

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

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- Save the Date! E@E May Fund-raising Auction

New Identity & new logo

We have changed our name from Vajrayana Dharma Foundation (VDF) to **Education At Elevation**, or **E@E** for short. The new name conveys our mission to educate and nurture impoverished children and orphans living in eastern Tibet. Thanks to **Sean**, we also have a new logo. Way to go Sean!



New Web Site www.EducationAtElevation.org

Many of you may recall that our VDF website had been compromised in November 2011. A big “thank you” to **Adam** and **Patrick** who took the initiative in January to create a new website with better security and ease of maintenance. The new website is more dynamic and provides more information. We have also added live weather updates. The weather logs are representative to eastern Tibet and close in elevation to our school. Do you ever wonder how cold is it at the school? Simply visit our website and find out.

What's new at the school?

There was a change in teaching staff last Fall. The teachers, two monks and a nun, left the school in October 2011 after they completed their contracts. The male teachers taught Tibetan and dharma study to the boys. The nun taught Tibetan to the girls and Mandarin to the both boys and girls for a year. In addition to instruction, the teachers also acted as

caretakers to the children. Each day they taught long hours—dawn until early evening—without time off for weekends or holidays. The students requested to have a previous teacher return to the school to instruct again. This teacher taught when the school first opened. We are happy to announce that he agreed to return to the school and has been

Please join us on our new Facebook page: **Education at Elevation**. Find new photos of the school, updates, and event information.





Top: The students gathered on the field before snowfall. Photo taken Oct/Nov 2011

Did you miss this?
Reports between
June 2011 till now:

**Water Feasibility
Study Report**

**2010/2011 Annual
Report**

See
[educationatelevation.
org/press/](http://educationatelevation.org/press/)



A big **THANK YOU** to all the wonderful and generous donors! E@E has raised approximately \$8,500 USD during our 2011 Holiday cookie and calendar drive. A special thank you goes members of the **Wey Family** who have collectively donated \$5,400 to education and food for the children. The total donation from the cookie and calendar drive will help pay for approximately **5 months** of dried food for 80 children and a **year's salary** for one teacher.



Thank you **Aimee**, for leading the holiday drive and for donating the edible gold dust. Yes, we called it **karma dust**! We appreciate all the efforts of the volunteers who helped prepare, scoop, bake, and bag the cookies, as well as design and distribute the calendars. After spending eight hours at the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 2995 Hall in Redmond, we baked 232 dozen or **2800 original and dark karma cookies!**

More photos of the students



Clockwise: **B**oys posing with their new chuba (coat), donated from Rinpoche students in Asia. Each child gets one new robe a year which they will wear over their old chuba to stay warm. **G**irls with their new chubas (coat). **E@E** food delivery for Winter/Spring. The older boys carried sacks of rice and flour to their rooms. **J**amya Droma, photo taken on August 2010 and one year later.



Save the date!

May 19, 2012.

6 pm doors open

6:30 pm music/entertainment

Tibetan Language and Culture Class

will perform a traditional

Tibetan Mask Dance and song

Enjoy smooth jazz by Steven Bell Trio

7:30 pm school slide show

8 – 9 pm live auction

Ticket - \$30 includes a complimentary glass of wine

Hors d'oeuvres

Belgian Chocolate Fountain

No-host wine bar

Raffle



Volunteers and auction items needed! Would you like to help out at this fun and rewarding event? We are looking for volunteers to help serve appetizers and greet people. Do you have an auction item that you wish to donate? Please contact secretary@educationatelevation.org or vp@educationatelevation.org.



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Mission: To provide a home and education opportunity for impoverished and orphaned Tibetan children in Garze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture (Eastern Tibet), China.

The project was initiated by **Sonam Rinpoche**, a native Tibetan, who was recognized as the reincarnation of Ahzom Losel Rinpoche by **H.H. 14th Dalai Lama** and H.H. Dordrubchan Rinpoche.

Sonam Rinpoche has earned the title "Khenpo" which is equivalent to a Ph. D, after 18 years of Buddhism philosophy study in Tibet and India.

To read more about Sonam Rinpoche, the school, or how you can help, please visit our website at www.EducationAtElevation.org

For questions, please email info@EducationAtElevation.org