



# Creating educational opportunities in rural nicaragua.

Welcome to our 2011 Newsletter.

This is our seventh year running Aprender: providing educational opportunities to the Indigenous Community of Las Salinas de Nahuatlapa in rural Nicaragua!

In the next pages you will learn about all that had happened during 2011 thanks to your support and donations.

This has been a great year for Aprender, and we are pleased to say that many dreams came true.

If you know of friends who might be interested in learning more about Aprender please forward this Newsletter along and /or refer them to our website: [AprenderNicaragua.org](http://AprenderNicaragua.org)

Thank you for supporting our work!

Gabriela Prado and James Womack  
Directors



# 2011 GOOD NEWS:

## Student Progress:



During 2011 Aprender sponsored 60 students from Kindergarten to University.

Students receive all the necessary school supplies throughout the year, the school uniform, tutoring classes and the pedagogical orientation and emotional support to make their education successful.

Aprender meets with each student's family, getting to know each particular situation first hand. Counseling parents on the long-term value of education and need

to attend school daily is a crucial part of Aprender's efforts, because parental support is immensely important to a child's education.

Aprender strives to provide educational opportunities inside and outside the school system, organizing art and sports workshops and events all year long to keep the children and youth of Las Salinas motivated and healthy. Aprender also offers a basic educational skills program to those kids who do not attend school but still want to learn how to read, write and do basic math. Aprender has been growing year by year, we started in 2004 sponsoring 25 students and we are pleased to announce that in 2012 we will be sponsoring 80 students!

## UNIVERSITY FUND



MARVIN

Even though many young people want to study at the Public Universities here in Nicaragua, geography and finances make it hard. 'Geography' because Las Salinas is three hours away from Managua, the capital where most Public Universities are located. And 'Finances' because traveling back and forth by bus, buying lunch, books, and tuition all add up. The distance makes studying difficult due to the economic situation of the families in town.

In 2012 we are starting with a new pilot program by setting a University Fund, if you make the decision to support this specific fund, you will be giving many students the opportunity to continue their studies at the University level by helping to provide the money needed for travel, food, book expenses and tuition. Tuition is actually the least expensive part, because these are government-supported public universities.

There are 10 students on our waiting list, some of them want to be Math Professors, others lawyers, others schoolteachers.

During 2010 Aprender sponsored two university students thanks to the considerable and on-going support of Pierre Kory and Marc Gall. Marvin Moraga is finishing his first year of Medical School and Isayana Torres is finishing her second year studying to become an English Teacher.



## LA BIBLIOTECA

Aprender's library, La Biblioteca Los Tres Ernestos, is strategically situated across from the school of Las Salinas and is open to the public Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4:30 pm offering books, art supplies, educational games, and computers for all our visitors and free tutoring classes for elementary and high school students.

La Biblioteca Los Tres Ernestos is the first and only library in town. It is free for everyone and offers a comfortable, safe space for reading, studying and researching. The Library has changed the daily life of many students, being a favorite place to do homework. Children come to the library right after school to look for books or ask questions. The library is also a gathering place for teenagers to study together, and for children to come and play.

We are also receiving more visits from the school-teachers who come to prepare their classes, due to the increase in the number of books that we have had.

We are happy to announce that our 2010 Library Wish List will need to be updated, since we received a donation of National Geographic in Spanish Subscription for two years, thanks to Carrie Massey Lott and Aaron Wilkinson from New Orleans, Louisiana, and Debbie Soderlind from Pensacola, Florida.

Educational Programs in Spanish for Mac Computers and a Globe are now the top items on our library's New Wish List!



## NEW STAFF

Math Professor Mayra Martinez continues to be the librarian at Los 3 Ernestos during the mornings, offering free Math Tutoring Classes for all levels.

Our Project Coordinator and friend Leticia Moraga moved to Managua. Leticia has been an enormous help since the beginning of Aprender, and we miss her a lot. Fortunately, soon after she told us she was moving, we met Gretel Prudente: a young law student from a neighboring town who was willing to work at the library. After volunteering for a month Gretel realized that her heart was at the Library and she was eager to work full time. Now in the mornings she visits families of sponsored students, consults with teachers at the school in order to monitor the students' educational progress, and in the afternoon she works as the librarian.

## BOOK COUNT at the Library

The books at the library keep arriving. As you may know, the Library opened in 2007 with 150 books. By December 2011 the book count reached the mark of 1700 !

Las Salinas is a rural town, and books are a rare item to find in a normal house. During these years the children have learned how to love and care for the books. As this awareness and respect has grown, we've started lending out books. So far, so good: the books are being returned in the best possible way: having been read, but not harmed. We will be expanding the lending program in 2012. We expect this to bring about big changes.

Our gratitude to all the people who have donated books this year, especially to: Espen Haugen, Coralia Talavera, Daniela Kenton, Karen Huiett, Luzmilda Silva, Harus Kruizwic, Cristian Ortiz, Paula Lindsey, Mike Moremaen, Khadine Forbes, Daniela Amador, Kate Tribley, Aja Roberts, Kenny and Joanne Smith.

## TOM'S SHOES



Paula Lindsey, Michael Lindsey, Daniel Lindsey and Doug Carson packed their suitcases with 170 pairs of Toms Shoes, which they brought to Nicaragua in June, 2011.

Organizing and tracing the actual feet of 170 kids onto paper, measuring the drawing (traced foot) in centimeters and converting this info into the US Shoe Sizing system wasn't an easy task. However, it was well worth it when we saw the smiling kids trying on a new pair of comfy black Toms Shoes at a big meeting at the library with lots of volunteers willing to help.

Thanks Blake Andrews and Toms Shoes for your amazing donation of 170 pairs of shoes! Thanks Paula, Michael, Daniel and Doug for making it happen!

## Fund Raiser Dinner for Aprender and Photography Show

In the month of February, under the theme "Many flavors, Many smiles," Patricia Torales, a yogi and photographer from Argentina, put together a Fund Raiser Dinner and Photography Show in Palma de Mallorca, Spain.

The dinner was organized thanks to Jaja and Andy Leeman, and also thanks to Monika and Ignaci, the owners of the vegetarian restaurant Plaer Natural where the event was held.

The Show was the result of the work done by Patricia Torales in photo-documenting the life of our community and taking making portraits of its habitants during her last visit to Las Salinas. The profits from this event helped Aprender to buy school supplies and shoes. We send a big thanks to all the people who participated!



## COMPUTERS at the Library

While computers may be a common item in most of the world, here in rural Nicaragua they are not. And so the six Macintosh computers that arrived in February at the library were received with great curiosity, joy, and excitement by the local kids.

These computers were donated by ComputeReach, run by Dave Sevick, and directly sponsored by Scott Hagg and Tessa Gunther.

ComputeReach is a humanitarian computer outreach organization dedicated to serving communities in the USA and internationally in places where second-hand computers are highly sought after and appreciated.

This donation was possible thanks to the combined efforts of Dave Sevick, Goodwill of Southwestern PA, Janet Foerster (President of Inner-Change Works) and her Nicaraguan team: Edgar Largaespada and Juan Martinez; Dennis Abbot, Jim Bennett, Luke Hingson, Bob Donaldson, Jim Librecht, Nancy Clark, and Peter Carraand.

From day one, the computers at the Library have been always on and in use!! Daily classes now are offered to every one who wants to learn how to use them.



## APRENDER IN THE NEWSPAPER !

During the Month of February we received the visit from Jose Adan Silva, a journalist from the national Newspaper El Nuevo Diario.

Children and adults got excited and flooded the library to check what was going on. The president of the Indigenous Community Luzmilda Silva (no relation to the journalist) and the Vice Director of the School Filomena Ruiz were part of the interview, supporting Aprender, expressing their opinions about the impact that the Library and Aprender's on-going programs have had in town. Here is the link for the article in Spanish <http://www.elnuevodiario.com.ni/nacionales/95793> for anybody who may be curious.



# PROJECTS AND WORKSHOPS 2011

## MUSIC CLASSES

### FLUTE:

Teresa Ballester Moreno and Emiliano Calcagno who visited during 2008 from Spain made a donation of flutes for the library, and besides random acts of playing without instruction, we were hoping somebody with knowledge would come and teach us how to play them.

This is why when we learned that Mindy McGee and Jessica Blundell not only had the knowledge but they were also willing to teach the kids how to play flute, everybody got really excited.

A group of 10 talented students took classes and learned the scale and how to play "Mary had a Little Lamb"! At the end of the workshop the students performed at the local school in front of a group of peers and proud mothers!

### GITAR:

In 2010 we started the Guitar Project thanks to the initial donation from Jason Reiff. The library now has six guitars to lend to the students who want to come to practice. Local guitarists Tom Gordon and James Womack have lent their teaching skills to the guitar project in 2010 and 2011.

During 2011 we had additional professors: Zuzu Ford and Joel Lohner. They taught the kids the history of the guitar, the names of the strings as well as finger exercises to the new younger students. They also taught some major chords and how to switch between them. This group also learned to play Mary had a Little Lamb to be able to perform at the local school along with the Flute Class.

## ENGLISH CLASSES



During 2011 the English Classes were a big success. We were lucky to have many volunteers willing to teach English in our community.

We began the year by receiving Maja Ortiz with a group of volunteers from Cadre Academy during the month of January. Teaching one on one: 35 Nicaraguan students had the privilege to receive private English tutoring classes and the results were incredible. The children were very happy to get the full attention of the skilled

teachers: Sara Gallina, Leanne Mills, Laura Wingfield, Mia Phillips, Destiny Loven, Ellane Bergen, Mara Shaw, Amber Roemhildt, Tori Michel, Brooke Specht, Maja Ortiz, Mckenzie Davis, Hannah Blume, Jessica Blundell, and Laurie Hinson

During the months of February and March Zack Ostiller took over the challenge and continued teaching English at the Library. Zack lived in Las Salinas for many months, while working on various community projects.

Emellia Dalle from San Francisco, California and Kate Tribley from Idaho taught during June, July and August, while in October we received Aja Roberts who continued with the English language classes.

Isayana Torres, a young Nicaraguan, continues teaching English at the local school for students of fifth and sixth grades. Aprender supports Isayana's university studies to become an English Teacher and her teaching at our local school is one of the ways in which she shows her gratitude for her university sponsorship: by returning educational support directly.



# SPORTS

In Las Salinas everybody loves sports; especially baseball and soccer. Organized sports and games are a huge opportunity for physical and social development. Learning about discipline, teamwork, respect, sportsmanship, confidence, and the importance of determination and intensive training (i.e.: hard work), are important values, and sports do a great job of teaching them, as they carry over into other aspects of life.

## Baseball

Katie Kersenbrock Watts was the first person organizing baseball games between locals and visiting foreigners, guiding a big group of children and teenagers during games where lots of people had much fun.



## Soccer

Heather Frye came to Salinas with the idea of sharing her sports talents with our community. Her goal was to create consistent interaction and build relationships with the youth of Salinas through healthy physical activity. She wanted to build on the idea of teamwork, relationships, and cooperation between the kids themselves in a fun safe healthy environment.” Heather stayed in Las Salinas for 3 months and she organized the first children’s soccer team.

Kate Tribley from Idaho and Rosie Scheibel from Auburn, USA, continued and built-upon Heather’s soccer initiative. Kate and Rosie organized and coached three separate teams of enthusiastic local soccer players: a teenaged boys team, a youth boys team, and a youth girls team. Kate also organizes and supports the local women softball team!



## Surfing Classes

In the month of June, surfers Michael, Jake and Daniel Lindsey, Macky Bowlin, Steve Morris and Tyler Souder took a group of 8 kids to the ocean with surfboards. Needless to say the children loved it. Even though we live so close to the ocean and our beaches our famous in the surfing world, most children of Las Salinas do not surf. This was a special occasion that nobody will forget.



## Swimming



Among all the classes, the swimming lessons are a big favorite. These classes are usually taught at the local Hot Springs' pool.

In January 2011 the children had the privilege to have private swimming tutors. The volunteer teachers were Toria Michel, Brooke Specht, Hannah Blume, Mindy Mc- Gee, Mara Shaw, Ellane Bergen, Laura Wingfield, Mia Fillips, Mckenzie Davis, Leanne Mills, Katie Watts, Zuzu Ford, Monica Ortiz, Laurie Hinson, Sarah Smith, Sarah Gallina, Destiny Loven, Kate Veldman,

Melody Paige, Amber Roemhildt, Mason Holcombe, David Fonseca, Yohan Jung, Joe Lohner, Jessica Blundel, Caleb Barber, Joe Miller, Michael Vandijik, Isaac Shepherd, Reymark Franke, Zack Thomason, Jeremiah Bill, and Chris Reitz.

Monica Ragan from Olympia, WA, visited us on the month of February. She took a group swimming students and taught the kids breathing techniques, foot/leg work, and how to float. Leonore Edwards, Bryana Crockett, Sarah Broker, Emma Trisolini and Sam Huff from Carolina Friends School continued with the classes during May and June and also brought the students to the lagoon and the beach/ocean for swimming.

During June and July the teachers were: Harrison Strand, T Y Mc Duffie and Natalie Chesser. Kate Tribley, Jessica Southern, Alicia Carvajal and Rosie Scheibel are currently in charge of the swimming classes, and as the year comes to an end we are receiving Lori and Luci Eichelberger to continue with the swimming program.

## Yoga Classes



Chris Harrison from Modesto, California was our guest yoga teacher from March through June. He taught yoga to two groups: kids in the mornings, teenagers in the afternoon. Chris studied Sivananda Yoga at the Sivananda Ashram in Madurai, India in 2007. In his own words: "I had a wonderful time teaching the kids of Las Salinas! What an energetic and enthusiastic group! It was a real treat to have such young students lend me so much attention and concentration. I learned a lot from the kids. They gave me daily lessons on pa-

tience, mental flexibility, and acceptance of my lack of Spanish. I would like to thank the kids of Las Salinas, and to James and Gabriela for giving me an opportunity to give back to the community through Los 3 Ernestos."

The Library has 11 yoga mats donated by Integral Yoga Institute of New York. Yoga. More mats are needed and always welcome. You can donate your used yoga mat sending it through normal mail (please do not use private mail systems like Fed Ex or DHL) to: Biblioteca Los 3 Ernestos / Apartado Postal 11 / Correos de Nicaragua / Rivas, Nicaragua.



## COMPUTER CLASSES

Since we received the donation of the 6 Mac computers, the children and youth of Las Salinas have been eager to learn more and more!

Ali Maitland was the first volunteer to start teaching the basics on how to use a computer to the children. Dawn Moraga continued the task, followed by Zack Ostiller and Gretel Prudente who keeps offering private tutoring for the children and teenagers who visit the library daily.

It has been amazing to witness how fast the kids learn. From not knowing how to turn on a computer, you can now find 6 year old children sitting at the computer typing faster than they can write by hand.

If you would like to help us make even better use of these computers, we are looking for educational programs and educational games in Spanish! Please contact us.



## PUBLIC CLEANINGS AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSCIOUSNESS CLASSES

Cleaning our beaches, the river, the hot springs and the town has been an ongoing activity in Aprender. In a combined effort with the local school and our sister project Club Limpio, we have been raising consciousness about how garbage has an impact on the environment and in our daily lives.

Zack Ostiller helped organize a group of children in a Cleaning Brigade: walking the town picking up garbage, setting the example. This made a big impact in how the town looked. Zack also used his FSD mini fund of US\$ 200 towards buying three public garbage containers in Las Salinas. With the help of the Junta Directiva of the Indigenous Community, Club Limpio, Francisco, Franklin, Jamilton and Jeffry Rodriguez, Zack installed the containers, and we are glad to inform you that these public trash containers are getting good use. Every Monday, they are emptied and brought to the dump, an hour away, by the Club Limpio Garbage Truck.

## AFTERNOON CINEMA

In February, we held our first Afternoon Cinema at Los Tres Ernestos. 75 kids packed into the room to watch The Lion King projected onto a large screen. We have never had this many people inside our small one-room library before. Infants, kids, teenagers, and parents sat on the floor, chairs, desks, tables, or stood on tip toes at the back of the room. The combination of a large screen, huge speakers, and a great movie made for a magical experience.

This cinematic experience was replayed in November during the inaugural celebration of the Art Room. This time, the audience of a 103 kids and adults enjoyed The Smurfs and The Flintstones, while eating delicious doughnuts made by the mothers.

In December 21st, with the End of the Year Party, kids enjoyed the movie theatre experience one more time. During 2012, we plan on continuing with our Afternoon Movies and we hope to establish the Educational Video Program, which will have scheduled large-screen screenings focused on teaching about science, nature, history, and the arts.



## KNITTING WORKSHOP



Cathinka Haagensen is a 20 year-old from Bergen, Norway. She visited us during the month of March with the purpose of teaching knitting techniques. Cathinka brought a whole set of supplies including needles of all sizes and lots of colorful yarn, knitting recipes/instructions for hats, bathing suits and hand-bags all in Spanish and English!

A group of eager boys and girls got together with Cathinka and learned the basics of knitting. After the workshop each student left with a pair of needles and supplies of yarn to keep working at home. Cathinka also donated knitting supplies to the library. Thanks Cathinka!

## PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Carolina's Friend School brought a donation of eleven digital cameras for the library to be use for Photography Workshops.

The first workshop took place in June. The teams were organized into small groups of three people: one visiting high school student from Carolina's Friends School paired with two children from Las Salinas.

They got together early in the morning at the library and then spread out across the area on a "photography treasure hunt" with the theme being: "Salinas my town." The groups had specific goals to find and photograph: e.g.: a pig, horse, largest tree, babies, cows, etc.

Davi Nydick Cheshire, Joe MacPhail, Milo Kim Meyer, Esten Fabec, Sam Huff, Sarah Booker, Emma Hoyle, Emma Trisolini, Brynna Crockett, Lenore Edwards, Dave Cesa, Jolene Wells, David Nidyck and Haley Serles-Bohs were the lucky students from North Carolina who got to know our town with the help of personal young guides with cameras. Everybody had a blast. Most of these children were using cameras for the first time in life.

In December 21st at the End of Year Party we had a Show at the Art Room where all the families in town gathered to admire their children's artwork.



## CLEAN WATER



Clean potable water is nothing to take for granted in rural Nicaragua.

Kidney problems are a major concern in our town, since the water supply is not 100% reliable.

In the month of April, Robert Lavelle and a group of Carolina's Friends School students and teachers from North Carolina had a bike ride / fund-raising event in North Carolina. They raised enough money to buy 25 clay water filters, which they bought upon their arrival and distributed them personally. Thanks to their donation clean drinking water is now available to all the schools, kindergartens, maternity and health centers in the towns of: Las Salinas, La Virgen Morena, El Astillero, and San Ignacio here in Nicaragua!

Each water filter was delivered along with a short instructional seminar on how to use, clean, and maintain them. With proper care, each filter should last for many years.



# A DREAM COMES TRUE

## Art Room-Cultural Center

We had the dream of an Art Room and we shared it with you in our 2009 and 2010 Newsletters. In this newsletter we get to tell you that it is no longer a dream, but a reality.

The Art Room and Cultural Center is a 550 square foot annex to the Library. It is one large, open room; with a high ceiling and five enormous windows. This new space will greatly enhance the educational, cultural, social opportunities for the people of the Indigenous Community of Salinas de Nahualapa.

It will serve many crucial roles: as an art room for holding educational programs, workshops and making art; as a gallery for displaying art; as a theater for viewing slideshows, documentaries, movies, performances, etc.; as a performance space where local and non-local artists can rehearse and perform: dances, musical shows, puppet shows, poetry readings, history lectures; as a meeting house for various groups in the town; as a location to hold skills training workshops in many areas: sewing classes, arts and crafts, jewelry, carpentry, etc.

Who made this possible?  
Many people coming together  
for a common cause.

We have been amazed by the hard work that many visitors put into making the Art Room possible. Carrying sand and gravel, mixing cement, bending and tying rebar, working with bricks ... all this work and more was done by two groups of hard workers: the Carolina Friends School's students and teachers organized by Robert Lavelle who donated their labor, time, and money, which started the project from zero; and the group Waves of Love organized by Paula and Michael Lindsey who came right after to continue working hard for 5 weeks non stop, with the great financial help of Blake Andrews, Natalie McGuire, Dan Walshaw, Greg Kinsey, and Mike Worthy.

The expenses of building the roof and the floor were covered thanks the FSD organization, which approved Aprender's \$3,000 Grant proposal. Lots of other people lent their hands and donated money to this project: Lisa Marie Howell and Children's Global Alliance, Rick Briggs, Kimberly and James Yemma, Elizabeth Cecil, Rhonda Davis, Brandon and Kirsten Ekstrom, Paula Erickson, Morris Naus, Daniel Naus, David Silver, Luke Shope, Julian Paris, Grant Sufferling and Maja Ortiz.

Alvaro Rivas deserves applause for his steady hand as foreman on the project. Alvaro was hired to organize and oversee the project's development over months with various different groups of volunteer workers. Last, but certainly not least, thanks is due to our Nicaraguan neighbors and high school students who donated their muscles and sweat to a project that stretched over many months.

The Art Room celebrated its inauguration on November 11th, but we have a little more work to do. If you like to help us finish it, your donation will be used to install electricity, buy fans, build shelves and some tables and chairs.



## ART CLASSES

The children in Salinas love art in all its manifestations. Thanks to our friends who visited us throughout the year, and left us donations of art supplies, we can offer crayons, water-colors, acrylics, and markers to our eager young visitors who are willing to discover and create new worlds through color.

Paula Lindsey and her group Waves of Love, Dawn Moraga, Monica Ortiz, Maja Ortiz and her group from Cadre Academy, Kate Tribley, Lori and Luci Eichelberger all taught a variety of art classes during the year.



### Tie-Dye Workshop

Organized at the library and at the local school as a part of the school's Arts & Crafts Class, a big group of students learned a new technique until now never saw in town: tie-dyeing.

Paula Lindsey and the group Waves of Love brought t-shirts and dye paints for all the students. They taught a workshop on how to make tie dyed t-shirts.

The students received their own piece of art as a present. The technique needed a whole day to dry out and to see the results; everybody was excited to untie the shirts. The following day everybody was wearing his or her new colorful shirt!



### BRAZILIAN SAMBA CLASSES

Khadine Forbes from Panama visited us in August. The hot weather did not stop her from teaching the basics of Brazilian Samba Dancing to a group of young Nicaraguan teenagers and some "local foreigners." Kadhine left CD's with Brazilian music, in order for her students to keep practicing and to be ready for the classes that will continue in 2012 when she is back from her world trip.

In a town where salsa, bachata, merengue and reggaeton are the only music most people know and dance to, the new dancers were very excited to learn the new Samba moves!



### GAME DAYS

Playing games with the kids is a great way to share and learn. Many visitors during the year did this. Either using the many board and card games, gigsaw puzzles, and legos that the library has to offer, or by playing and teaching how to play new games like: Duck-Duck-Goose, jumping rope, chicken fighting, musical chairs, etc...

The kids love these group games and it really helps visitors create a bond with our community.



## Give and Receive

As you just read, during 2011 we received help from many people, not only visitors who came and offered their time and talents, but also people like you who donated books, art, sports and school supplies, and money. Our sincere appreciation to all of you who make Aprender possible.

*Special thanks (beyond all the people we already named above) to: David Reif for the school uniform donations, Michelle Chackerian and Robert Lavelle for their ongoing support, Patricia Torales for designing this Newsletter and making it real, Sara Frank Bristow for keeping our website working, Marie and Joel Pitt, Jean Ross and John Womack for their immense support throughout all these years.*

*Thanks for all the financial contributions from: Rhonda Davis, Scott Hagg, Leslie and Odile Kory, Alex and Lisa Sherwin, Ben Lichtenstein, Pierre Kory and his family, Marlene Nelson, George Kokuryo, Elizabeth Cowit, Marc Gall, Kathrin Uhlman, Miles Walsh, Robert Hynson, Carrie Massey, James and Kimberly Yemma, Choon Hiang Chung, Bruce Campbell, Elizabeth Cecil, Children's Global Alliance, Paloma Urrutia, Maja Ortiz, Kathinca Haegensen, Paula and Michael Lindsey, Dave Slempp, Bill Miller, Jan Lutltanguer, Jay and Lisa Katzman, Lisa Marie Howell, Aaron Wilkinson, Justin Donovan, Debbie Soderlind, Adam Banooddy, Kevin Malone, Keagan and Scott, Cecelia Gambala, Janet J. Foerster, Eli, Sarai and David Shoup, Nelly Asfura, Ernesto Sun, Janet, Jen and Greg Zaidel, FSD (Ramiro and Steve as well!), Blake Andrews, Natalie McGuire, Dan Walshaw, Greg Kinsey, Mike Worthy, Juan Serantes. Davi Nydick Cheshire, Joe MacPhail, Milo Kim Meyer, Esten Fabec, Sam Huff, Sarah Booker, Emma Hoyle, Emma Trisolini, Brynna Crockett, Lenore Edwards, Dave Cesa, Jolene Wells, Haley Serles-Bohs, Pablo Betesh.*

## Good Bye 2011

2011 has been our seventh year running Aprender. Aprender is run by Gabriela Prado and James Womack here in Nicaragua and by John Womack in Princeton, New Jersey. We all volunteer our time and efforts to make it happen. It is a lot of work, but we feel it is important and we are amazed with the results that have come about: as we live here, we get to see the changes and advances on a daily basis.

**We are happy to say that in 2012 Aprender will be sponsoring 80 students!**

This Holiday Season please consider making a donation that will provide educational opportunities throughout the entire year.

Your donations are a crucial resource that allow us to make a significant positive impact in the lives of many children in the Indigenous Community Las Salinas de Nahualapa, Nicaragua.

**Donations are US tax deductible and go directly toward improving educational opportunities. You can contact us and/or make your donation by visiting our website: [aprendernicaragua.org](http://aprendernicaragua.org)**

Thanks again!

**Gabriela Prado and James Womack**  
Directors – Aprender, Nicaragua

