



Carole Cole, Class of 1962

Program Honoring IH Alumna Benefits African Orphan Girls

Ten African girls with a talent for science have received full scholarships as part of a program honoring the late Carole Cole, Class of 1962. The girls, all orphans ages 14-17, are secondary school students in the East African nation of Tanzania.

The program, now in its second year, was organized by Linda Marie Ercole-Musso '62 to honor the memory of Cole, a longtime friend and classmate. Ercole-Musso created and chairs the board of *African Childrens Haven*, a nonprofit that supports projects that help African children lead healthier, more productive lives.

"We receive support from around the country, but we are especially touched by the contributions made in Carole's memory from Immaculate Heart graduates," she says. "During the last years of her life, Carole – also known as Cookie to her IH classmates – followed the development of African Childrens Haven, especially our plans for educating young girls."

The project – known as the Carole Cole Science Scholarship for African Girls – pays school fees, room and board, and provides mentoring from women volunteers drawn from Tanzania's science community. More information about *African Childrens Haven* and the scholarship may be found at its website: <http://www.africanchildrenshaven.org/projects.asp>

Cole, who died in 2009, was the adopted daughter of the late Nat King Cole and the sister of singer Natalie Cole. An actress, patron of the arts, and a supporter of food safety and environmental causes, Cole was also a friend to all who knew her, says Ercole-Musso, herself an artist. "There are literally hundreds of people who benefitted from knowing her, including dozens of artists who launched their careers in her Los Angeles gallery," she notes. ☞