

HELPING ALL WE CAN...ONE AT A TIME.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Deanna Wallace
AAO Executive Director

In this month's note, I want to tell you about **Polly Roberts**, an incredible woman and long-time supporter of All As One, who passed away in September, leaving behind a legacy of great work and generosity.

Mary "Polly" Nooter Roberts was an art historian and museum professional, and was one of the world's foremost scholars in African arts. She was Professor of World Arts and Cultures at UCLA, and was awarded the lifetime Leadership Award of the Arts Council of the African Studies Association in 2017 — the most significant recognition in the academic field of African art studies. Brett Steele, Dean of the UCLA School of the Arts and Architecture, writes, *"Polly brightened so many of our lives with her brilliant mind, luminous spirit, unyielding optimism and boundless generosity."*



Mary "Polly" Nooter Roberts

Polly's husband, **Al Roberts**, tells us:

“When Polly was diagnosed with stage four metastatic breast cancer in 2010, she saw this as yet another opportunity to reach out to women living with the same illness, following an idea from Central Africa that those who have endured dire difficulties are best situated to lend shoulders to lean on to those just starting such journeys. She began her support of All as One in the early 2000s, and what better way for her radiant love to live on than to invite family and friends to contribute to helping All As One kids to get a leg-up on the world?”

We've already received some gifts in honor of Polly, and we're extremely grateful.



Polly and Al had a special connection to Melvina (pictured below), who they have helped support for many years. Melvina would like to thank them for their love, concern, and support to her over all of these years. She says she is praying for the Roberts family at this time.

Polly was an extraordinary woman, who encouraged me so often. I miss her already. She truly was such a bright light in the world. Our warmest thoughts are with the Roberts family, and we are incredibly grateful for the many years they have helped make life better for Melvina and the kids at the Center.

To make a donation to All As One, please visit our website at www.allasone.org.

As always, your generosity is essential to lives of the children in our care.



Melvina, then (18 months) and now (16).

Thanks to our first time donors in September 2018:

Dana Marterella - Elizabeth Thew - Jill Steck - Jo Jones - Joseph Caruso - Kiron Kirsch-Posner - Lynne Schultz
The Shed Studios - Tynesha Green and coworkers @ The Carter Center

Thanks for giving over \$500 in September 2018:

Andre & Nicki Naude - Chris Briers

And thank you to our regular monthly supporters, who make our work possible!