

## Cambodian Education Excellence Foundation



### Letter from the President

Dear friends and supporters,

The holiday season has always been a time for giving and sharing. This season has been exceptional for the CEE Foundation for we have received unwavering supports and contributions from so many friends around the world. I sincerely thank you all for making 2008 a great year for the CEE Foundation. Let us make 2009 even better.

Even though we have found ourselves constrained by limited resources, we have still been able to make major strides toward improving the education of many students. We have been able to provide 128 scholarships for higher education to poor but deserving Cambodians and to dedicate a school library and water well to our young students at Banteay Meanchey. Your strong support, dedication, and sacrifice fuel our desire to work tirelessly to promote higher education for our young Cambodians.

With the investment of good seeds, we have a duty and moral obligation to preserve and protect our seed growth. Our good deeds do not only contribute to the academic achievement of these bright and young individuals, but also foster a strong and positive moral character for them to be good citizens.

*(Continued on p. 8)*

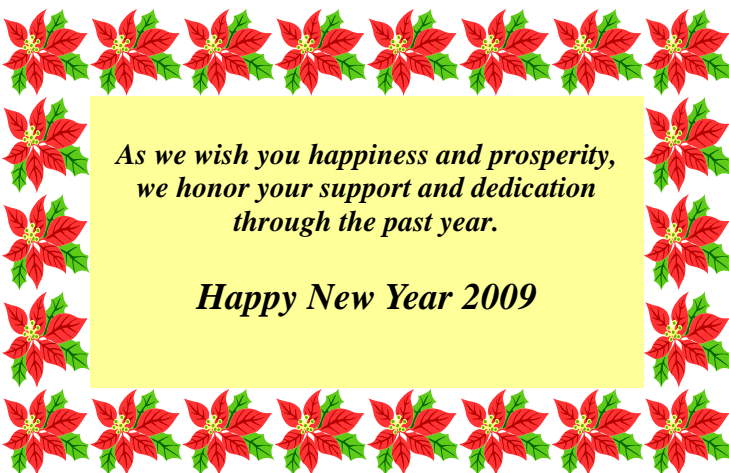
### Briefs

- ▶ The CEE Foundation has registered with Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania.
- ▶ December 25, 2008: The 2008-2009 scholarship award ceremony took place at the Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC), Phnom Penh. Some 90 students — former high school graduates from Phnom Penh and various provinces — have received financial assistance to study at 14 universities in Phnom Penh and Battambang. See pages 2 to 5 for more information.
- ▶ November 22, 2008: Mr. Bunkorn Yun, a member of our Board, and President of Fondation Enfants Cambodgiens (Canada), has organized a fundraising evening in Montreal, Canada.
- ▶ October 31, 2008: A fundraiser, organized by CEE Foundation members in Washington D.C. and neighboring states, took place in Falls Church, Virginia.
- ▶ October 11, 2008: Grand opening of a School Library in Phoum Svay, Banteay Meanchey province. The CEE Foundation, in cooperation with Khmer Buddhist Association (KBA), a Cambodian NGO, has funded the purchase of furnitures and books for the library. A water well digging project within the school compound has also received funding from the CEE Foundation, thanks to a special donation from Ms. Mantha Yong (Virginia) and family.

### 2008-2009 Scholarship Award Ceremony Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC) Phnom Penh, December 25, 2008



See page 2 for more information.



*As we wish you happiness and prosperity,  
we honor your support and dedication  
through the past year.*

**Happy New Year 2009**

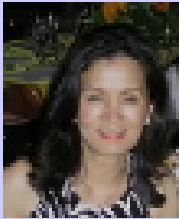
**Season's Greetings From All of Us at CEE Foundation**



# មូលនិធិខ្មែរសម្រាប់ការសិក្សា Cambodian Education Excellence Foundation

ផ្តល់ឱកាសសិក្សាស្មើគ្នាសម្រាប់គ្រប់គ្នា Equal Education Opportunity for All.

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## *Latest News from Cambodia ...*

Thursday, December 25, 2008

Dear All CEE Foundation officers, members and supporters,

Our award ceremony this morning went very well with all the work of our volunteers in Cambodia, and with the great support of the ITC staffs under the direction of Dr. Tithra. We are very grateful to the kind support of ITC. Thanks both to Dr. Romny and Dr. Tithra and their staff.

Attendees were 85 students and the Under Secretary of State Mrs. Tun Sam Im, our Board member Mr. Tan Chiep, our advisor Alan Lightman and representatives from ITC, RULE and RUPP.

The Award Ceremony this year was not just an award ceremony. It turned out to feel like a Leadership Seminar with a clear message to students from all of us: that they are not just poor students receiving the money to go to school. They are the future of Cambodia and they are asked to start giving back the minute they leave the ceremony; helping their friends, neighbors, kids in the streets in any way that is possible and within their means to help.

Thanks to Sophorn and Ratha and our Cambodia team's careful planning, we had a Q & A session, and social session where we were able to speak to students personally. During the break, I had the opportunity to speak to the students about the Foundation's goal that we want the students to start forming the student organization so that they can form a network to support one another academically and eventually staying connected in their work force in the future. I also asked them, as a student group, to brain storm to find ways that they can help Cambodia as a whole. I was delighted with their enthusiasm and commitment, and desire for change, although they expressed a bit of a hesitation that their effort will not work with Cambodia in the condition that it is in now. But at the end of the event, the students were exchanging contact information. We, as a Foundation, will stay in close touch with the students and follow up with them to foster this community spirit among the students. This will make a huge impact of the social connection that is so lack among the students and in Cambodia at large, right now.

We will be on TV tomorrow, I was told. And Cambodia Daily heard about the CEE Foundation, and asked me a few questions, so they will be writing about the CEE Foundation in the tomorrow or Saturday's edition.

I am sending you a group picture of us to Greet you on this Christmas Day!!!  
And we wish you a very Happy New Year!!!

Best regards,  
Chenda

CHENDA SMEAD  
Vice President of Public Relations  
Cambodian Education Excellence Foundation



## Snapshot of Scholarship Recipients for the School Year 2008-2009

By Samudd Chhim

Total number of applicants	188
Number of scholarship awards for the Dec 25, 2008 ceremony	90
Total amount of scholarship awards for 2008-2009	US\$ 22,500
Average scholarship amount per student, per year	US\$ 250
Average age of students (years)	21.39
<u>By type of applicants:</u>	
New students	70
Renewal from 2007-2008 school year	20
<u>By gender:</u>	
Female	32
Male	58
<u>By type of funding:</u>	
General fund (US\$ 18,800)	76
Special funds (US\$ 3,700)	14
<u>By University:</u>	
1. Asia Euro University (US\$ 300)	1
2. Build Bright University (US\$ 800)	3
3. Build Bright University Battambang (US\$ 200)	1
4. Buriram Rajabhat University, Thailand (US\$ 200) *	1
5. Cambodian Mekong University (US\$ 1,200)	6
6. Cambodian Univ for Specialties (US\$ 200)	1
7. Institute of Technology of Cambodia (US\$ 6,400)	32
8. National Institute for Technology Training (US\$ 200)	1
9. National Institute of Business (US\$ 300)	1
10. National Institute of Education (US\$ 300)	1
11. National University of Management (US\$ 800)	3
12. Paññastra University of Cambodia (US\$ 1,200)	4
13. Royal University of Law and Economics (US\$ 6,000)	20
14. Royal University of Phnom Penh (US\$ 4,400)	15
<u>By high school location:</u>	
Phnom Penh	21
Provinces	69
<u>Parents' income and students' grades:</u>	
Average monthly income of both parents **	US\$ 87
Average High School GPA	2.1 (Grade C)
Average University GPA	3.0 (Grade B)
Number of Grade B students in High School	22
Number of Grade A students in University	4
Number of Grade B or B+ students in University	41

(\* ) A renewal student — graduated in 2007 from Phni Meas high school, Takeo province — has received a scholarship to study Computer Science in Thailand in June 2008. Due to ongoing border problems between Cambodia and Thailand, this student has serious financial difficulties while continuing his study in Thailand. On an exceptional basis, the Selecting committee agreed to renew his scholarship award for the 2008-2009 school year.

(\*\*) Using an exchange rate of 4,000 riels to one US dollar.

*Continued on p. 4*

## List of Scholarship Recipients for the School Year 2008-2009

Name	Gender	University	Year in University	Major
Nget Rath	M	Asia Euro University	1	English
Hok Piseth	M	Build Bright University (BBU)	3	Information System
Ven. Peich Siha	M	Build Bright University (BBU)	4	Law
Ven. Son Hien	M	Build Bright University (BBU)	3	Management
Keo Rida	F	Build Bright University Battambang	1	Accounting & Finance
Heng Phanith	M	Buriram Rajabhat University, Thailand	1	Computer Science
Chay Chanliden	M	Cambodian Mekong University	2	Information Technology
Chum Phearin	M	Cambodian Mekong University	3	Computer Science
Hem Nary	F	Cambodian Mekong University	3	Tourism Management
Seng Sokha	M	Cambodian Mekong University	3	Computer Science
Shin Tula	M	Cambodian Mekong University	3	Computer Information System
Sok Savry	F	Cambodian Mekong University	3	Tourism Management
Phea Dary	F	Cambodian Univ for Specialties	1	English
Bak Davan	F	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	2	General Science
Bou Monorom	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	3	Electrical Engineering
Chea Davith	F	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	1	Information Technology
Chhang Sophy	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	3	Civil Engineering
Chhay Korng Chiv	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	2	Industrial & Mechanical Engineering
Chiv Sophak	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	3	Rural Engineering
Douk Khemera	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	2	Civil Engineering Technician
Eav Saran	F	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	3	Chemistry
Hak Danet	F	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	4	Chemical & Food Techno Engineering
Hel Chanthan	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	2	Information Technology
Hin Sophal	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	4	Rural development engineering
Hoeurn Naichy	F	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	2	Civil Engineering
Huot Phirun	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	4	Civil Engineering
Ke Kranit	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	2	Civil Engineering
Khun Penglay	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	1	Civil Building Special Tech
Liv Yi	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	4	Industrial & Mechanical Engineering
Ly Samnang	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	2	Civil Engineering
Ly Vuthy	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	2	Civil Engineering
Meas Mardi	F	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	3	Rural Engineering
Nuom Samnith	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	1	Electrical Engineering
Ouk Mithona	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	2	Computer Science
Pen Nakry	F	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	4	Chemical & Food Engineering
Phal Rattana	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	2	Civil Engineering
Soeun Somuny Outdom	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	4	Electrical Engineering
Sok Vongreaksa	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	2	Civil Engr
Song Kunthea	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	4	Industrial Mechanical Engr
Suon Panha	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	1	Unknown
Tal Tongsreng	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	4	Information Technology
Teng Kungmeng	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	2	Civil Engineering
Thaung Bophana	F	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	3	Engineering
Thorn Ravy	F	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	2	Computer Science and Communication
Valy Dona	M	Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC)	3	Computer Science

*Continued on p. 5*

Continued from p. 4

## List of Scholarship Recipients for the School Year 2008-2009 (Cont'd)

Name	Gender	University	Year in University	Major
Chhem Leabheng	M	National University of Management (NUM)	1	Management
Soeum Thon	M	National Institute for Technology Training	1	Civil Engineering
Im Chhun Hor	M	National Institute of Education	4	Pedagogy
Son Srey Lak	F	National University of Management (NUM)	2	Finance & Banking
Tol Yari	F	National University of Management (NUM)	2	Finance & Banking
Ven. Chan Sophat	M	Paññasastra University of Cambodia (PUC)	1	Tourism Management
Ven. Hin Bunthon	M	Paññasastra University of Cambodia (PUC)	3	Law
Ven. Hoem Sokhom	M	Paññasastra University of Cambodia (PUC)	2	Business Administration
Ven. Soll Suvong	M	Paññasastra University of Cambodia (PUC)	2	Internation Relation
Chhoeun Navin	F	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	2	Law
Hang Kim Hourn	M	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	3	Public administration
Hay Nita	F	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	2	Economics
Heng Sokea	M	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	3	Economics
Hok Siem	F	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	3	Law
Iv Sovan Pidor	F	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	3	Accounting
Keo Moniroth	F	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	3	Accounting
Khoeub Hak	M	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	2	Law
Monh Timsophavin	F	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	2	Law
Nhor Nhen	M	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	4	Economics
Pao Kimthang	M	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	2	Economics
Phal Kim Seng	M	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	2	Economics
Ry Thida	F	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	4	Law
Sieng Simsorya	M	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	4	Law
Sreng Saoroth	M	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	1	Law
Srin Sovann	M	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	4	Law
Sroy Sreymom	F	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	2	Finance/ Banking
Um Chanthan	M	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	1	Finance/ Banking
Veng Solina	F	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	2	Law
Vith Vika	F	Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE)	2	Law
Buoy Pisal	M	Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)	3	Computer Science
Buoy Piseth	M	Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)	4	Computer Science
Chey Keodina	M	Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)	2	Information Technology
Chhon Channak	F	Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)	4	Information Technology
Eng Sonita	F	Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)	3	Tourism Management
Heng Siv Hong	F	Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)	2	Computer Science
Kaing Menghun	F	Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)	2	Information Technology
Khourn Khemry	F	Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)	3	Computer Science
Khy Udom	M	Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)	3	Computer Science
Lim Pheng Un	M	Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)	4	Computer Science
Ly Sovongsa	M	Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)	2	Information Technology
Moeurng Udam	M	Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)	2	Information Technology
Nuth Sohoundany	F	Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)	4	Computer Science
Pen Chanveasna	M	Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)	4	Computer Science
Sao Kimsok	M	Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)	2	Philosophy
Chea Saveth	F	National Institute of Business	1	Finance & Banking





## Cambodian Education Excellence Foundation: “Not Just Words, but Actions and Results”

By Chanly Bob  
April 2008

As a Cambodian-American, as a fellow humanitarian who has had the opportunity to return to Cambodia on several occasions, there is an intimate and sentimental connection that haunts me in my sleep, that overtakes conversations, that makes me lose focus on certain responsibilities. Is it crazy of me to always be thinking of Cambodia in this capacity? I don't believe so. I see Cambodia's issues, but I also see the possibilities. And the possibilities will not be possible without caring people and organizations taking part to provide solutions to rebuild Cambodia. There is a definite need for many things in Cambodia, but education has got to be a major focus. Why education? Education is one of the components of poverty reduction. In fact, it is a critical component. I mention poverty as Cambodia is not the only country that suffers from poverty's cruelty. Poverty is an issue even in the developed countries where resources are in abundance. When you provide the people access to proper education, the doors of opportunities will open wider, much wider. A country full of educated and skilled people would allow for a prosperous and healthy nation. There must be a focus on improving the educational system and on providing those without the means and access to quality education. Poverty reduction is a must. It is a moral imperative.

There is hope, and this hope is through the Cambodian Education Excellence Foundation, individuals, Cambodian government, NGO's and organizations with similar mission and objectives. The Cambodian Education Excellence Foundation does more than awarding scholarships to the disadvantaged poor. It also provides guidance and leadership to these young scholars who will one day be the leaders of tomorrow. I imagine being one of the students and hearing these eloquent and powerful words from Chenda Smead, Vice President for Programs and Member of the Board of Directors:

*“Create a dream of how you can best help your people and your country and stay close to that dream while you are continuing your studies. Live your life with integrity, with self respect, and respect for others. Nurture and protect those around you and return the kindness you receive. I wish you great success in your studies, but most of all I wish you equal success in voicing and living your wisdom and in your journey to help rebuild Cambodia.”*

These are the words from one of the leaders of CEE Foundation, sentiments that I hold dear to my heart and will certainly pass on. This is the passion, vision, leadership, and commitment that CEE Foundation has demonstrated. I am humbled and inspired by their unwavering efforts to provide this noble service to the poor and deserving students in Cambodia. CEE Foundation, not just words, but actions and results. Take, for example, some results:

- September 2007: raised nearly \$13,467 before expenses.
- December 2007: scholarship award ceremony in Cambodia honoring 30 students to pursue higher education at various universities in Phnom Penh.
- February 2008: fundraiser in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; raised approximately \$15,000.
- 2008 to 2009: some 94 scholarships to be awarded.

My message to the current donors is, “thank you for sacrificing your hard earned money to provide for educational opportunities to the poor students in Cambodia.” You have invested in a worthwhile and noble cause that has potential to change the unfavorable conditions in Cambodia. And to those who are considering making donations to CEE Foundation, please do so generously or within your means. I can only afford \$100 per year towards this cause. Not much, but it is within my means. If you cannot afford to donate to this cause, please help spread the words and hopefully your friends, family, or even strangers will open their hearts and wallets to make a huge difference in the life of many poor and deserving young scholars. Without the financial assistance to continue their education, they may end up heading back to the farm, or even worse, a job that goes against their culture and morals. Please help if you can.

Last and certainly not least is a big “thank you” to the leaders of CEE Foundation who have sacrificed so much for the sake of the cause. You do more than simply inspire, you empower a nobody like me to be part of an extraordinary effort to instill the hopes and dreams that are lacking or non-existent in Cambodia. What you are doing deserves more than just applause; you have earned my respect and most importantly, my trust. Cambodia desperately needs your wisdom, guidance, and leadership. There is hope and happiness in Cambodia once again. And it is echoed by the many thank you notes from all the students. CEE Foundation, not just words, but actions and results.

With the utmost sincerity and respect,

Chanly Bob  
Board Chairman  
Cambodian-American Community of Oregon (<http://www.CACOregon.org>)

## *Thank You for Your Generous Support ...*

The CEE Foundation would like to thank and extend our gratitude to the following donors and volunteers, who have contributed times and/or money during this past year for the benefit of students in Cambodia. Your generous support allows us to expand our programs beyond the annual scholarship awards to include the funding of a school library and a water well projects at Phoum Svay primary school in Banteay Meanchey province as well as financial support for an English learning program at Ek Phnom high school in Battambang.

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		Rathana Kim	<i>(continued on p. 8)</i>

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*(Continued from p. 1)*

## Letter from the President (Cont'd)

These students have shown that they are as dedicated to their studies, as you are committed to helping them reach their dreams.

Our Foundation has many things in store for this coming year 2009 and beyond. In addition to providing scholarships, one project is to develop a better computer laboratory for the Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC). The CEE Foundation believes that a properly equipped computer lab will serve as a strong technological foundation that will help students learn and expand their horizon. The lab will help prepare the students to become, upon graduating, a strong asset for Cambodia's workforce.

The success of our future projects will depend largely on the financial health of the CEE Foundation. You all have been supportive in bridging poor-deserving students to an opportunity for higher education. Would you continue and extend your support and contributions to help the Foundation in investing in our young generation? The students in Cambodia need your support now more than ever during this harsh economic time across the world. They will greatly benefit from your assistance and encouragement in all form, financial, moral, large, or small. A new year is upon us, let us come together and spread our hope and good deeds.

Have a happy and healthy holiday season!

Sincerely,

Samrang Kchao, M.D.

The CEE Foundation is a U.S.-registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization no. 02-0805551. Donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. The organization is also registered with the Commonwealth of Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania.

Donations can be sent to:

**CEE Foundation/Treasurer**  
**9845 Canal Road**  
**Montgomery Village, MD 20886**

Email: [ceefusa@ceefoundation.org](mailto:ceefusa@ceefoundation.org)  
Web: <http://www.ceefoundation.org/>



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**3107 Fernhurst Dr**  
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Editors: Samudd Chhim, and Mengly Chean

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