

# Youth for Technology Foundation (YTF)



## Owerri Digital Village.... in Pictures

*2000 - 2009*



<http://www.youthfortechology.org>

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*The Mission of YTF is to create enriched learning communities in which the appropriate use of technology creates opportunities for marginalized people, particularly youth and women. An embodiment of YTF's vision is the OWERRI DIGITAL VILLAGE, NIGERIA.*

*In the Beginning....*

Blocks E & F Okigwe Road Secretariat, were donated to YTF by the Imo State Government for the Owerri Digital Village in 2000. There was a significant amount of renovation that needed to be done to both buildings and YTF coordinated and managed that process reconstructing both buildings to best serve our beneficiaries.





A cross-section of the Owerri Digital Village in 2008



In 2000, the Owerri Digital Village was borne out of a partnership with the Imo State Government (IMSG), Microsoft Corporation and Youth for Technology Foundation (YTF) under the leadership of YTF's founder, Njideka Harry.



February 2002 - Njideka Harry and Bill Gates, Sr. at a Community Affairs Recognition Ceremony in Redmond, WA. The Owerri Digital Village was a recipient of the “Community Technology Award”.

***Our Beneficiaries***





*Our Classrooms*





## *Our Partnerships*

*... with Stanford University / Reuters Foundation*



Youth at the Owerri Digital Village will perform the role of rural information workers, receiving and delivering information electronically to families in the villages, thus giving a 'voice' to the marginalized in communities where there is no access the Internet and related technologies. To learn more, please visit: <http://spokesyouth.rdvp.org/>

*...With the Imo State University*



Since 2007, the Owerri Digital Village has been a training ground for Imo State University (IMSU) students as part of their general studies fulfillment. To date, over 800 students from IMSU have been trained at the ODV.

*...With Schools and Community Centers in the U.S.*



In 2007, YTF began a cross-cultural technology training program with students at St. Anthony's Elementary School, California (pictured left). Participants in this program are between ages 10-13. Some of the ODV students that participated are pictured on the right. To learn more, please visit: <http://learnations.wetpaint.com/>

### *... With Other Non-Profit Organizations*



The Owerri Digital Village partners with other non-governmental organizations to deliver programs in communities in Imo State. In 2004 and as part of a World Bank grant that YTF received, YTF worked with Mgbala Agwa Youths Forum to implement the Young Scientists

Academy, a program demonstrating the use of technology in addressing critical health issues in our communities.

### *Special Guests to the Owerri Digital Village*



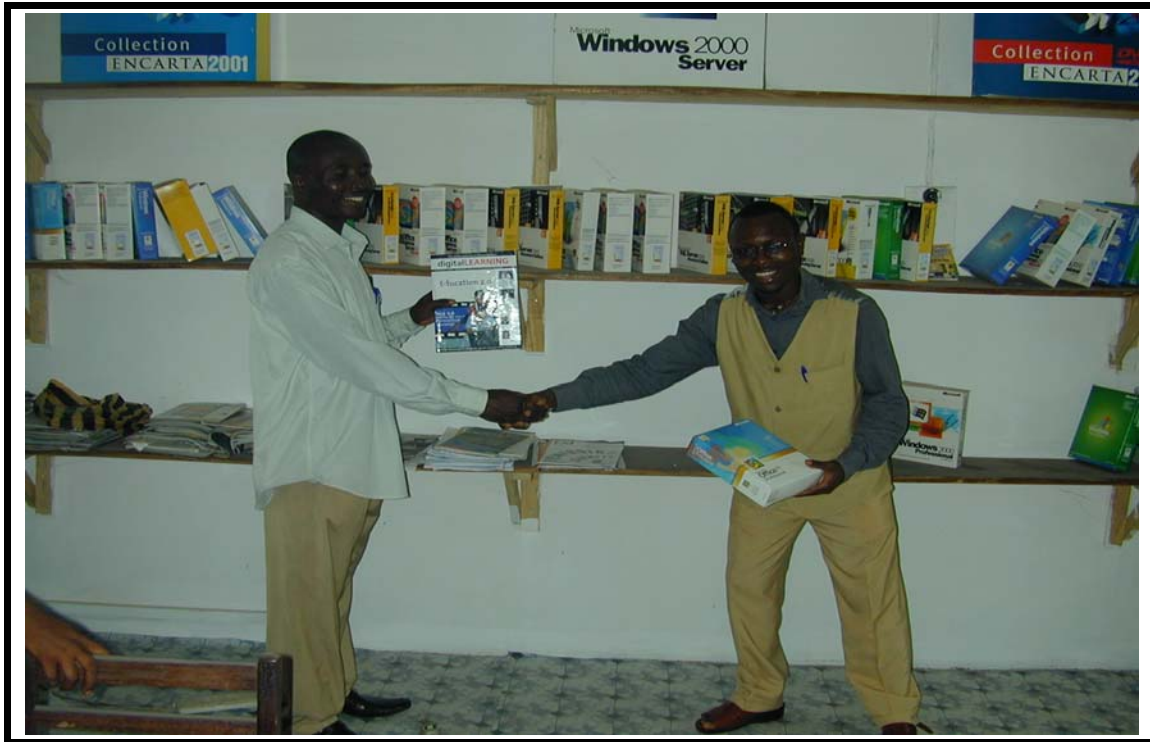
Dr. Irving Lee Rother from McGill University in Canada visited the Owerri Digital Village in March 2006. As part of this visit, YTF took him to local schools and communities where he spoke to young people about the importance of using different forms of media in education.



Charles Galusha and Resty Mwogeza were students from the United Nations Volunteer Technology Services (UNITeS) and spent 6 months at the Owerri Digital Village in 2006/2007.



Nnema Byrd (CEO, RREDS) and Alton Byrd visited YTF's Owerri Digital Village in 2006.



John and George from ATAB Foundation in Cameroon spent several months in 2007 at the Owerri Digital Village learning about our work and how to replicate the model in the Ewelle region of Cameroon.



A U.S. delegation of Former Peace Corps Volunteers (Friends of Nigeria) visited the ODV in November 2008.



Former Peace Corps volunteers to Nigeria (now part of Friends of Nigeria, FON) participated in the graduation ceremony of some of our students.

