

Launching of STEAM Academy in Nigeria by Grace Restoration International (GRI).

Written by Mfon Archibong

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Education is known to be the epitome of change in any society.

Overtime time, knowledge is either not sought or taken for granted. The common adage "knowledge is power" can be deceptive if not used positively to create change required for the 21st century. Therefore, creating new knowledge dedicated to the improvement of social conditions for young people and to positively impact society is a global challenge. Putting that knowledge into practice by both modeling the learning outcomes through actions and by being civically engaged should be thought-provoking demands from all of us. Globally, the unemployment rate for young people has hit the height of the centuries. Today young people are disproportionately branded by the society as "the lost generation."



This is an embarrassing social error of our time – devastating and preposterous for young people and humanity. It is like a man being buried alive for no justification– the path to extinction.

This is certainly not an isolated case in a developing country like Nigeria, but a global challenge for youth. Education and the willingness to apply it is a difference maker, a tool that can diminish poverty and reposition young people onto a path of job creation and sustainable future. Understanding how to learn, and having an opportunity to attend school is one of the greatest gifts we can give our youth, something that is often taken for granted here in the U.S. Around the world, there is a conscious transformation targeting grass roots change through increased exposure to science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM). The paradigm of STEAM is rooted in intuitiveness of the mind to discover one's ability, passion, and skills as needed to secure a fulfilling future. Thus, STEAM is a substantiated, economical and sociologically adaptable framework by which to transition, maintain, create and evolve educational elements, programs and institutions to include multidisciplinary-oriented practices catering to developing more Functional citizens. This interconnectedness of the present to the future guarantees future youth employment and a better future for our young people.

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