



Cameras For Girls

Cameras Can Do More Than You Think. They Can Empower A Woman in Africa



Mission

Cameras For Girls pursues Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality in Africa using photography as our catalyst. We provide women who face gender-based barriers to employment with a camera of their own and a 4-phase photography, storytelling, and business-skills curriculum to support their goals of becoming paid journalists and photographers in male-dominated spaces.

Why Cameras For Girls?

At **Cameras For Girls**, we are dedicated to empowering young women across Africa to thrive in the male-dominated media industry. We aim to propel these women towards paid opportunities through comprehensive education, targeted training, and removing gender-based barriers to employment. Our mission extends beyond economic empowerment; we aspire to break the chains of poverty, amplify their voices, and champion a bold agenda for women's empowerment and gender equality. Together, we foster a future where every woman has the opportunity to shine, shape their narratives, and lead change in their communities and beyond.

Impact Snapshot

206

Learners across Africa via our online training platform, including women in refugee settlements.

10+

We have built over 10 successful partnerships/collaborations across Africa to expand our programming.

75%

75% or 48 of our 64 young women taught through our Uganda based cohorts have found paid work in the media sector.

89

Since 2018, we have taught 89 young women across Uganda and Tanzania - which means we also handed out 89 cameras, thanks to your support!

YOU EMPOWER OUR STUDENTS SO THEY BELIEVE IN THEMSELVES.

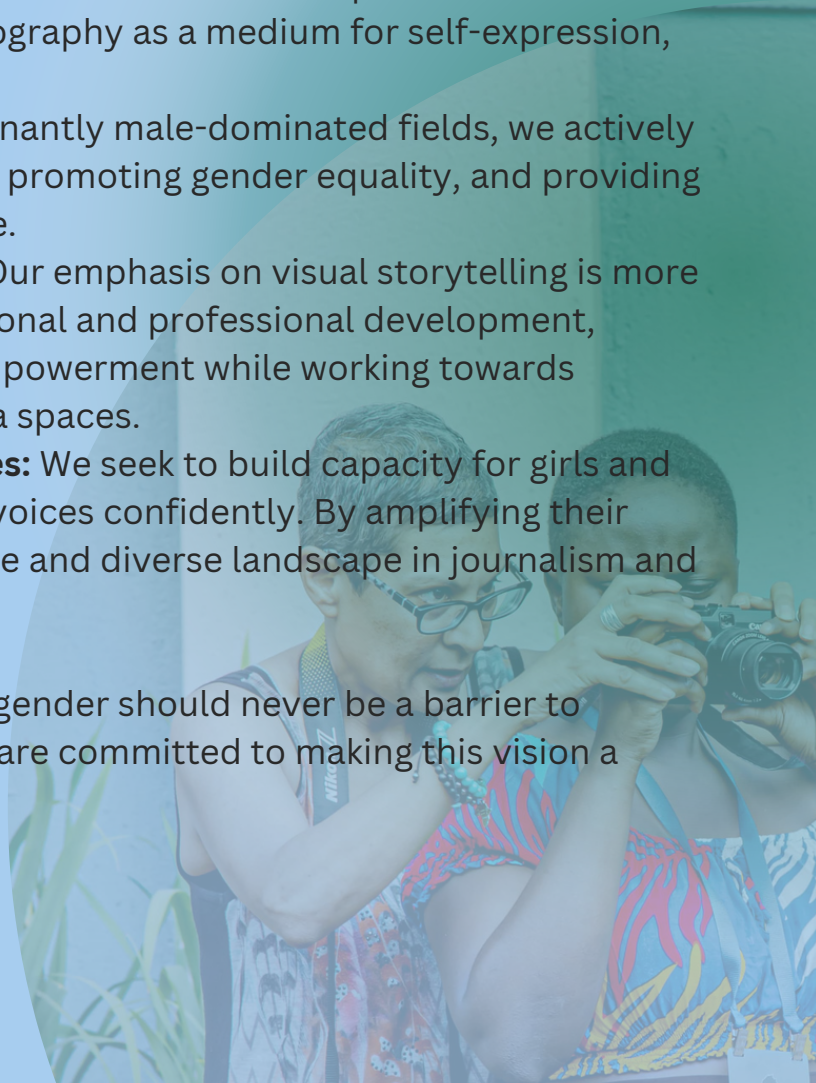
We are dedicated to empowering women across Africa and dismantling the gender-based hurdles entrenched in the predominantly male-dominated fields of journalism and photography.

We go beyond just providing women with cameras; we offer a comprehensive 4-phase curriculum in photography, storytelling, and business skills. This holistic approach supports young women in overcoming gender-based barriers, enabling them to enter and thrive in the journalism and photography sectors.

At the heart of our values:

1. **Alleviating Poverty:** We aim to alleviate poverty for girls and women aspiring to be journalists in Africa, recognizing economic empowerment as a crucial step towards gender equality.
2. **Empowering Through Storytelling:** Our commitment is to empower women to tell stories that matter to them, using photography as a medium for self-expression, self-empowerment, and self-reflection.
3. **Promoting Gender Equality:** In predominantly male-dominated fields, we actively work towards levelling the playing field, promoting gender equality, and providing equal opportunities for women to thrive.
4. **Visual Storytelling for Empowerment:** Our emphasis on visual storytelling is more than communication; it's a tool for personal and professional development, allowing for self-expression and self-empowerment while working towards employment goals across Africa's media spaces.
5. **Building Capacity and Amplifying Voices:** We seek to build capacity for girls and women, empowering them to use their voices confidently. By amplifying their voices, we contribute to a more inclusive and diverse landscape in journalism and photography.

Cameras For Girls envisions a world where gender should never be a barrier to pursuing one's passion and profession. We are committed to making this vision a reality, one camera at a time.



YOUR DONATION TRANSFORMS LIVES

At Cameras For Girls, we believe in the transformative power of community. Our commitment goes beyond providing tools and education; it's about understanding and serving the unique needs of our students. We've left behind the traditional "colonial" approach to charity, opting instead for a community-centric model that empowers, listens, and ensures every woman's journey is shaped by her aspirations and dreams.

Thanks to you, each young woman in our program receives the following:

Cameras for Empowerment

You provide cameras to aspiring women photographers, enabling them to capture and share their unique perspectives. These cameras are not just tools but instruments of empowerment, breaking down barriers and providing a voice to those who have been silenced for too long.



In-Depth 4-Day Workshops in Uganda and Tanzania

You support our immersive 4-day workshops in Uganda and Tanzania as of November 2023. These workshops go beyond technical training, fostering a community of empowered women who share experiences, build connections, and learn from one another.



Nutritious Meals During Training

We believe in nourishing both the mind and body. You ensure that participants receive nutritious meals during the training sessions, creating an environment where learning can flourish.



Year-Long Online Training

We offer a year-long online training program every Friday on Zoom and through our purpose-built video training platform, allowing participants to engage in the training at their own pace while building a solid foundation for their future careers.



Mentorship

Mentorship is a crucial aspect of our program, and you facilitate the connection between participants and experienced mentors. This personal guidance is invaluable in navigating the challenges of entering male-dominated fields, providing insights, and building a supportive network.

Business and Storytelling Skills

You support the integration of business and storytelling skills into our curriculum. Participants learn the technical aspects of photography and storytelling while enhancing their business skills, such as building a resume and cover letter and saving for a rainy day. They gain essential skills to thrive in their chosen fields, breaking through gender barriers with confidence.



A NOTE FROM ONE OF OUR PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

Dear Donors,

You don't know me, but your support has played a pivotal role in transforming the lives of young women at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda. Working closely with Amina Mohamed of Cameras For Girls has been nothing short of extraordinary. Amina's innovative programming has exceeded our expectations, particularly for our theory-based program, introducing a practical dimension that has proven invaluable for our students.

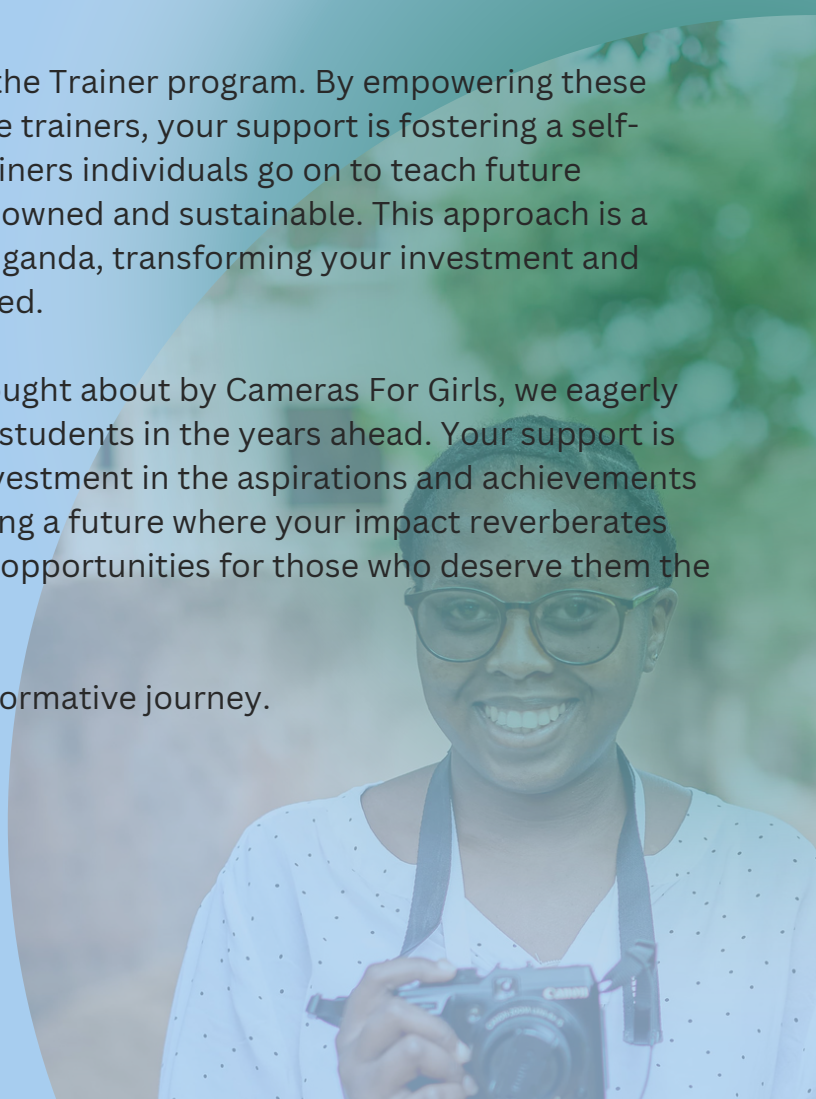
You have empowered our female students, offering them skills and a newfound confidence to navigate and excel in their chosen paths. The impact has been immediate, breaking down barriers that often deter women from entering the field of journalism. The gift of a camera made possible through your generosity, has been a game-changer, providing tangible resources that empower our students to explore their potential in ways previously unimaginable.

We are excited about the possibility of a Train the Trainer program. By empowering these young women not just as students but as future trainers, your support is fostering a self-sustaining cycle of empowerment. As these trainers individuals go on to teach future students, the program becomes more country-owned and sustainable. This approach is a rarity among foreign-led entities operating in Uganda, transforming your investment and exemplifying how lasting change can be achieved.

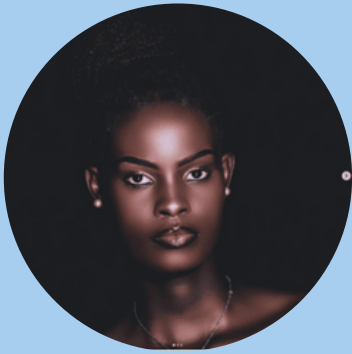
As we witness the positive transformations brought about by Cameras For Girls, we eagerly anticipate expanding this opportunity to more students in the years ahead. Your support is not just a financial contribution; it's a direct investment in the aspirations and achievements of these young women. Together, we are creating a future where your impact reverberates across continents, opening doors and creating opportunities for those who deserve them the most.

Thank you for being a crucial part of this transformative journey.

John Baptist Imokola
Media and Communication Trainer
Makerere University



THEY SUCCEED BECAUSE YOU CARE



Joyce Mollan

With a degree in journalism from Makerere University, Joyce Mollan completed a year-long training program with Cameras For Girls, receiving not only a camera but also invaluable skills in photojournalism and digital marketing. Driven by hope and passion, Joyce specializes in portraits, graduation shoots, birthdays, and sports photography, showcasing her versatility through collaborations with various school leagues.

Patience Natukunda, a graduate of our Cameras For Girls training in 2019, emerged from a challenging period; with the support of our program and mentorship, Patience achieved remarkable success, earning the title of Travel Writer of the Year in 2021. Today, she runs her own consulting company, passionately teaching writing skills to others. Patience's journey exemplifies the transformative impact of empowerment and dedication to uplifting others through knowledge and mentorship.



Patience Natukunda



Melanie Nabukwasi

Melanie started her training in June 2022, and in November, she came to me asking for support to help her publish her first book. She wanted to write a book that would promote her culture within the 54 different tribes that exist in Uganda and highlight the issue of Female Genital Mutilation. CFG supported her, and she is now a published author. Melanie works full-time as a communications assistant while building a coffee company with her sister, employing and empowering other women.

See more of our students stories at www.camerasforgirls.org/our-students

TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM, UGANDA

In June 2024, we're launching an impactful initiative built around "sustainability and women's empowerment, where your support can make all the difference. Our "Train the Trainer" program, born from a desire to elevate our mission's impact emboldens instructors to create a ripple effect of expertise, ensuring sustainable knowledge transfer to other young women in the Ugandan media sector.

More significantly, this program fosters the development and empowerment of these young women, emphasizing the vital importance of their voices in society. We're excited to share our vision with you and invite your partnership in making it a reality.

To execute this program effectively, we plan to enlist five former students who've successfully completed the Cameras For Girls 4-phase program. Additionally, we'll leverage our extensive network of photographers and collaborative partners in Uganda, both women and men, to contribute their expertise to train these girls.

The 6-month training program, beginning in June 2024, encompasses critical components, including a leadership course in partnership with Vital Voices, a global leadership training program based in the US, and participation in Toastmasters International for enhanced public speaking skills. Our team of experienced photographers will provide advanced photography and storytelling instruction via our partnership with Canon Miraisha. Workshops and supplementary training opportunities will be facilitated by Uganda Press Photo Award and Media Challenge Initiative in Uganda and other esteemed collaborators who will enrich their learning experience.

Your support is pivotal. The estimated cost for each participant, covering this comprehensive 6-month training and a professional camera kit, is approximately \$3,800. Other costs of the program include travel costs for our executive director to co-lead the initial 4-day workshop, workshop costs, which consist of the venue, and food for the students and trainers during the workshop, stipends for each student so she can be wholly focused on the demands of the training.

We aspire to conduct this program annually, ensuring that each participant becomes a guiding force, mentoring, teaching, and empowering a cohort of 15 young women, beginning in January 2025, echoing the success of our 4-phase program and supporting our growth from the existing 15 young women a year to 75 women a year. That's exponential growth.

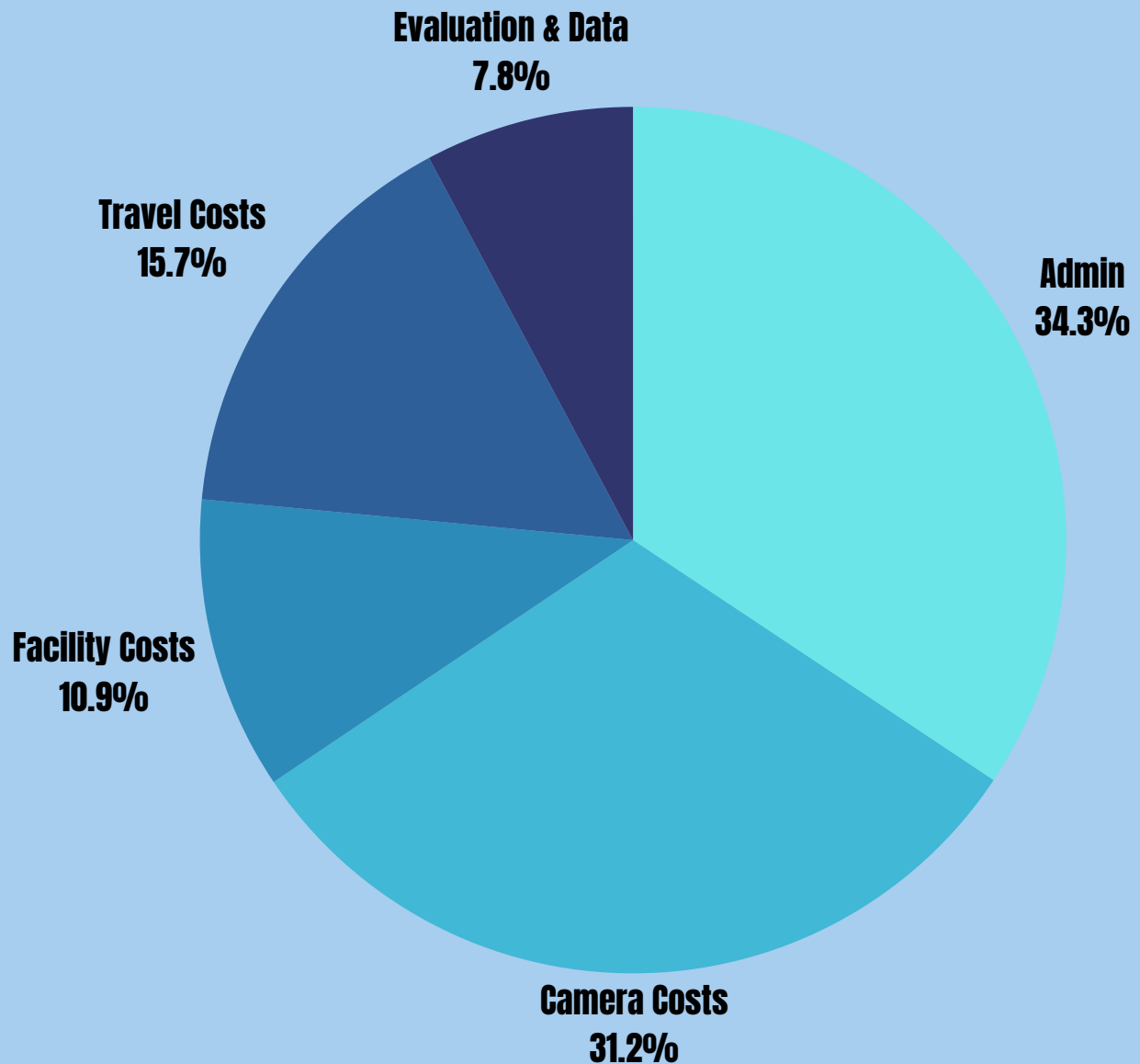
The overarching objective is clear: enable these young women to excel in the traditionally male-dominated fields of journalism and photography while fostering the sustainability of our organization. It also empowers them to be leaders in a society that does not honour their contributions while paying them a wage as trainers under the Cameras For Girls ecosystem.

Your contribution will catalyze change, empowering a new generation of women leaders and reshaping the media landscapes across Africa, starting with Uganda.

Join us in this transformative journey. Together, we can make a lasting impact.



Train the Trainer Program Costs



Admin - \$11,000 CAD, covers stipends for each student + fees for our leadership and public speaking trainer.

Cameras - \$10,000 CAD because each girl will receive a Canon 6D Camera kit to enhance her work pre-and-post training.

Travel - \$5,025 covers the flight, hotel, etc., for the executive director and main trainer from Canada to Uganda.

Facility - \$3,500 covers the training venue + food during the 4-day workshop.

Evaluation & Data - \$2,500 CAD - pays for evaluation data to ensure our program is on track to deliver the impact.

WHY WE NEED YOU

Your unwavering commitment has been the heartbeat of Cameras For Girls, propelling us to empower young women across Africa through the transformative lens of photography. With your partnership, we can achieve even greater heights.

Your generosity has been the foundation upon which we've built a community of empowered women who, in turn, inspire and uplift others. We stand at the threshold of new opportunities, and invite you to help us be a catalyst for change for these young women by investing in our general and program funding. Our Trainer the Trainer initiative is our next big challenge and you can be a part of its potential for exponential growth.

Join us in shaping a future where the voices of young women echo loudly, breaking through gender-based barriers in journalism and photography. Your contribution is not just financial; it is an investment in the aspirations, dreams, and potential of countless young women striving for a brighter future.

+ 64% *Women who took training outside of the school setting saw their incomes and opportunities rise by 64%.*

-55% *Women who took no training outside of the school setting saw their incomes and opportunities decrease by 55%.*

UN Women

Testimonials

"During my time with Cameras For Girls, I learned essential leadership skills, which has been very helpful with my current role as the Executive Director of an NGO in Uganda. Amina inspired me to work harder to empower the girls in our organization."

Vivian Nantambi, Uganda

Cameras for Girls has empowered me as a female photographer and fostered a supportive environment where I could thrive. The instructors at Cameras for Girls were highly skilled professionals and passionate mentors who genuinely cared about my growth. I felt a sense of belonging and encouragement when I enrolled in their photography training program.

Melanie Nabukwasi, Uganda



Thank You For Your Consideration

Reflecting on the achievements and impact we've fostered at Cameras For Girls, we recognize that the journey has just begun. The transformative power of providing young women with tools, skills, and confidence cannot be overstated. It goes beyond skill acquisition; it is about instilling hope and catalyzing change.

Our commitment to empowering women in the male-dominated media industries across Africa and breaking gender barriers in roles traditionally held by men has yielded inspiring results. Yet, the enormity of the task ahead is apparent—the need to propel these young women into fair-paid work where their talents and potential are recognized and celebrated, and their voices are heard loud and clear!

With your continued support, we can accomplish something life-changing for these women together. Your investment in our mission is an investment in a more inclusive and equitable future where every young woman has the opportunity to soar, breaking through societal norms and forging paths that were once impregnable.

As we embark on this ambitious journey, we invite you to participate in the narrative of empowerment, resilience, and change. Join us in shaping a future where these young women enter the media industry and thrive, leaving an indelible mark on the world.

Thank you for believing in our vision and being a crucial partner in this transformative journey.

With Gratitude,

Amina Mohamed
Executive Director and Founder



Get In Touch



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