

The Tsehay Zewde Memorial Scholarship (TZMS)



Established in 2011 in memory of the late Tsehay Zewde to support all female students with visual impairment attending AA University.





Among the graduate. Rebecca is an aspiring diplomat currently working in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs





Our graduates find employment in different Government services. Addis Alem is our Program Coordinator. She graduated in 2016 and currently works in the city administration on women and children.





The measure of our success is the significant decrease of the drop out rate among blind female students from 95% to less than 1% since this Program started in 2011.

Four AAU students who did not fulfill their academic requirements transferred to Kotebe Teachers Training College. They are due to graduate in 2021.

The Program will extend its support to 17 new blind female students attending Kotebe Metropolitan University in Addis Abeba.



Many students are encouraged to continue on to the Masters program. Bekelech is our first PhD student, she majored in English language and literature. She commutes from Bishoftu, 61 km south of Addis, to is prepare her doctoral thesis. Bekelech is also a great poet and writer.

An average of 15 scholarship students graduate every year from different departments mainly, Social Studies, Sociology, Law, Languages and Social Needs, Political Science and Folklore.



paid internship program, facilitated by ECDD (Ethiopian Center for Disability and Development)m

THE THREE PILLARS OF THE PROGRAM

Each student receives a 3 way support from the Program:

1. **Financial grant** of 900 birr/term
2. **Technological support:** 60 digital voice recorders and 35 laptops were distributed todate
3. **Skills training**, including
 - empowerment and life skills training



- Mentorship and leadership training



- Tailored computer classes in the summer
- Job-readiness training for graduate



- Addis Abeba University



- Bahr Dar University



- Ethiopian Association for the Blind
- Initiative Africa and Swedish SIDA

- Lemn Sissay, Chancellor of Manchester University, famous poet and author of “My name is why”
- Bethlehem Dessie, youngest IT guru in Ethiopia with 7 software patents to her name and founder of ICOG lab in Ethiopia
- Yusuf Reja, CEO Ethiojobs

OUR FUTURE

- Continue supporting 47 blind female students at AA University



- Create an alumni association and promote mentorship



- Start a similar program at Bahr Dar University to support 27 blind students in 2020.
- Solicit donations of used laptops from foreign universities and enterprises
- Increase access to adaptive technologies and computer training
- Expand empowerment training, summer programs and job readiness training



FUNDING

The Program was founded and sustained over the years with a personal grant made by Aster Zaoude in memory of her sister Tsehay Zewde.

It has received several small and large grants from individuals and agencies as well as laptop donations.



All financial contributions will be received and managed by Rotary Club AA Entoto.

The estimated yearly budget is around 350,000 birr.

Please make your contribution to:

Bank of Abyssinia

Current account N° 21822

Name of Account Holder: Rotary Club of AA ENTOTO

Name of the Depositor: TZMSP/your name

TZMSP stands for Tsehay Zewde Memorial Scholarship Program. The bank will issue you a deposit slip to serve as your receipt.

We sincerely appreciate your generous support.

Aster Zaoude

Founder of the Tsehay Zewde Memorial Scholarship

Email: azaoude@gmail.com

Mobile: +251911511976