We wish you warmth and light this Holiday season & Peace in the New Year.

Mini-Newsletter 2015-16

AFGHANISTAN - Our two-year project prepares 375 young people from 25 provinces to design and lead their own community improvement projects. We bring the youth together to explore the issues and use theatre methods to teach problem-solving. So far, the project has energized and motivated scores of youth!

Our theatre project in the Herat Women’s Prison gives women a voice to speak out about their lives, most of whom are in prison for the “crime” of asserting their independence. We are also working in the Juvenile Prison, Shelters, and Child Support Center for the children of the imprisoned.

“This workshop is like heaven for us; we can laugh and cry freely.” - Hawagul
“These exercises make me brave. I feel I am a human and I am free.” - Parisa

MYANMAR - We concluded our peacebuilding project with the theatre group Thukhuma Khayeethe, which
brought a play about cooperation and trust to schools across Myanmar, along with play-making workshops.

KENYA - We collaborated on a pilot program in the Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya, the largest serving displaced Somali and South Sudanese refugees. Thanks to Columbia University intern, Jessica Hodder.

LEBANON - We will begin a project with Zakira, a Lebanese organization that uses photography to give refugees a means to represent their lives after fleeing Syria. Through theatre, these stories will come to life.

AZERBAIJAN - The US Embassy has invited BST to create a play series with local students and tour the country to inspire young people to promote peace. We will spend February 2016 in Azerbaijan!

BALKANS - Working with partner theatre companies in the Balkans, we will follow the trail of refugees, and use theatre techniques to support the psychosocial needs of refugee families in four countries.

NEW YORK - Our Shinbone Alley Stilt Band and Le Velo Rouge led the Village Halloween Parade and performed at festivals in New York in 2015, and will continue to bring joy and good music throughout 2016!

Le Velo Rouge and friends in NYC

The Balkh Youth Group gives street-working children a chance to play and learn.

Let us celebrate our shared humanity and the opportunity we have to contribute to a better world. We are grateful to our supporters for helping us empower and uplift those in troubled areas around the world.

Thank you!

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