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UNH Golden Key Chapter Hosts Successful Book Drive To Support World Literacy Programs

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UNH Golden Key Chapter Hosts Successful Book Drive To Support World Literacy Programs

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Editors: For more information on the book drive contact coordinator Jessica Gardner at gardner@unh.edu or (603) 397-5616.

DURHAM, N.H. -- During finals week last May, members of the University of New Hampshire chapter of the Golden Key International Honour Society hosted a campus and community book drive sponsored by the nonprofit organization Better World Books. More than 70 Golden Key chapters around the United States participated in book drives last spring but thanks to the support of the Durham community, UNH was named one of the top seven chapters in the United States.

Better World Books is a nonprofit organization whose global mission is to utilize the value of the book to fund literacy initiatives locally, nationally, and around the world through literacy partners, including Room to Read and Books for Africa. Since its inception in 2003, the organization has raised more than $1.3 million for over 70 nonprofit organizations around the world and has kept more than five million pounds of books out of landfills.

The UNH chapter supported Books for Africa, a nonprofit organization determined to end the book famine in Africa. Collection boxes were placed in all dining halls, academic buildings, libraries, and even in several dorms. The Durham Public Library was a major contributor, donating more than 50 boxes of books to the cause after its book sale. The Durham Book Exchange donated all books students were unable to re-sell or for those who chose to donate, shipping over 100 boxes of textbooks from its warehouse to Better World Books.

Overall, the UNH community donated 3,361 books. Money raised from the sale of these books will ship 7,000 other, new books to the African Continent. This number is enough to meet the needs of three entire schools in Africa. Over 70 Golden Key chapters around the United States participated in book drives last spring; however, due to the support of the Durham community, the UNH chapter was named one of the top seven chapters in the United States.

The Golden Key International Honour Society strives to build global communities of academic achievers by providing opportunities for individual growth through leadership, career development, networking, and service. The UNH chapter has over 300 members and alumni. This December, the organization plans to host its second book drive to support Books for Africa. If you would like more information about how to help, contact coordinator Jessica Gardner at gardner@unh.edu or (603) 397-5616.