

Dear Ashesi Friends,

In my work on campus, I get to see many students arrive at Ashesi and discover themselves in ways even they could not have anticipated. Samuelle Asante '21 is an excellent example of how our campus experience ignites minds. When she arrived in her first year, Samuelle knew she wanted to study Business Administration but didn't necessarily see herself as an entrepreneur.



"I didn't know I had an entrepreneurial bone in me, but being in Ashesi unearthed my drive and passion.

My Foundations of Design and Entrepreneurship course, for example, made me think incessantly of numerous ways to solve issues I encountered daily."

Samuelle Asante '21  
Founder of [Kaniya Energy](#)

Today, Samuelle is the Founder of Kaniya Energy, a business she created and is now incubating at Ashesi. The start-up uses organic photovoltaic (OPV) cell technology to design safe and affordable solar-powered lighting alternatives for students living in areas with inconsistent energy supply. The first is the Kaniya Kotoku, which she prototyped and built with help from an engineering student in her class.

Samuelle's Kaniya Kotoku is a solar bag and lamp set designed to provide up to two additional hours of study light at night for children in areas with unreliable or no electricity.

In August 2021 the product won \$7000 in a contest organised by The Association of Ghana Industries.

[Learn more](#)



At Ashesi, we believe that the future of Africa depends on our ability to tap into the leadership and problem-solving potential of young people across the continent. With a unique curriculum built on experiential, multidisciplinary learning, Ashesi helps students develop the skills they need to drive change.

Ashesi friends like you are growing our capacity to be an incubator for innovation and are champions for the leaders who will drive Africa's prosperity. With every gift, you help provide more opportunities for students like Samuelle to become agents of change.

With thanks,

Abdul Mahdi  
Dean of Students and Community Affairs

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