



## HOW TO GUIDE



## CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT IN 2015



## ONE IN NINE PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD GO HUNGRY EVERY DAY?

For many of us, food is something we gulp down on the bus, in front of the telly, messaging our friends ...

We often take food for granted.

But amid all the rush of our lives, how much do we really know about our food? Where does it come from? Who produced it? Did the food producer get a decent wage? And was this wage enough to feed their family?

Holy guacamole! That's a lot to think about with every mouthful of corn chips.

What we do know is that we can all play an important part in the fight against hunger, poverty and injustice, especially here in Australia.

This Oxfam Hunger Banquet "How to" guide is designed for you, the secondary or tertiary student who's looking for a hands-on way to make sure everyone gets enough to eat.

World Food Day is on Friday 16 October. It's a day when thousands of people around the world take action to reduce global hunger. But for us, one day just isn't enough! You're invited to hold a Hunger Banquet anytime throughout Term 4 (October to December) at your school or uni campus.

Get involved and make sure young people are at the forefront of the movement to end hunger.

Whether you're going it solo or as part of a group, you'll find everything you need to know right here. This includes step-by-step instructions on hosting your own Hunger Banquet.

Join us and thousands of others who are getting involved. Register your involvement ([my.oxfam.org.au/hunger\\_banquet](http://my.oxfam.org.au/hunger_banquet)). And if you already have, let's get started.

Suman Ambaji Waghmare holding a plate of cucumbers grown in her garden. Photo: Chris Johnson/OxfamAUS. Cover photo: Ballarat Grammar School.



Photo: Rodney Dekker/OxfamAUS

## SO WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT HUNGER?

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were established in 2000, with the aim of halving the proportion of people who suffer from hunger by 2015, and we've almost met it. This is one reason why the United Nations (UN) has heralded the MDGs as the most successful global anti-poverty push in history.

And we know that the world produces enough food to feed everyone. High-five, world.

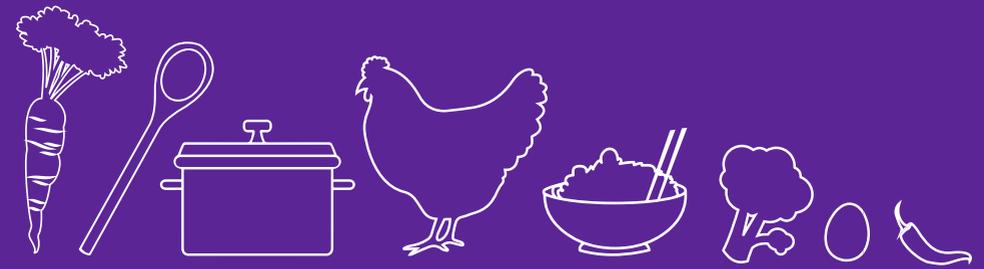
But there's still a load of work to be done.

 **80% OF PEOPLE WHO GO HUNGRY ARE INVOLVED IN FOOD PRODUCTION**

That is, they grow or collect food for others, but go hungry themselves. And out of the 795 million people going hungry, the UN estimates that 99 million are children under the age of five.

Our global food production system is failing too many people. Why? There is no single cause. It's a combination of things including land grabs, food price spikes and a lack of access to resources. And it's resulting in 795 million — that's 1 in 9 people around the world — going hungry every day.

But while there's no single cause, it's climate change that's the most worrying.



### HOW DOES CLIMATE CHANGE CONTRIBUTE TO GLOBAL HUNGER?

Well for starters, human-made climate change is one of the biggest threats to food security the world has ever seen. Scientists warn that human-made greenhouse gas pollution is causing sea levels to rise and changing long-standing weather patterns. This means the intensity of extreme weather events is increasing — things like storms, floods, drought and changing seasons are playing havoc with farmers' crops.

### HOW DOES HOLDING A HUNGER BANQUET HELP?

 **BY HOLDING A HUNGER BANQUET, YOU WILL GET FIRST-HAND EXPERIENCE OF THE INEQUALITIES INHERENT IN OUR FOOD SYSTEM.**

You will also learn about food security and raise awareness about the role we can all play in stopping hunger.

You will encourage the Australian Government to do its fair share in stopping the climate change that makes people hungry. You will also learn about simple things you can do in your every day life, that together, can make a big difference in helping to end hunger.

Even at home, school or uni, the choice we make around buying Fair Trade, eating seasonally, reducing our food miles and reducing food waste can make a huge difference.

You can also raise money to support Oxfam's life-changing work with some of our closest neighbours, including people in Vanuatu, Timor-Leste, the Philippines and more.

So let's get to it!



Photo: Andrew Goodwin/OxfamAUS



Photo: Vlad Sokhin/Panos/OxfamAUS



Photo: Amy Christian/OxfamAUS

**"THERE ARE 83 PEOPLE IN THIS VILLAGE WHO DEPEND ON THEIR GARDENS. WHAT ARE WE GOING TO EAT?"**  
LEANNE ALBERT

## STORIES FROM THE STORM

### WE TRAVELLED TO VANUATU AFTER CYCLONE PAM, TO FIND OUT FIRST-HAND HOW CLIMATE CHANGE IS CONTRIBUTING TO PEOPLE GOING HUNGRY.

Severe Tropical Cyclone Pam smashed Vanuatu on March 13 this year, one of the worst natural disasters in the island nation's history. More than 132,000 people were affected, because of the destruction to crops, homes, boats, schools and health centres.

And if you consider three out of four people in Vanuatu rely on farming or fishing to feed their family, that means a lot of people going hungry.

#### THE PEOPLE

Leanne Albert, a primary school teacher from Ambrym Island in Vanuatu thought that the scariest thing about Cyclone Pam was when the roof of the church she, her 7-month-old daughter Cathy and her entire village were hiding in blew off. It was the last safe building in the entire village of Utas.

That was, until they were brave enough to step outside the next day.

"When people saw their homes that morning, they started to cry. People don't know what they're going to do. It won't be long until there's a problem.

"There are 83 people in this village who depend on their gardens. Now their gardens are destroyed. In one or two months, the gardens will start to look good again, but it will take three months before we can harvest anything. What are we going to eat while we wait?"

#### THE WORLD BANK

While Vanuatu experiences many cyclones, Cyclone Pam was an exception — the worst in living memory. The ocean's surface temperature was unusually high, which increased the cyclone's size and strength.

Rachel Kyte, the World Bank Vice President and Special Envoy for Climate Change says climate change is partially to blame.

"The fact is, in the past three or four years, we've seen category fives (the most severe category of cyclones) coming with a regularity we've never seen before," she said. "And that has some relationship with climate change. It is indisputable that part of the Pacific Ocean is much warmer today than in previous years, so these storms are intensifying."

#### THE PRESIDENT

With the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) projecting temperatures continuing to rise, this is a terrifying prospect for Vanuatu's people and its President, Baldwin Lonsdale.

"Climate change is contributing to disasters in Vanuatu ... We see the level of sea rise ... The cyclone seasons, the warm, the rain — all this is affected. This year, we have more than in any other year," he said.

Climate change isn't just destroying lives and leaving people hungry, it's also wiping out all the hard work that has been done to improve the lives of people in Vanuatu that people and governments have been building together. It's wiping the slate clean, but in the worst possible way.

"After all the development that has taken place, all this development has been wiped out," President Lonsdale said. "So it means we will have to start anew again."

In the days since Cyclone Pam, Oxfam has worked together with the people of Vanuatu to provide emergency shelter, clean drinking water, hygiene kits, vouchers to help people rebuilt their livelihoods and grow food, and more.

#### FIND OUT MORE

The story of the people in Vanuatu is a reminder that the people being affected most by climate change usually aren't the ones who are causing it. Global hunger is a tale full of inequality — the following pages will give you a deeper understanding of the problems, and how we can help.



# SO ... WHAT'S A HUNGER BANQUET?

Life isn't fair, and neither is a Hunger Banquet. Where you sit and what you eat are determined by the luck of the draw. It's just like real life, with some of us born into prosperity and others into poverty.

Few things bring inequality to life more powerfully than an Oxfam Australia Hunger Banquet. You'll be given a first-hand experience of hunger in a thought-provoking, fun and tasty way.

## HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

You put on a lunchtime or dinner event for students and friends.

When the guests arrive, they draw a random ticket that assigns them to a high-, middle-, or low-income tier. The number of tickets for each tier is based on statistics about how many people live in poverty.

Each tier receives a meal corresponding to their income group. A few people will leave with full stomachs, but everyone will leave with a greater understanding of hunger and poverty.

**TOP 15%**  
(HIGH-INCOME TIER)  
ARE SERVED A  
SCRUMPTIOUS MEAL

**NEXT 35%**  
(MIDDLE-INCOME  
TIER) EAT A  
SIMPLE MEAL

**BOTTOM 50%**  
(LOW-INCOME TIER)  
JUST GET SMALL  
PORTIONS OF RICE  
AND WATER

## WHY SHOULD I HOLD A HUNGER BANQUET?

We've found that it's not just the big things that create change. You don't have to donate your life savings, study development or build an orphanage. It's also the common stuff — our routines and everyday decisions — that have far-reaching effects. How we travel to work, the products we buy, the food we eat and what we throw out — all these things can change the world for better or worse.

The best way of learning about things is often to experience them ourselves. And for your friends and other students to get a small taste of life for many people in developing countries, it can inspire understanding and change. Plus, a Hunger Banquet helps you and your friends make a difference, by raising funds for Oxfam Australia to support our food security programs.



## TURNING YOUR HUNGER BANQUET INTO A FUNDRAISER!

### IT'S EASY, JUST TRY THESE IDEAS TO HELP YOU GET STARTED:

- ☛ Charge a ticket for the event. Once you've covered costs, anything left over goes towards your Hunger Banquet donation.
- ☛ Get people to donate their lunch or dinner money as an entry fee.
- ☛ Ask local companies or organisations to cover your costs, so every dollar raised goes to Oxfam.
- ☛ When you register, you'll get money boxes which you can put around your canteen or university cafés during the week of your event.
- ☛ "Pass the hat" at the end of the event and ask people to contribute to the cause.
- ☛ Set up a personalised fundraising page for your group via [my.oxfam.org.au](http://my.oxfam.org.au) and ask friends and family of students on campus help you reach your goal.

For more about fundraising and banking donations, check out the Donation Record Form later on in this pack.



Photo: Bonnie Savage/OxfamAUS

**CAN HELP AN OUT-OF-WORK YOUNG PERSON IN VANUATU RECEIVE TRAINING AND GAIN EXPERIENCE THAT WILL HELP THEM FIND A JOB AND EARN A LIVING.**



Photo: Peter Cofan/Oxfam

**WILL TRAIN A LOCAL IN BANGLADESH TO PREPARE THEIR COMMUNITY FOR NATURAL DISASTERS RESULTING FROM CLIMATE CHANGE. THIS IMPROVES SURVIVAL RATES.**



Photo: Tessa Bunney/Oxfam

**WILL TRAIN SMALL-SCALE FARMERS IN THE PHILIPPINES IN NEW WAYS TO GROW FOOD, AND EMPOWER COMMUNITIES TO LOBBY FOR MORE GOVERNMENT SUPPORT.**



# OUR NINE STEP GUIDE TO HUNGER BANQUET SUCCESS!

## STEP 1: REGISTER YOUR EVENT

Register your Hunger Banquet via [my.oxfam.org.au/hunger\\_banquet](http://my.oxfam.org.au/hunger_banquet). **This is really important.** Then download heaps of freebies to help you organise and make your event look awesome.

## STEP 2: GET PEOPLE ON BOARD

Get a bunch of volunteers to help with the planning and logistics. Contact potential sponsors for food and drinks, as well as local media outlets who might want to publicise your event.

## STEP 3: GET ORGANISING

Book the space. Confirm your menu. Make a budget. Get an MC. Put flyers, posters and door-knob signs up around your school or campus. Get food donations. Get decorations and all the other stuff you might need.

## STEP 4: THE MENU

A typical Hunger Banquet has three different meals and three different ways to eat. You can tailor this to your audience and type of event but they should be distinctive enough to see (and feel!) the difference between the three sets of menus.

We've based the following information on an event for 100 people, so you'll need to adjust the numbers according to the size of your own event.

**HIGH-INCOME (15 people):** A hot meal like pasta, with salad and a bread roll (or even a sumptuous three-course meal!). Serve juice in glasses. They eat at a table with a table cloth, proper crockery and glasses. Have a volunteer act as their "waiter" for the meal.

**MIDDLE-INCOME (35 people):** Half-a-cup of rice and a spoonful of beans, or a salad sandwich, served on a paper plate with water in a paper cup. Also give them a spoon or a fork, and a napkin. If you're feeling generous, they could sit on chairs during their meal. Cups are often filled with water ahead of time and placed on a buffet table so they can take their water as they go through the line.

**LOW-INCOME (50 people):** Half a cup of rice in a lettuce leaf with no plate. Guests sit on the floor and serve themselves water ladled out of a bucket into a paper cup.

Make sure you ordering less rather than more food for this event. It's very important that there's no food wasted, as having leftovers at an event that focuses on hunger can be very upsetting and frustrating.

## STEP 5: TALK, WATCH AND TAKE ACTION

Oxfam has a lot of great resources for you to share during your meal. Check the email sent to your organiser, or the Hunger Banquet Term Project page on [www.oxfam.org.au/education](http://www.oxfam.org.au/education)

## STEP 6: MORE ACTIONS

Get your guests to tell the Australian Government to do more to reduce global hunger. Ask everyone to go to [www.oxfam.org.au/foodandclimate](http://www.oxfam.org.au/foodandclimate) to sign the petition, then share it online. Alternatively, use the printed petition supplied.

## STEP 7: TELL THE WORLD!

Tell everyone what you got up to, what inspired you, what you talked about and how much money you raised! Share images through social media, your school newsletter, campus paper, class blog and more. **#hungerbanquet**

Remember to tell us about your event, too! We'd love to hear how you went, see your pictures and spread the word about your hard work.

Just email [schools@oxfam.org.au](mailto:schools@oxfam.org.au)

## STEP 8: REMEMBER THE MONEY YOU'VE RAISED

All the cash donations you get on the day can be banked through your online fundraising page, or by using the banking instructions provided with this guide. Don't send us the cash!

If you've collected donations through your online fundraising page, it would be great to send your guests a thank you email.

## STEP 9: CELEBRATE YOUR SUCCESS SOME MORE

You've just held your Hunger Banquet — congratulations! Now it's time to celebrate all your hard work.

Thank everyone who helped organise, everyone who came along, and everyone who supported you. If anyone's gone above and beyond or sponsored your event, write them a letter (or post it on social media, if it's appropriate) to tell them how incredible they are.

And remember to give yourself a pat on the back!

**FEEDING DOZENS — EVEN HUNDREDS! — OF PEOPLE MIGHT SEEM DAUNTING, BUT WITH JUST A LITTLE COORDINATION, YOU CAN GET ALL YOUR FOOD COOKED AND EVEN DONATED! REMEMBER, YOU AREN'T COOKING FULL MEALS FOR EACH PERSON!**

- 🍴 First, approach your regular food service provider, like your school canteen or uni cafés. They may be willing to supply most, if not all, the food you'll need.
- 🍴 Ask local restaurants or shops to supply some of the food. They'll be much more likely to donate if you describe it as a big pot of rice rather than lunch for 50.
- 🍴 Spread the menu out among the organisers, asking each one to cook or buy some of the food.
- 🍴 If you have hospitality students studying with you, see if they'll get involved too!

## HOW TO:

### MAKE IT SMALLER

Are you short on time? Or just want to hold a small event? Here's some ideas for running a down-sized version of a Hunger Banquet:

- 🍴 Pizza Party! Get a mix of original cheese, vegetarian and pizza with the lot for each income tier.
- 🍴 Have a relaxed picnic in the park or oval. Give everyone a plate to cook and bring, based on their level of income (for example, \$1, \$2 or \$10 plates of food).
- 🍴 Get your school canteen on board and ask them to serve different meals for the day — can they do simple rice dishes?

### MAKE IT BIGGER AND BETTER

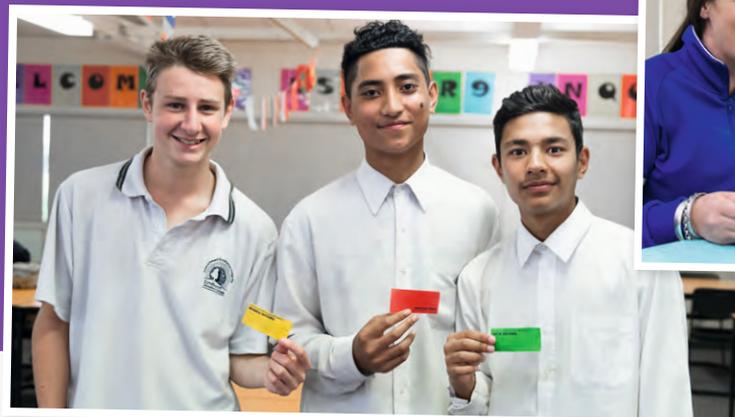
Are you as excited as we are? Want to reach as many people as you can in a meaningful way? Try these on for size!

- 🍴 Get your whole school involved and hold it on the school oval or hall.
- 🍴 Get a speaker or distinguished person from your community to MC (see suggestions at right).
- 🍴 Ask the girls to go to the back of the line and wait until all the boys have been fed before they can get their food, to represent the gender inequalities that exist across the globe
- 🍴 Ring the school bell every 3.6 seconds throughout your meal, to mark how often the UN estimates someone dies of starvation.
- 🍴 Get a big screen/projector and play our YouTube videos.
- 🍴 After the event, use the chatterboxes and reflection questions provided in the kit for more in-depth discussions.



### POTENTIAL SPEAKERS/MCS:

- 🍴 Local MPs
- 🍴 A professor or teacher
- 🍴 Community leaders
- 🍴 Local celebrities or media personalities
- 🍴 Local chefs, café owners or someone who's sponsored the event
- 🍴 Request an Oxfam speaker via <http://oxf.am/8iR>



Photos: Andrew Gooden/OxfamAUS

## HOW WE DID IT

### CHECK OUT HOW STUDENTS FROM AROUND AUSTRALIA HAVE ROCKED THEIR HUNGER BANQUET.

Lyndhurst Secondary College in Victoria held not one, but two epic Hunger Banquets last year! The Year 9 'Food Glorious Food' groups held the events as part of the Advance Schools Program. This is what they had to say!

"We invited other Year 9 students and staff at the school to come and experience what it is like for people around the world who don't have equal amounts of food to eat.

"As guests arrived at the restaurant they chose a ticket at random and gave a gold coin donation.

"The green tickets meant the person was representing 15% of the population that are high income earners. They received a meal of pasta, salad and apple juice. The yellow tickets meant the person was representing 35% of the population that are middle income earners. They received a sandwich and water. The red tickets meant that the person was representing 50% of the population that are low income earners. They received rice, lettuce and water.

"We gave a speech about food insecurity and climate change and played the Oxfam videos about how they help people around the world who are experiencing food insecurity.

"In the lead up to the event we learned how to cook the meals, how to serve food and how people around the world don't have equal access to food.

"The Hunger Banquet helped us learn about serving others, plus it was fun helping raise money for less fortunate people around the world."

# THE BIG DAY

**THE DAY'S ARRIVED! HERE'S A SUGGESTED TIMELINE FOR HOW YOUR HUNGER BANQUET COULD BE RUN. WE'VE ALLOWED FOR 45 MINUTES (PLUS PREPARATION AND PACK UP TIME), BUT FEEL FREE TO MAKE YOURS LONGER OR SHORTER.**

## BUMP IN (1 HOUR)

Volunteers arrive.

Volunteer coordinator assigns volunteers to specific tasks. Volunteers set up and decorate site, designating an area for sign-ins and information.

## ENTRANCE (15 MIN)

Volunteers greet guests and have them draw tickets.

Volunteers direct guests to their income groups and where they can get their meal.

## WELCOME (10 MIN)

Attendees are seated.

MC welcomes everyone, introducing the idea of the Hunger Banquet and the issues at large.

Attendees start eating.

Host acknowledges sponsors and people who made the event possible.

## DURING THE MEAL (15 MINS)

Play videos.

MC asks for a moment of silence to reflect on the Hunger Banquet event.

MC leads sharing period or reflection — use the chatterboxes in your kit!

## CALL TO ACTION (5 MINS)

MC concludes and invites attendees to take action: signing the petition, contacting your local MP or helping to raise money for Oxfam.

## BUMP OUT (1 HOUR)

Volunteers help with cleaning and packing up, making sure all rubbish and recycling is disposed of properly.



## THE MC

The role of MC can be central to the success of the event and it must be someone who can take on this responsibility. This includes spending time preparing for the role, familiarising themselves with the script and understanding the intention behind the event.

Sponsors, whether individuals or organisations, should be shown how their support contributed to the event. If they attend the event, they should be thanked, both in person and by the MC.

Try to have the MC walk around the guests and be a part of the banquet. And remember — have fun! An Oxfam Hunger Banquet isn't about making people feel depressed, we want to inspire people to create change!

We've provided a sample script for your MC later on in this guide! Feel free to change it up however you like.

## TOP TIPS FOR INVITING YOUR LOCAL MP

With world leaders meeting in Paris in December to hammer out a new climate deal, your local Member of Parliament is one link to this huge global moment! Invite them to your event to show young people care about the impact of climate change, especially on the world's most vulnerable people.

- Find your local Federal MP by visiting [http://www.aph.gov.au/Senators\\_and\\_Members/Members](http://www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members/Members)
- Write them a letter or email, outlining who you are, where you're from and some info about your Hunger Banquet. Don't make it too long!
- Make it clear you're from their electorate, and tell them there are many young people keen to meet them and share their views. If you've invited any local media, share that too.
- Follow up with a quick phone call, to make sure their office has received your request.
- Be persistent! If you haven't received a response within ten days, call and email again. Be friendly, polite and respectful — and don't give up!
- Even if they can't make it, send them an email after the event that includes photos, a few sentences about what happened, and tell them what you would like them to do on the issue of global hunger and climate change. Don't forget to leave your contact details so they can reply!

Sanzinho Da Silva preparing lettuce, Timor-Leste.  
Photo: Rodney Dekker/OxfamAUS.

# GETTING READY FOR YOUR EVENT — WEEKLY PLANNING LIST

## FIVE TO EIGHT WEEKS TO GO

KEY THINGS TO DO	WHO'S IN CHARGE?	DONE BY WHEN?	DONE? (Y/N)
Get permission to hold Hunger banquet.			
Register at <a href="http://my.oxfam.org.au/hunger_banquet">my.oxfam.org.au/hunger_banquet</a>			
Form organising committee			
Set a date.			
Organise volunteers to do key tasks, like: Setting-up the tables, the decorations and the venue beforehand. Welcoming and handing out character tickets on the door. Serving food and drinks. General logistics like sound management, assisting VIP attendees and clean-up.			
Brainstorm and reserve your venue.			
Make sure microphones and any AV equipment you need are available.			
Choose an MC and/or speaker.			
Look for food donations.			
Set up a Facebook event (if applicable).			
Create your invitation list. Think about the broader community too: are there any local celebrities, distinguished guests or other relevant people you could invite?			
Print invitations and flyers (if applicable).			

### TOP TIPS

- Print the character tickets in three distinct colours, in the appropriate quantities (15 high-income tickets, 35 middle-income tickets and 50 low-income tickets – see page 19 for printable tickets).
- Distribute the tickets in at least two boxes, bags or baskets, to make it easy to hand out.
- Consider ways to reduce the amount of waste from your event. Serve drinks from jugs instead of plastic and use recyclable plates and cups where possible.
- Don't let the event to go over the allotted time!

## FOUR WEEKS TO GO

KEY THINGS TO DO	WHO'S IN CHARGE?	DONE BY WHEN?	DONE? (Y/N)
Put up posters around your school/uni. (If it's a public event, include your local cafés/ restaurants/supporters.)			
Contact local media and uni/school magazines to cover your event.			
Send out invitations (if applicable).			
Promote your event on social media (blogs, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram).			
Buy or make decorations.			
Create a running sheet for the day.			
Review the script for the MC (see our sample script on the following pages).			

## ONE WEEK TO GO

KEY THINGS TO DO	WHO'S IN CHARGE?	DONE BY WHEN?	DONE? (Y/N)
Confirm all guests, speakers and volunteers for the day.			
Finalise running sheet.			
Confirm seating arrangements for the event, and where and how the food will be served.			
Make tickets for all income groups.			
Finalise any decorations and table settings.			
Finalise menus, what time the food needs to be ready, when it will arrive and who's going to cook.			
Final calls to media and any press invited.			
Final RSVPs from attendees (if it's a public event).			

# REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Answer these 12 questions individually or in small groups based on income group on your character ticket. Then share your answers with others in your class. They can be used to form a class discussion.

What did you have to eat during the Hunger Banquet? Describe your meal.

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Did you enjoy your meal, and feel full and satisfied afterwards? Why or why not?

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Were there other students who you think had a better time at the Hunger Banquet than you? Who do you think they were, and why?

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Were there students who you think had a worse time than you? Who do you think they were and why?

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Do you think the Hunger Banquet was fair? Why or why not?

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What inequalities did you notice during the meal? How did they make you feel?

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Do you think it's fair that some people in the world get more to eat than others? Why or why not?

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What will the rest of your day be like after the meal you had? Will it be easy to concentrate or be active? Why or why not?

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Who did you have on your character ticket? What do you think life might be like for them, especially if they eat like this every day?

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Why is having enough good healthy food to eat important for people to have happy, dignified lives?

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Did you enjoy Hunger Banquet? Why or why not?

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You can also use Oxfam's handy-dandy Plus, Minus, Interesting chart to evaluate what you learnt:

- During your Hunger Banquet experience, or
- About global hunger, its causes, and what we can do to make a difference!

You can download it from <http://oxf.am/ZWLJ>

# CHARACTER TICKETS

WE'VE CREATED THESE CHARACTER TICKETS, TO MAKE THINGS MORE INTERESTING FOR YOUR GUESTS. THESE ARE BASED ON REAL PEOPLE, LIVING IN DIFFERENT INCOME GROUPS AROUND THE WORLD. PRINT THEM ONTO COLOURED PAPER AND GET PEOPLE TO DRAW THEM RANDOMLY AS THEY ARRIVE. USE A DIFFERENT COLOUR FOR EACH INCOME GROUP.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET HIGH INCOME

**My name's Nicole.** I'm a student, and I live in Adelaide. I noticed that many students my age don't know much about global poverty and hunger issues, so I helped organise an Oxfam Australia Hunger Banquet last spring. We used social media to promote our event and had a great turnout.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET HIGH INCOME

**My name's Manuel.** I'm a man in my 40s from San Martin Alao in northern Peru, where I'm the mayor. I live a comfortable lifestyle. I'm often frustrated by the limited city budget, which makes it difficult to help the less fortunate.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET HIGH INCOME

**I'm Emiliana.** I'm a mother of nine from Karagwe, Tanzania. I'm a former teacher, and I know the value of hard work. As well as having access to food and water, I managed to put all my children through university. I'm now the co-founder of a small coffee and bean company.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET HIGH INCOME

**My name's Svetlana.** I'm from Russia, and I'm a mother and a wife. I own and operate a small business, where I sell coloured teakettles and other household things. I have access to clean water, food and housing. Unlike many people in Russia, I also have access to basic social services, like health care.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET HIGH INCOME

**I'm Taha.** I'm a 25-year-old man living in the Guéra region of Chad. I work as a vet, and my job's vaccinating animals to stop them contracting diseases and dying. I help people by doing this because animals are important in the lives of many families in the surrounding nomadic communities, as they can be sold for money or used for things like milk, eggs and manure.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET HIGH INCOME

**I'm Faiumu.** I live in Samoa with my four sons and husband. We own an organic farm where we produce coconut oil for export. We recently rebuilt our house, and two of my sons who were living overseas have come home to help with the family business. Our business earns about \$256 each week, and we need this income for our livelihood and security.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET HIGH INCOME

**My name's Farah.** I'm a 27-year-old female engineer from Jordan. I recently quit my job at a private company to work in a refugee camp in my country. Thousands of families have fled here to escape the conflict in nearby Syria. I now help Oxfam build toilets, showers, and water taps for the refugees, many of whom are kids.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET HIGH INCOME

**My name's Ranjani.** I'm a 40-year-old woman living in India with my husband and two children. I'm a doctor and my husband is a businessman. We live in a very big house with servants. My children go to one of India's best private schools. They're hoping to go to universities in the United States.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET MIDDLE INCOME

**My name's Ilfide.** I'm a single mother living in Artibonite, Haiti. Nearly half our population struggle get enough to eat. I sell rice in the Pont Sonde Market in Artibonite and make just enough to run my business and support my family.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET MIDDLE INCOME

**I'm Jacqueline.** I'm a 41-year-old woman from Haiti, where I live and farm with my husband and two children. We've been able to provide our kids with a stable life. On the side, I work to help others in central Haiti grow food and process it for sale. It's my way of giving back to my community.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET MIDDLE INCOME

**My name's Net.** I'm a 54-year-old man from Toul Char, Cambodia, and I'm one of the most experienced farmers in the village. Massive amounts of water come down from the Cardamom Mountains, and there are lots of floods. I remember the last one destroying about 20 percent of the rice crop. It's difficult, depending on the Earth and its natural cycles.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET MIDDLE INCOME

**I'm Vo.** I live with my wife and two daughters in Laos. I support my family by growing and selling chili seeds. Recently, harvests have been good, so we could buy a goat. We sold two of the goat's babies so we could send my girls to school and have enough rice to eat.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET MIDDLE INCOME

**My name's Ruqia.** I live in Yemen and, although I'm still a teenager, I've already got two boys. It's very common to be forced into early marriage, here. It's hard to care for my children when my husband is off trying to make money. Although we struggle sometimes, we're comfortable and have a roof over our heads and enough to eat.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET MIDDLE INCOME

**I'm Tafue.** I live on Tuvalu where rising sea levels are literally sinking my home. I became the chairman of a local climate action network to address the major problems that climate change is bringing to our island.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET MIDDLE INCOME

**I'm Chheng.** I'm a 38-year-old woman from Toul Char, Cambodia. I work on a farm, and my husband has a job as a construction worker. Both incomes provide a stable life for our 11-year-old daughter and, as a result, we can afford to send her to school. I couldn't go to school myself, so I'd love to see her get a good education.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET MIDDLE INCOME

**My name's Tufa.** I'm a middle-aged married woman from Kenter, Ethiopia. I live with my husband and children in a small house with a metal roof. We've got access to a hand pump, which provides water for our onion harvest. The last two harvests have been successful, so we had enough money to buy a cow, which gives us milk. For the very first time, we're looking forward to the future and can give our children everything they need.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET MIDDLE INCOME

**I'm Tirivashe.** I'm a farmer in Zimbabwe, and make enough to support my family. I have a wife and 10 children and, with three able-bodied workers, we can buy food and sustain a good lifestyle. I'm hoping to use the money from this crop to buy more cattle and a new house next year.

## OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET MIDDLE INCOME

**I'm Sukrit.** I'm a 55-year-old man from Thailand. I work on traditional paddy fields, but I recently started farming fish and poultry as well. From there, I was able to expand into growing fruits and vegetables alongside my fields. Times can be tough or prosperous, depending on the climate in my village, which is getting increasingly unpredictable.

**OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET  
LOW INCOME**

**My name's Deranie.** I'm a 40-year-old rice farmer in the Artibonite Valley. Rice is a staple, in Haiti, so I've got lots of competition. I'm trying to learn how to produce rice more efficiently, so I can compete in the global marketplace

**OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET  
LOW INCOME**

**I'm Miguel.** I'm from the Dominican Republic. I'm a sugar farmer on a small plantation. I work 11 hour days and, although the work's steady, I don't make much money. I dream of having my own farm, but I never seem to be able to save money.

**OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET  
LOW INCOME**

**I'm Amuria.** I'm a 28-year-old woman living in the Turkana district, Kenya. Weather's a huge factor in my survival because drought's been damaging large areas of land. It's difficult to live in these conditions when I'm trying to care for my daughter, because food and water prices have spiked. If I can't work the land, how am I supposed to support myself?

**OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET  
LOW INCOME**

**I'm Sadio.** I live in rural Senegal and my husband passed away last year. Instead of sitting home alone, I wanted to help other people in my community, so I started volunteering for a local organisation that's funded by Oxfam. We don't have running water here, so they distribute hygiene kits that make water safe for washing and drinking.

**OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET  
LOW INCOME**

**My name's Adis.** I live in the Rift Valley in Ethiopia. My husband died and I've got seven children to care for. It's difficult to get food and water here, because of the drought. My kids fall sick constantly. Recently, I had to sell my last three goats. I hope things get better because I've got nothing left to sell.

**OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET  
LOW INCOME**

**My name's Sabina.** I'm a mother of four and we live in Lima, Peru, in one of the poorest neighborhoods. We had to build our house on the side of a steep hill, in an area that's at high risk of earthquakes. I joined a local civil protection committee, for the sake of my family. Now, we train people in what to do in case of an earthquake.

**OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET  
LOW INCOME**

**My name's Demitu.** I'm 45 years old and live in Jello Dida, Ethiopia. I'm a farmer and mother to nine children. Because the weather's become unpredictable, I joined a farmers' group. We get resources to improve production, and I've been able to buy better seeds, so hopefully we'll have a good harvest.

**OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET  
LOW INCOME**

**My name's Kim.** I'm a mother of three living in Pom Tom village in the Kratie province of Cambodia. We don't have water taps or toilets, so it's common for people to get sick. Just this week, my 8-month-old was rushed to the hospital with diarrhea. All we can do is hope he'll survive.

**OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET  
LOW INCOME**

**My name's Korsaga.** I'm 28 years old, and I've had to move around a lot to escape the Ivory Coast civil war. Last time, I moved because they attacked our village. Right now I feel like I'm in a safe haven, even though we don't have food or cooking supplies. Health is an issue for some people. I'm really hoping the authorities will help us recover our abandoned plantations.

**OXFAM AUSTRALIA HUNGER BANQUET  
LOW INCOME**

**My name's Sartosa.** I'm a farmer living in the Baliem Valley in the Central Highlands of Papua. The cool climate is perfect for growing sweet potato, which is my only income. My husband passed away a few years back, and I've got four kids to feed. It's hard when you depend on a crop to survive. Hopefully, this year will be a good one.



**OXFAM**  
Australia

**Please forward completed form to:**

Annalise De Mel, Schools Program Coordinator  
Post: 132–138 Leicester Street, Carlton VIC 3053  
Email: schools@oxfam.org.au  
Fax: 03 9347 1983

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representative of, (insert name of school) \_\_\_\_\_

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agree that images taken by or supplied to Oxfam Australia for (specify event) \_\_\_\_\_

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**Oxfam Australia is very grateful for your cooperation.**

# SAMPLE SCRIPT FOR OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET MC

Welcome to our Oxfam Hunger Banquet. My name is [name] and I will be your MC for today's event, to tell you a bit about what we are doing here and explain what this Hunger Banquet is.

Before I begin, I'd like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land we are gathered on today, and pay my respects to their elders past and present.

We are here today because more than 2.5 billion people in the world currently live in poverty. Nearly 795 million people around the world suffer from chronic hunger.

You may think hunger is about too many people and too little food, but that is not the case. Our rich and bountiful planet produces enough food to feed every woman, man and child on earth.

Hunger is about power. Its roots lie in inequalities in access to resources. The results are illiteracy, poverty, war, and the inability of families to grow or buy food.

Hunger affects everyone, in countries rich and poor, in urban and rural areas. But some of us face greater challenges than others.

Every day, resources like land and water are becoming more scarce, making it harder for farmers to feed their families. Global shifts in weather are adding to the problem, making it harder for people to sow and harvest crops. In fact, climate change is one of the biggest threats to food security the world has ever seen.

Scientists warn that human-made greenhouse gas pollution is causing sea levels to rise and changing weather patterns. This means the intensity of extreme weather events is increasing — things like storms, floods, drought and changing seasons are playing havoc with farmers' crops and people's lives.

Today, we are all joining Oxfam Australia in the fight against global hunger.

Oxfam believes human rights don't depend on what country we're from, our gender, our ethnicity or the money we have or need. Rather, human rights are fundamental and non-negotiable.

Since Oxfam began 60 years ago, millions of dollars have been raised to support human rights and an end to poverty. Efforts like yours have helped to decrease the proportion of the world's population living in hunger, which is a wonderful thing. However, millions of people still don't have access to the food they need. Food prices remain volatile, and for many, food that is within reach one day may not be affordable the next.

Your presence here today shows that you are concerned. You want to learn more. You want to make a difference, which is fantastic.

The way Oxfam sees it, poverty is solvable—a problem rooted in injustice. Eliminate injustice and you can eliminate poverty. We're not saying it will be quick or easy, but together, it can be done.

Around the world, Oxfam works in more than 90 countries to save lives, develop long-term solutions to poverty, and campaign for social change.

While Oxfam does a lot of fantastic work in Australia and overseas, Oxfam also works to educate Australians about the issues surrounding hunger and poverty, which is what this Hunger Banquet is all about.

This event aims to show you how food and other resources are inequitably distributed in the world. Our Hunger Banquet today will touch on some of the issues. Poverty is complex, and includes a wide range of problems such as lack of access to health care, education, and employment opportunities, and the realities of struggling day-to-day to survive.

The one thing I would like you to remember is this: some of us are born into relative prosperity and security, while millions — through no choice of our own — are born into poverty. But everyone on earth has the same basic needs; it is only our circumstances that differ.

As you walked in the door here today, you drew a ticket at random. If you look around, you can see

that what we are eating and how we are sitting is not equal or balanced.

You might not have realised it, but each group represents a segment of this world. We have divided you up into high income, middle income, and low income groups.

It's really important to note that money alone doesn't mean everything, there can be big social and political reasons that impact on a person's ability to be safe and access the things they need to survive. Also, no one section of this room represents a single country. While there are inequalities within our own countries, this is an example of inequality on a global scale.

### **[MOVE NEAR, OR POINT TOWARDS, HIGH-INCOME GROUP.]**

If you are sitting over here, you represent the 15 percent of the world's population with the highest per capita income.

To be a member of this very fortunate group, you need to earn a minimum income of just \$6,300 a year. That's right, earning \$6,300 a year makes you comparatively rich on a global scale.

Most of you are lucky enough to be able to afford a nutritious daily diet. Because some of you even exceed your daily requirement of calories and can buy processed foods, you are likely to face health problems such as heart disease and diabetes.

The good news is that many of you have access to the best medical care in the world. It's a given that your children will attend school; the only uncertainty is how many years they will study after high school. You and your family probably live in a reasonably comfortable and secure home, with heating, cooling and a secure roof to protect you from the weather. You may even own at least one car and two televisions. You might be able to take annual holidays with your family. You have access to virtually everything you need and the security to enjoy it.

### **[MOVE NEAR, OR POINT TOWARDS, MIDDLE-INCOME GROUP]**

If you are sitting here, you represent roughly 35 percent of the world's population. You earn between \$1,128 and \$6,300 a year. The levels of access and security you enjoy vary greatly. You live on the edge. For many, it would take losing only one harvest to drought or a serious illness to throw you into serious poverty.

You probably own no land and may work as a day labourer, a job that pays a paltry amount, but it's better than nothing. Your small income allows for some use of electricity and a few years of schooling for your children—especially if they are boys. Alternatively, you may have left your family to go work in the city. You hope that the money you earn from your less-than-minimum-wage job as domestic help or sweatshop worker will eventually allow you to move back home and make a better life for your family.

### **[MOVE NEAR OR POINT TOWARDS, LOW-INCOME GROUP.]**

If you are sitting on the floor, you represent the majority of the world's population — roughly 50 percent. Your average income is less than \$1,128 a year — about \$3.09 a day — although many of you earn much less.

Every day is a struggle to meet your family's basic needs. Finding food, water, and shelter can consume your entire day.

For many of you women, it would not be uncommon to have to walk 10 to 15km every day to get water, then spend several hours working in the fields, and of course, take care of the children. When food is scarce, you often eat less so that other family members will have enough.

Many of you, both women and men, are frequently hungry. It is quite likely that you don't get the minimum number of calories your hardworking life requires. Some of you are homeless or living in structures so flimsy that a hard rain or strong wind could cause a major catastrophe.

And this is an increasing problem — many of you live in countries where climate change is hitting you first and worst. Weather patterns are changing, and droughts, floods and cyclones are becoming more severe — often leaving communities like yours at risk of becoming more hungry, and sometimes even homeless.

Even though education is the single most powerful weapon against poverty, school is a luxury few of

your children will ever experience. Most girls don't even bother to dream about school.

Adequate health care is out of the question. For most of you, early death is all too familiar, with many mothers expecting to lose one or two children before they turn 5. If you are lucky enough to work, you are probably farmer that rents land, and have to give 75 percent of your harvest to the landowner as payment. Or you may get occasional work as a day laborer at a large plantation growing bananas, sugar, or coffee for export. You get few benefits from these crops — you'd prefer to grow food your children could eat.

Take a moment to look around you now. 85 percent of you are not seated at the table. 85 percent of you do not share in the bounty of our planet.

Those of you in the high-income group have been served a nutritional meal [tell everyone exactly what the meal is, don't leave any tasty details out!]. The middle-income group are eating rice and beans [if this is the case] are available. People in the low-income group seated on the floor, help yourselves to rice and water. Girls in the middle and low income groups have been asked to the end of the line and let the boys serve themselves first.

Just like no one can choose the circumstances into which they are born, none of you were able to choose what meal you are being served today. The Hunger Banquet shows that while some people have good fortune to change their lives for the better, for most, the circumstances of life are determined by factors outside of their control.

Please read your ticket to learn more about people who live this experience every day, and enjoy your meals. We'll now play some videos [if this is the case] and I'll be back to close the event soon.

### **AFTER EVERYONE HAS EATEN:**

I hope you have all enjoyed your meal. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors [X, Y, Z, if appropriate] for helping us host our event today.

By attending this Hunger Banquet, you have deepened your awareness of world hunger and poverty. The test is how you put this knowledge to use. Our event ends here, but this is just the beginning for each of you. As I look around today, I can see that this experience has had an impact on many of you. If what you've learned or experienced has stirred something in you, take action today.

### **[IF YOU HAVE A PETITION OR OTHER ACTION YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR PARTICIPANTS TO COMPLETE OR DO, MENTION IT HERE.]**

Together with Oxfam, we join millions of other people across the globe working to right the wrongs of poverty, hunger, and injustice.

I want to leave you with the words of someone whom many have found inspiring, in large part because he was able to bring about changes that few believed possible, in the face of what seems like seemed insurmountable obstacles. I quote from a speech he made to a group of people like you, at an event organised by Oxfam some years ago. I am honoured to close with his words:

"Massive poverty and obscene inequality ... rank alongside slavery and apartheid as social evils. In this new century, millions of people ... remain imprisoned, enslaved, and in chains. They are trapped in the prison of poverty. It is time to set them free. Like slavery and apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made and it can be overcome. ... Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice. It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life. We thank you for coming here today. Sometimes it falls upon a generation to be great. You can be that great generation. Let your greatness blossom. Of course the task will not be easy. But not to do this would be a crime against humanity, against which I ask all humanity now to rise up."

The speaker was Nelson Mandela. And the message was: together, we can change the world. Thank you so much for coming today.



## DONATION DEPOSIT "HOW TO"

YOU AND YOUR SCHOOL CAN DEPOSIT FUNDS IN THREE WAYS.

### 1. ONLINE

Create a fundraising page at [my.oxfam.org.au](http://my.oxfam.org.au) to donate money securely by credit or debit card.

### 2. ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER (EFT)

Please deposit funds into the following bank account:

Bank: Westpac Carlton  
Address: 310 Lygon Street Carlton  
Account Name: Oxfam Australia  
BSB: 033178  
Number: 273090  
Reference: Hunger Banquet and your school's name

### 3. CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER

Please make your cheque or money order payable to "Oxfam Australia" and send to:

Oxfam Hunger Banquet  
Att: Events Fundraising Team  
Oxfam Australia  
132 Leicester Street  
Carlton VIC 3053

Please make sure you send an email to [fundraising@oxfam.org.au](mailto:fundraising@oxfam.org.au) with the following details any time a donation has been paid into this account:

- Date of transfer.
- Amount.
- Contact name and details if we have any questions about the donation.
- Organisation/individual name and details for whom the receipt should be made out to.
- Specify if the donation is a general donation to our work or for a specific appeal or campaign.

If you don't send us an email we can't guarantee your donation will be recorded in your school's name or that you will be issued a tax deductible receipt, or that it will be directed to Oxfam Hunger Banquet fundraising.

Please make sure you return your donations and Donation Record Form to Oxfam by 31 December 2015.

If you have any questions please contact the Event Fundraising Team at: [fundraising@oxfam.org.au](mailto:fundraising@oxfam.org.au)



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