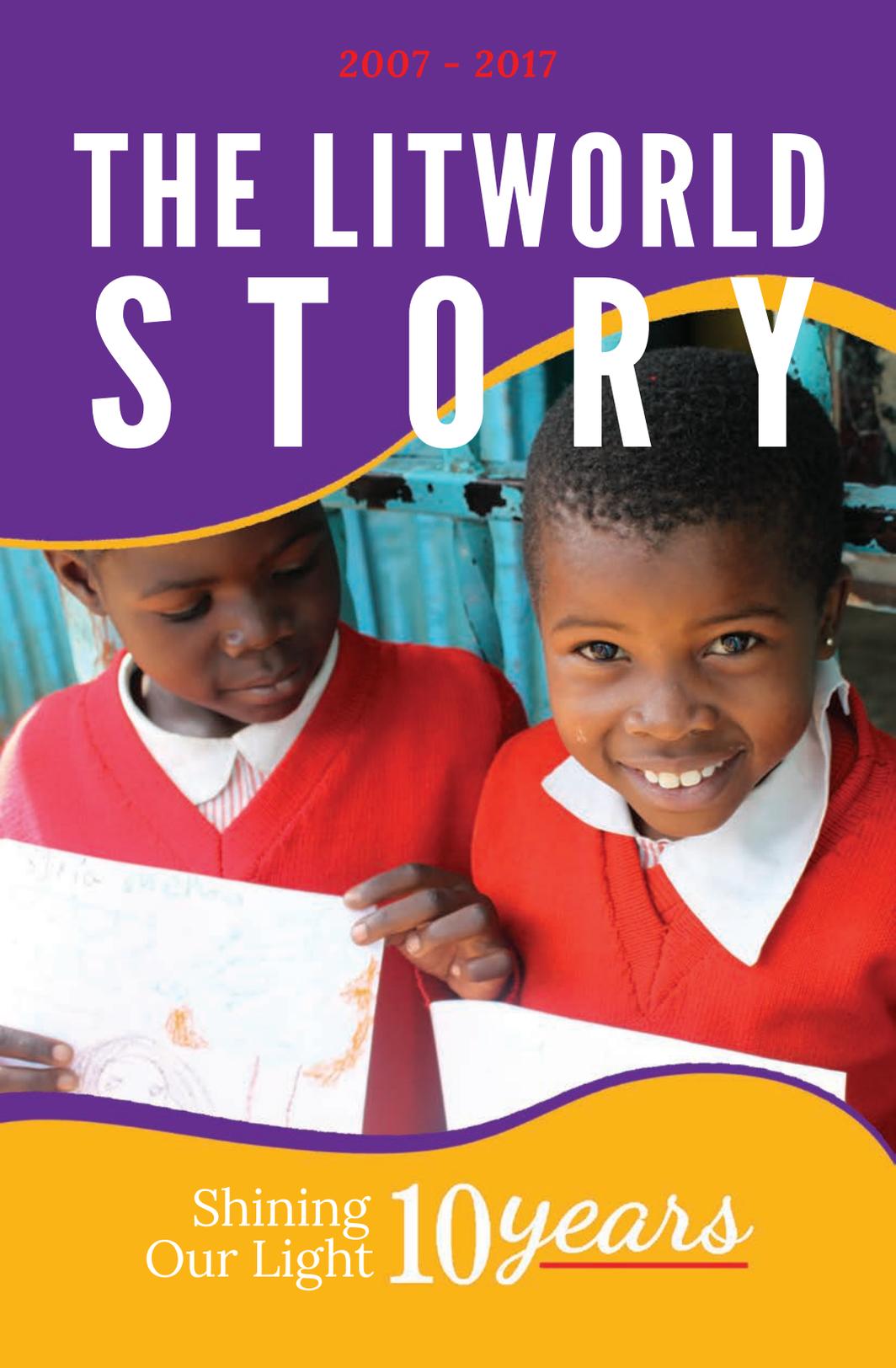


2007 - 2017

# THE LITWORLD STORY

A photograph of two young children, likely of African descent, wearing red school uniforms with white collars. They are looking at a piece of paper with a drawing on it. The child on the right is smiling broadly at the camera. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a blue corrugated metal wall. The image is framed by a purple and yellow graphic element that curves across the top and bottom.

Shining  
Our Light **10** *years*

# 10 WAYS TO TELL



## On Turning 10...

LitWorld strengthens kids and communities through the power of their own stories. Together, we are authoring a bold new world of equity and opportunity.

In 2017, we are celebrating 10 years of shining our light on transformational literacy and the bright futures of young people everywhere.

# THE LITWORLD STORY



From powerful quotes and speeches to numbers and maps showing our growth, here are 10 ways to tell the LitWorld story.

*Enjoy!*

# 1. THE HELLO SONG

*Hello Diego,  
Hello Diana,  
Hello Jasmine,  
We're glad to  
see you here!*

*Hello readers,  
Hello writers,  
Hello friends,*

*We're glad to*



Read Aloud.  
Change the World.  
iBook

see you here!

## 2. A WORD FROM PAM

Literacy is humankind's greatest innovation. It is the single most powerful way that we can empower each other, and it is the greatest gift we pass on generation after generation. Literacy is how we communicate with the world, tell our stories, and listen to our own hearts.

When I started LitWorld, I wanted to do more than collect books and pencils and drop them off at schools. I wanted to transform kids' lives with literacy by dignifying their own experiences and opening them to new ones.

As LitWorld reflects on our first 10 years, I have been thinking about the Billy Collins poem, *On Turning Ten*, and the beautiful significance of turning "the first big number." As we enter our second decade, we want to deepen our commitment to empowering children to tell their stories and calling others to do the same.

Thank you for joining us on this journey. Here's to the next 10 years.



*"One day we will tell our grandchildren that 'once upon a time' women and girls were not treated as equals.' Let's make 'once upon a time' today."*

-Diana, 17  
Global HerStory Summit,  
New York City,  
March 2016



## 3. MEET DIANA

We met Diana, one of our founding LitClub members in Kenya, when she was just eight years old. A young girl already full of courage, curiosity, and a generous spirit, she quickly grew into a leader in her community and beyond. In 2016, she joined us in New York City for the first annual Global HerStory Summit and shared her hope for the future.



# 4. BY THE NUMBERS

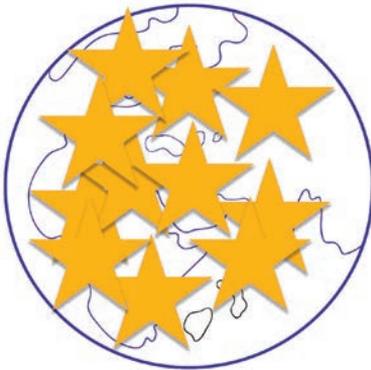
LitWorld has scaled with a commitment to celebrating all communities. We began our work in Kibera, Kenya in 2007 and today we partner with grassroots organizations in 27 countries. Our LitClubs and LitCamps are conducted in over 10 different languages and cultivate joyful learning experiences for kids during critical out-of-school time.



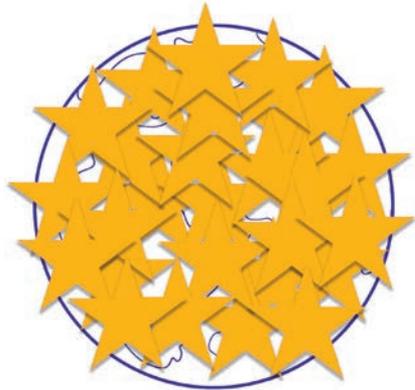
**2008:**  
3 countries



**2012:**  
5 countries



**2014:**  
11 countries



**2017:**  
27 countries



Our **TENS**  
of partners  
enlist



**HUNDREDS**  
of mentors  
who reach



**THOUSANDS**  
of young  
people

LitWorld's impact multiplies through our mentorship model, where our small but mighty team in New York trains passionate LitClub mentors around the world, who are in turn able to reach many more children in their own communities.

*The Power of 10*

# 5. POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS

LitWorld has been able to thoughtfully expand and scale thanks to the hard work and dedication of our partners on-the-ground.



## UNITED STATES

California  
Georgia  
Maryland  
Michigan  
Mississippi  
New York  
The Dakotas

## INTERNATIONAL

Afghanistan  
Brazil  
Cambodia  
Cameroon  
Colombia  
Cote d'Ivoire  
Dominican Republic

They ensure that our programs are always culturally sensitive and that the communities we work in are equal stakeholders in our mission. With the help of our 52 partners around the world, we have learned what collaboration can really do.



Ghana  
Haiti  
Honduras  
India  
Jordan  
Kenya

Kosovo  
Liberia  
Nigeria  
Nicaragua  
Pakistan  
Peru

The Philippines  
Rwanda  
Sierra Leone  
Thailand  
Uganda

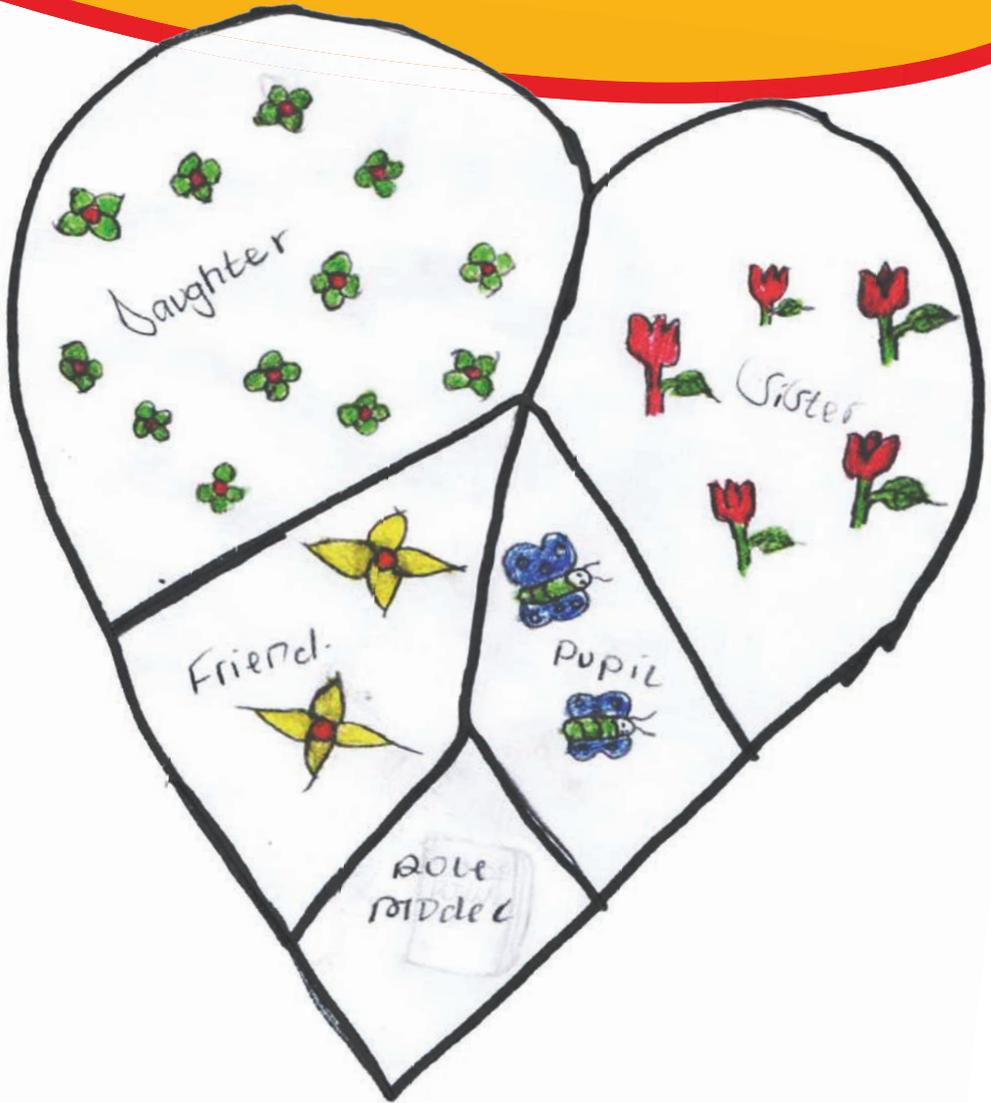


# 6. 365 DAYS OF LEARNING

LitCamp is a breakthrough summer literacy program built upon LitWorld's 7 Strengths principles. Year-round LitWorld is equipping children and educators with the tools they need as readers, writers, and world-changers.

In partnership with Scholastic, LitCamp reached over 60,000 children in classrooms across the United States in 2016, including all second through fifth grade students in New York City.

# 7. HEART LESSONS



The 7 Strengths are the core of LitWorld's work. **Belonging, Curiosity, Friendship, Kindness, Confidence, Courage,** and **Hope** are qualities that make us strong, compassionate and empowered. In the **Heart Map** activity, kids address the first of these strengths, exploring identities, activities, and communities that give them a sense of belonging.

# 8. MOVING MILLIONS

World Read Aloud Day was sparked from a simple question:

*what if we had a*



What began with one inquisitive 10-year-old boy's good question has since grown into a widespread, grassroots movement with people all over the world championing the read aloud.

*birthday party for the read aloud?*



The WRAD community has embraced social media as a tool for change, and our call to action had over 32,000 mentions and reached 170 million social feeds in 2017.

# 9. HER VOICE, OUR STORY

Girls' voices are silenced when they cannot read, write, or feel free to tell their stories. Two-thirds of the illiterate population in the world is women and girls. Through the HerStory Campaign, run in partnership with Global Girls Leading Our World, we dedicate two-thirds of our programming to help amplify these voices. At our first annual HerStory Summit in 2016, Jasmine, HerStory Ambassador from Nepal, shared her bold and beautiful words:

***“My wish for women all around the world is to be empowered—not by others, but by themselves. No one has the right to empower us, we should be empowering ourselves. It’s our right. If they don’t give us the right, don’t ask for it. Snatch it.”***



**-Jasmine, 13**  
UN Commission on  
the Status of Women  
Parallel Event, 2016



Literacy comes in all forms—including **reading, writing, listening, speaking, and art**. As art becomes even more integrated into our programs, we realize the importance of expressing what words cannot. At our second annual Global HerStory Summit in 2017, drawing and other forms of creative expression invited all girls to participate and share their stories.

# 10. YOU

LitWorld wouldn't exist without friends and supporters like you! You have helped us build this organization and will continue to help us write our future. Together, we can carry forward the stories of many more children who deserve to be heard. No contribution—of time, energy, love, money, or otherwise—has gone unnoticed. Thank you for celebrating 10 years of shining our light!

Share your favorite LitWorld  
memory!

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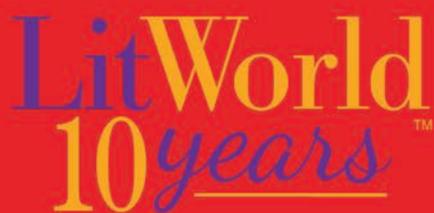
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**Be the Story.**

The logo features the text "LitWorld" in a blue serif font, "10 years" in a yellow script font with a horizontal line under "10", and a small "TM" trademark symbol. The text is centered on a red background that is separated from the purple background above by a yellow wavy line.

LitWorld  
10 years™

[litworld.org](http://litworld.org)