

yoga.gives back

Using micro-credit to fight poverty in India

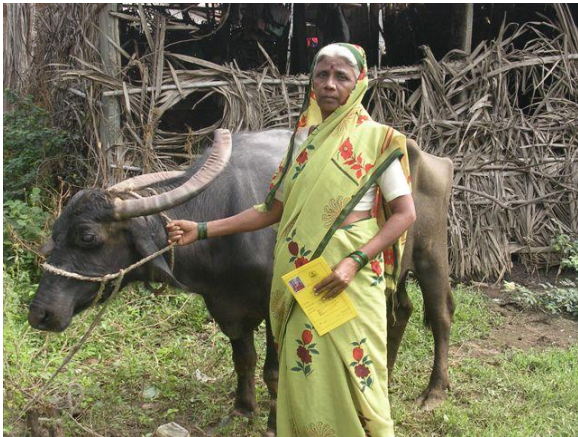
Summer 2009

For the cost of two yoga classes, you can change a life.



Yoga Gives Back debuts in Santa Monica thanks to Yogaglo

[Yogaglo](#) is the new website that streams yoga classes globally from their studio in Santa Monica, California. The founders, Derik and Ryan invited YGB to participate in their launch party. We met a lot of new friends who came out to support our Yogaglo fundraiser in July.



YGB at [Yogaglo](#)

Saturday, July 18

Six Teachers, One great cause



This was YGB's first class on the Westside and what a success!! We had an incredible line up of 6 teachers. Each offered their own unique voice and style of teaching, altogether creating a very powerful class.

Thanks so much to John Sahakian, Ashley Turner, Kishan Shah, Jo Tastula, Tara Judelle, and Isabelle Du Soleil for volunteering their time to Yoga Gives Back. Thanks also to DJ Drez (www.djdrez.com), Domonic Dean Breaux, and Shannon Michael Terry for the live music. You all made this fundraiser a very special experience.

Rennie Yabiku, one of many participants told us, "What an amazing "2 hour" class! Whew! All the teachers were wonderful. What a beautiful event". Peter Alejandro wrote on his [blog](#), MahaMondo, "...the event was a magic carpet ride of asana, pranayam, meditation & classic spirituality. It was such a gift to hear John breathe behind me during the opening sequence of the class. I don't think I will ever duplicate the ANANDA of being led & adjusted by 6 teachers".

Thanks to everyone who came to **Yogaglo** to support our mission, enjoy the class, and share lots of effort together! And a special thanks to all our supporters who couldn't come to the fundraiser but donated online through our website or sending us checks.

"Teaching is a privilege.

Having the opportunity to help support those in need in India is an honor. I am very thankful to the YogaGivesBack team for having vision, insight and compassion, bringing together yogis, teachers and intention in service of others"

John Sahakian



Thanks to everyone who donated food and raffle prizes

Bryan Belleza for his special asana art series,

[Coconut Bliss](#)

[Kinara Spa](#)

[Manduka](#)

[Swirl Cupcakes](#)

[YogiToes](#)

[Whole Foods Market](#)

Isabelle Du Soleil, and Tara Judelle for donating private yoga classes. Thank you!





A Special message from Derik Mills, founder of **Yogaglo**

When Kayoko, Joel and the team at Yoga Gives Back first approached me about holding events at Yogaglo to help fund the Grameen Foundation and microfinance in India, I was immediately curious. Not only because of my deep resonance with India, but also the inefficient allocation of our resources is something that has interested me from an early age. Both of my parents were teachers at the high school and university levels in a town in northern New Jersey that had a distinct and ever present socioeconomic divide. In addition to their teaching, both were involved in government financed social programs designed to help bridge that gap.



As a child, the inequitable access to opportunity confused me and struck me as unfair. The Grameen Foundation provides credit to people with no access to credit. It provides the institutional and social frameworks needed by those with the ability and drive to pursue their dreams and lift themselves and their families out of poverty. I'm very excited that Yogaglo can participate in this process. One of the reasons we created Yogaglo was to provide a vehicle for social change.

We give 5% of our profits to our non-profit partners. We host fundraising events at our studio for effective non-profit organizations. We spread the practice of yoga across the world affordably. And we will soon launch the capability for the Yogaglo platform to be used by our non-profit partners as a monetization tool for their philanthropic efforts. I'm inspired by the passion of the team at Yoga Gives Back. They bring to the cause a diverse range of experience and expertise that contributes meaningfully and significantly to the fight against global poverty. We eagerly look forward to hosting more of their innovative and exciting fundraising events at Yogaglo.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, Sep 20th, noon-4pm



108 Sun Salutations Pledge Drive for Yoga Gives Back

HAX Hanger, 3203 Jack Northrop Ave. Hawthorne (exit 105, near LAX)

YogaMonth/Global Mala are hosting a practice of 108 sun salutations for charity. The session will be led by distinguished yoga teachers and musicians like Mariel Hemingway, Sara Ivanhoe, Hala Khouri, Saul David Raye, Tony Khalife and more.

YGB is one of several charities participating in Yoga Month this year. You can get involved by joining our team of sun salutation participants and signing people up to sponsor your 108 salutations.

Register now at yogagivesback@earthlink.net

Check out this event details at www.yogamonth.org/LA

Sunday, September 27, 7-9:30pm: LuluLemon North Beverly Drive, BH

**Beyond Asana:
A night of healing through breath, music and meditation**

Sunday, November 15, 10am-noon: Yogaglo, Santa Monica

Six Teachers Six Yoga Styles One Great Cause

YGB special class of 6 yoga styles into 1 specially sequenced class, you can not experience this any other place!!

Saturday, December 12, 2-5pm: Center for Yoga, Larchmont

Clay Kyle and Friends

Various talented teachers are gathering with live music for this end of the year special event.

[Check out these articles:](#)

“[Women Crusaders](#)” New York Times features how Micro-financing can empower the poorest women in the world.

“[So Ham](#)” by Tatiane Rangel in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, blogs about YGB.

Update from Grameen Koota, Bangalore, India

By Anand Varadaraj



This is Jayashree, mother of two children, who lives in Bangalore. We met her in 2007 when she first received 175 dollar loan from Grameen Koota. Her family was struggling to secure daily food and pay for their elder son's education. With her first loan, she bought her husband an auto rickshaw. In one year, Jayashree paid back her entire loan and became eligible for the 2nd loan in 2008, for 375 dollars! She bought a sewing machine and started stitching bags.

She is now earning 150 rupees (3.75 dollars) a day. In addition, she also opened a little shop next to her house to sell her products, earning her family an additional 100 rupees (2.5 dollars) a day! She is sending her elder son to a medical school. As a young daughter of a poor family, Jayashree had to quit school to earn money for the family. Now she is making her dream come true day by day!!!

Yoga Gives Back is now on [Facebook](#)!

facebook

[www.yoga.gives back.org](http://www.yogagivesback.org)

Any comments or ideas? yogagivesback@earthlink.net

yoga gives back is a pending 501(c)(3)

We don't want to send you emails if you're not interested. Just let us know: hit reply, put **remove** in the subject line and you won't hear from us again!