



PINGRY PRESS RELEASE

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Pingry School Sophomores Host Charity Night for The Denan Project

Basking Ridge, NJ – To raise awareness about the drought that has been ravaging Denan, Ethiopia over the past year, Pingry sophomores Miro Bergam (Short Hills), Ethan Malzberg (Pottersville), and Ketaki Tavan (Randolph) hosted a Charity Night on March 31 for The Denan Project (TDP). Nearly 100 people attended, including TDP President and Founder Dick Young and other representatives from the organization.

Besides educating their audience about the under-reported drought, the students sought to raise funds to help fund the water tanker that aids the people of Denan. The funds that the students raised were matched by a generous donor, ultimately amounting to over \$9,500.

The event included a raffle of student-painted versions of photographs from Denan, taken by Mr. Young, along with a TDP t-shirt and a copy of the book “Displaced in Denan” by Jarret Schecter, former Vice President of The Denan Project. TDP merchandise was also sold, and a “Mystery Box” allowed attendees to randomly select a value and learn how much that value could make an impact through The Denan Project. The event also featured a booth for the “One Today” profile the three sophomores created through Google for Nonprofits, which showed attendees how to get involved through the app.

Mr. Young was the keynote speaker, sharing insights and stories from his experience with the charity, and the audience viewed his documentary “Denan Then and Now.”

Ketaki, Ethan, and Miro started a club at Pingry in October to involve more students in The Denan Project, and have hosted other events. They will be continuing their work for The Denan Project throughout high school with hopes of improving the lives of the people of Denan.

About The Pingry School:

The Pingry School, a K-12 coeducational, independent country day school, is recognized throughout the United States for its academic excellence, Honor Code, arts, athletics, and community service. The school’s mission is to foster in students a lifelong commitment to intellectual exploration, individual growth, and social responsibility, while preparing them to be global citizens and leaders of the 21st century. Dr. John F. Pingry founded the school in 1861 in Elizabeth, New Jersey, and today there are two campuses: K-5 in Short Hills and Grades 6-12 in Basking Ridge. The diverse student body is composed of more than 1,100 students from over 100 towns in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. For more information visit the school’s website, www.pingry.org, or follow The Pingry School on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/pingryschool).