



Making Faces

THIS SUMMER I had the privilege of traveling to Ghana, Africa, with my fellow healthcare students. Throughout my trip I fell in love with the Ghanaian culture. We had the chance of visiting Hardhaven, an orphanage for Ghanaian children. I was immediately drawn to a sad little boy, Lassie. No matter what I tried, he would not smile, but I was not going to give up on this one. Eventually, he did warm up to me and we ended up taking goofy “selfies” on my iPhone and tossed a ball around while laughing hysterically. He could not stop smiling and clung onto me tight for the rest of our visit. I later found out that he was new to the home because he had just recently lost both of his parents to HIV/AIDS. Before we departed, I gave him a warm hug and began to cry. Leaving him was way more of a challenge than I had anticipated. He taught me so much about love, life, and strength. I left with a very heavy heart that day, but open eyes and a happy soul. I fell in love with a 6-year-old boy, who will forever hold a special place in my heart.

SUZIE RICHARDS

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YOU'RE INVITED! We invite you to submit your photos along with a brief (approximately 200 words) description of why these images are important in your understanding of a person, place, idea, or incident from your experiences in international education. The photos could be of a simple moment on your home campus involving international students, a major event in an exotic location, or anything in between. The editors of *International Educator* will run selections on this page throughout the year. Please contact us for submission details at magazine@nafsa.org.