

"Walter's Flying Bus" App Unites Global Creative Team To Bring Orphans' Dreams to Life

Chosen & Dearly Loved has made public the story behind the development of the animated App inspired by orphans with special needs, "Walter's Flying Bus." The inspirational story of development coincides with the recent release on iTunes.

Los Angeles, CA (<u>PRWEB</u>) January 04, 2013 -- The recent launch of <u>"Walter's Flying Bus"</u> offers hope for orphans with special needs dreaming of a place in a permanent and loving home, and the developers, Chosen & Dearly Loved have released background details sure to also inspire.

In 2009, Michael & Mandy Gallagher did a Google search for information on "orphans with special needs." "To our surprise, very little information was available for our family as we considered adopting a child with special needs," Mandy Gallagher, co-founder, shared in a statement. "This planted the seeds to someday create a website that could encourage other families pursuing special needs adoptions."

The launch of the Gallagher's organization, <u>Chosen & Dearly Loved</u>, is the fulfillment of that dream. In addition, the website created the platform "Forever Families" that is releasing multiple short documentaries to tell the stories of permanent loving families adopting orphans with special needs..

This was just the beginning, as a broader "trans-media" campaign has been launched that includes "Walter's Flying Bus," an Animated storybook App available on iTunes featuring direct contributions from the children in Africa.

The idea of an orphan advocacy App was first conceived in early 2010 by the Gallagher's good friend, David L. Cunningham of Global Virtual Studio (GVS). Cunningham, a studio film director (To End All Wars, 20th Century Fox; The Seeker: The Dark is Rising, Fox-Walden Media), encouraged the Gallaghers to take their vision "beyond," where the world of new-media production and viewing was heading. The Gallaghers listened.

In 2010, emerging Fresno, California-based filmmaker, Josiah Thiesen, got the call from Cunningham to direct a trans-media project which included a storytelling website, animated eBook, and several short documentaries to aid in their efforts.

Additionally, Cunningham added veteran film producer from Los Angeles, Edwin Marshall (To End All Wars; After.Life) who brought in, Caleb Kerlin, editor from New York, to join the team. Dr. Dennis Sempebwa, a Ugandan born educator handled the narration for both English and Luganda. Through GVS, Canadian children's author, Ed Strauss, was engaged, as was the animation studio, Metacube, based in Guadalajara, Mexico, which had recently developed a "motion comic" book to promote Cunningham's new film, Day of War.

In Los Angeles, Clint Nitkiewicz Hernandez of New Element Productions formed a team of animators in India to help complete "Walter's Flying Bus" for a Christmas 2012 launch.

Santa Monica-based App programming company, <u>ISBX</u> coordinated proven programmers in the Philippines. Meanwhile, Grammy Award-winning music producer, Greg Nelson, engaged Disney composer, David Hamilton, and several acclaimed musicians and recording engineers in Nashville, who together created original



scores for the App and documentaries under Nelson's supervision.

Yet through it all, most important to the Gallaghers, Cunningham and the global creative team, was staying true to the real-life children featured in their media. Rather than being portrayed as limited by their special needs, each child was to be seen and celebrated for the whole person they are. Thus nine orphans with special needs, Walter, Debra, Jason, Zeke, Rachel, Mweru, Arafat, Selina and Zak, painted their dreams with Ugandan art therapist, Jaffer Buyinza in Jinja, Uganda at the Ekisa Orphanage. The children's dreams were fused with those of David L. Cunningham, the Gallaghers, and creative professionals from around the world, and "Walter's Flying Bus" took flight on the Apple iTunes App Store this past Christmas.

About ChosenandDearlyLoved.org:

Believing in the dignity and value of all children, the producers donate 100% of after-tax profits to help provide permanent, loving families for orphans with special needs around the globe.

People who would like to purchase the animated story, should click here to visit: "Walter's Flying Bus" on iTunes.

People who would like to learn more about the organization and its efforts to help change the world one child at a time, should click here to visit:

http://www.chosenanddearlyloved.org



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