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Like the rest of the country, Jacmel suffered greatly in the earthquake that struck Haiti in January 2010. In Jacmel, the earthquake caused hundreds of deaths and injuries, and displaced thousands of residents when their homes were destroyed. In the weeks that followed, a team from Haiti's Institut de Sauvegarde du Patrimoine National identified more than 100 historic buildings that had been damaged in the earthquake. An association of homeowners—Patrimoine Jacmel, led by Axelle Liautaud—is now attempting to find solutions to restore these buildings and rehabilitate the historic center. World Monuments Fund included Historic District of Jacmel on the 2012 Watch, drawing attention to the needs of the site and its potential to become an attractive destination for cultural tourism.

As part of the 2012 World Monuments Watch cycle, WMF launched a new initiative called "Watch Day" to promote community engagement at 2012 Watch sites. Communities around the world created their own Watch Day events to both celebrate and advocate for the stewardship of these historic places. Watch Day was celebrated in Jacmel in September 2012. The two-day event comprised a wide array of activities, ranging from concerts and a streetdance performance to a photography workshop and an exhibition of the completed works. A group of children participated in a photography workshop organized by the non-profit FotoKonbit and FOKAL (La Fondation Connaissance et Liberté). FotoKonbit led the children through the historic town to document and learn about its architecture. A remarkable selection of images was displayed at a historic house, and the community was invited to view the exhibit.

For more information about World Monuments Fund and the Watch Program, please visit **www.wmf.org**



FotoKonbit

FotoKonbit is a non-profit organization created to empower Haitians to tell their own stories through photography. Inspired by the Kreyol/Taíno word "konbit," which can be defined as the coming together of similar talents in an effort towards a common goal, the organization uses its skills as photographers, educators, and artists to empower Haitians through photography. By partnering with established Haitian organizations, FotoKonbit is uniquely positioned to inspire hope through creative expression and provide Haitians with the opportunity to document their reality and share it with the largest possible audience. Since 2010 FotoKonbit has worked with a group of adults in the southern town of Camp Perrin, youth in four tent communities around Port-au-Prince, a group of young artists in Port-au-Prince, a Haitian organization in Miami, a group of young women in Delmas, adults in the fishing village of Labadie, and a group of children in Jacmel. FotoKonbit also hosts a permanent photography class at the Zoranje middle school in the outskirts of Port-au-Prince. Each workshop is customized to the needs of its group: adult students use photography both as a tool for artistic expression and a way to earn money, while youth groups are encouraged to use photography to document and learn about their communities. FotoKonbit is also creating a national archive of images of Haiti made by Haitians.

www.fotokonbit.org



_aura

Fotokonbit taught us how to take photos, to look at details and what "subject" means. I also learned about historic buildings in Jacmel and it made me see things differently

Why did you choose your subjects to photograph?

I chose my subjects because they were beautiful and interesting.

What does "patrimony" mean to you?

Patrimony is a good thing, something our ancestors left for us.

What is your favorite historic site in Jacmel?

The statue that is on the square, he is Magloire Ambroise, one of our heroes.

Did you have fun? Would you like to do it again?

I loved the workshop and I want to do another one, I really appreciated it.





Odaline AGE 12

I learned about portraits, how to pick a subject and I learned to take my time. When making a picture you need to pay attention to all the details.

Why did you choose your subjects to photograph?

They were beautiful and they went with the theme.

What does "patrimony" mean to you?

Historical monuments.

What is your favorite historic site in Jacmel?

The beautiful yellow building with the red roof at the corner across from the police station.

Did you have fun? Would you like to do it again?

It was wonderful and engaging, I wish to do it again and again.





Emerson AGE 12

I learned how to make photos and how to hold a camera correctly.

Why did you choose your subjects to photograph?

I chose my subjects for people to see.

What does "patrimony" mean to you?

Patrimony for me is my country's flag.

What is your favorite historic site in Jacmel?

La Florita

Did you have fun? Would you like to do it again?

I enjoyed everything about it and would love to do it again.





Stephanie AGE 10

I leaned how to take photos, I also learned how to talk to people and hold a camera correctly so I can show our history.

Why did you choose your subjects to photograph?

Because the subjects were interesting for me and for others.

What does "patrimony" mean to you?

Patrimony is important for a country.

What is your favorite historic site in Jacmel?

The pink house, where we had taken the family portraits.

Did you have fun? Would you like to do it again?

I loved everything and yes I want to do it again.





Darry

What did you learn from the Jacmel workshop experience?

I learned a lot and feel good when taking photos.

Why did you choose your subjects to photograph?

I chose my subject for generations that will come after me and for the respect I have for what our ancestors left for us.

What does "patrimony" mean to you?

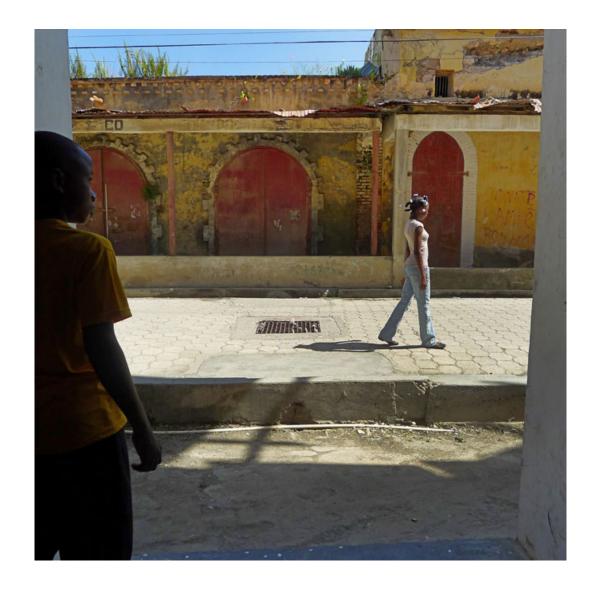
Patrimony means to me our national anthem.

What is your favorite historic site in Jacmel?

La Place de Jacmel, Jacmel's square.

Did you have fun? Would you like to do it again?

I want to grow up taking photos and I would like it to continue forever.





Christania

I learned how to take a photo and FotoKonbit helped me take beautiful photos.

Why did you choose your subjects to photograph?

I photographed things that are beautiful in Jacmel.

What does "patrimony" mean to you?

A set of our ancestors that taught us how to understand our freedom.

What is your favorite historic site in Jacmel?

La Florita.

Did you have fun? Would you like to do it again?

We develop our minds in making photographs with Fotokonbit. Please come back soon.



A Sampling of the Photos Created During the Workshop

