

PEACE AFRICA



Peace Africa Children's Ensemble

PEACE AFRICA NEWS NOVEMBER 2010

Newsletter

1. edition NOVEMBER 2010

Exchange, workshop and funding tour to Germany

From the 1st of May to the 1st of August, Ronald Kibirige traveled to Munich in Germany to hold East African Music and Dance Workshops in several schools.

New in Peace Africa
western music theoretic reading writing and performance programm

Peace Africa as a training center for member children

Gerald Ssemaganda Training Assistant for Peace Africa after graduating secondary school

Water comes to the children

donation of a huge watertank for the project with the help of the East African Education Initiative

Doc-movie of the project

made by ugandan film maker AK Simba

Peace Africa Association in Germany

An association to support the Peace Africa Children's Ensemble and on long hand to support a performing art center for children and youth was founded.

New Road to the Peace Africa Center

Great effort for the project and the community. The road was renovated

New Fence, children's room, kitchen and compound finished



Administrative Assistant for the project

monthly long term donations help to employ Julius as an administrative assistant

Upcoming Projects in Uganda

Christmas Cultural Exchange Concert and the In-Country-out-reach performance tour

Upcoming international projects

Children of Peace Africa part of an international theatre co-production for children under patronage of the UNESCO

Future Challenges

Peace Africa Sustainability and fundraising and performance tours to Europe

Editorial...

Dear Reader!

This is the first newsletter of the Peace Africa Children's Ensemble. We are looking forward to inform about us and to keep you as close to the daily life of the children as possible. Peace Africa has registered a great progress in the last eight months. The programs and projects that the children have been engaged in have been a great success to them all.

Peace Africa would like to send the sincere and heart felt thank to the following people who have donated and supported the children in various ways:

All our partner schools in Uganda where our children go, for all their academic corporation and support to the children so as



workshop in Denmark

St. Theresa Little way Junior School, St. Francis Junior School Mpambire, Kinaawa High School Kawempe Compass, Vision High School- Lugoba Kawempe, Sam Yiga Memorial College Kawempe Kagoma, Excel High School Kawempe

On a special note, Peace Africa wants to thank all the founding members of the Peace Africa Association in Germany, that wants to work supportively for the project in Europe, so as Rudolf Gregor Knabl, Cindy Jaenicke, Maureen Lukan-Knabl, Dagmar Carra, Barbara Hecht, Gaby Gedig, Juliane Knabl, Jasmin Weinfeld, Magnus Bauer, Lisa Reuter, Til Schindler, Markus Strobl. Thank you for receiving and supporting Ronalds tour to Germany.

A special thank to the members of the **Young Ensemble of the Bavarian States Theater** for all their unreserved assistance and joyful being with Ronald.

We would also like to greatly thank all Schools that invited us for the workshop tour in Munich, Germany this year, so as **Theresiengymnasium, Theresia Gerhardinger Gymnasium, Grundschule Grassling, Schule zur Erziehungshilfe, Guardini Grundschule, Werner-Heisenberg-Gymnasium, Rudolf-Steiner-Schule, priv. Sabel-Wirtschaftsschule.**

On another special note, we would like to thank the **East African Education Initiative** in the United States for all the support for the children, so as **Rev. Sean David Boyd, Kitty Shaver and Debby Sturgess**, thank you so much for your great hearts for the children.

You may not realise the revolution you all have blessed Peace Africa with this year, but it is unforgettable. Thank you so much!

Ronald Kibirige Omulanda

(managing director)

Israel Kalungi

(artistic director)

and the children of the

Peace Africa Children's Ensemble



workshop in Munich, Germany



Rehearsing in the compound of the project



workshop in Munich, Germany

10 questions to... *Fuuko Rogers,* 14 years

- Typical Ugandan for you?**
Any ugandan is a black person. There is also no food like in Uganda in the rest of the world.....)
- Which profession do you want to become?**
I want to become a musician
- What was the funniest thing you experienced with Peace Africa?**
Going to school without minding about school fees!!
- Why do you like music?**
It is good. It makes feel good
- Whats your biggest dream?**
I want to be the richest.... and help other children!!
- Explain where you're from!**
I come from Mpambire and I am a typical muganda.
- When you're sad, you...?**
I cry and sing
- In your spare time, you...?**
I play or sing and dance
- What do you wish for Peace Africa?**
I wish Peace Africa to be the biggest in Uganda to help children to learn music.
- Ask a question you cannot answer yourself no matter what!**
Can I be the richest person in Uganda?



Rogers, rehearsing

Workshop tour to Germany...

Exchange programs are one of the main focuses through which Peace Africa Children reach and share experiences with other children. They can use their skills in traditional music, dance and theater in national and international projects. Schools, artistic institutions, and other academic institutions can engage in activities to exchange music, dance and theatrical ideas.

We may wonder how little is really needed to change a child's life in Uganda and East Africa but there are so many ways one can make a difference.

From the 1st of May to the 1st of August, Ronnie traveled to Germany being assisted by very kind hearted friends in Munich who organized East African Music and Dance Workshops in several schools. **Ronnie was able to show and explain the vision of Peace Africa to many kind people and was able to fundraise 2,700 Euros!!**

On return, this money has been used to construct and complete a protective fence around the compound for the children's home in Kawempe. Now, rehearsals can be held outside, the children are more secure and protected mainly during the night.

New in Peace Africa...

We have written a music program to teach the children in two years western music knowledge in reading, writing and practice. A performance program involves children to learn skills in piano, brass instruments and western music knowledge.

Our aim is that within the next two years the children will be able to play and share these skills with other children in different areas of the East African Community. This program is set to start in December 2010. We therefore call upon all musicians who would like to help finance this project.

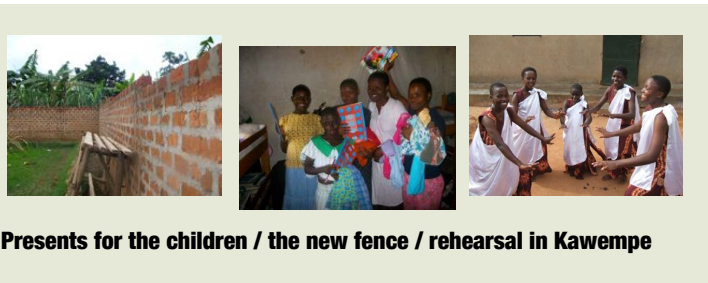
In need for this project are: Brass Instruments and any other instrument. The financing of two extra music teachers for a period of two years would be great.

Peace Africa as a training center

In the spirit of training children to help children, Gerald Ssemaganda was volunteering as a rehearsal and training assistant for the last eight monthes.

Gerald lived in Peace Africa through the whole of his secondary level of education and graduated secondary School last december. Now he has joined a higher institution of learning to study computer engineering and repair.

Gerald is doing music and dance as a side career and has given many young stars of Peace Africa a great hope of prosperity. After his volunteering he now manages rehearsals and leads performances in the absence of the artistic directors. Internally, Peace Africa also trains in administrative, costumes, instrument, welfare, health or office management.



Presents for the children / the new fence / rehearsal in Kawempe

The children also gain skills in dance choreography and music composition.

For Gerald's further education we are looking for financial support.



workshop in Denmark



the boys rehearsing



Gerorg Glasl, university of music, Munich, Germany



workshop Munich, Germany

Water comes to the children...

The children are so excited as water comes to them at last!

For a long time Children at Peace Africa have collected water from the well. We could also buy water from a good hearted neighbor quit a distance away, who has a water tank. The East African Education Initiative with major help from Miss Kitty Shaver donated a medium size water tank to the children. Although there is still a challenge of getting piped water to the home, the water tank will make many things easier and will save the children from carrying water from far. We greatly thank Miss Kitty and the East Africa Education Initiative for this great sacrifice.

Documentary Movie made for Peace Africa Children's Ensemble

The Ugandan video artist AK Simba made with the financial support of the german association a documentary about the project. It shows the daily life of the children and the idea behind the foundation of Peace Africa.

New Road to the Center

Peace Africa has become closer to the communities around with the new renovated road. The road that connects people from around with Peace Africa has been renovated and now the whole community benefits from it.

Our electricity connections that were installed a year ago also benefit the whole community. Many children from the surrounding neighbours come in the evenings to Peace Africa to do homeworks and preps for school with light (all the days we have no rehearsals or trainings).

New Fence, children's room, kitchen

Now with the new fence, rehearsals can be held outside, the children are more secure and protected. Nevertheless the Peace Africa compound is always open for the children from the community around to join and play.

The children are also excited to have a separate new kitchen room now and the children already enjoy cooking there. Another new tiny room has been completed as a small office space for the new administrative assistant.

Administrative Assistant for Peace Africa...

With the help of the Peace Africa Associations in Germany, we had been able to employ an administrative assistant for the project.

The staff of Peace Africa has been dominated by a team of volunteers. The directors always worked in many different jobs to sustain the children. At the same time they managed all operations, the office and the daily running of the home. Although there is need for other volunteers who would like to work for the project, there is already great change with the hand of this administrative assistant.

The projects still needs the helping hands of volunteers for the children, to develop ideas, to promote the ensemble and generate fundraisings. Ronnie and Israel will now atleast have more time to concentrate on the artistry of the children and their jobs to generate money for the home.

We are looking for a constant support to finance the travel expenses for the volunteers to come to the project. Even a small amount can help a lot.



UPCOMING PROJECTS AND FUTURE CHALLENGES

Christmas Cultural Exchange Concert



We are organizing a concert to take place on the 23rd Dec 2010 that will bring children together to commemorate through their music and dance traditions and count down the year happily. We are working on the details of this program now and preparing the children for this performance.

Peace Africa Association founded in Germany..

A group of people that Ronald met during the international theatre project in 2010 in Germany are founding a supporting association for Peace Africa in Germany. Besides helping to finance the daily needs the association is trying to work with Peace Africa in various fields: volunteering program, funding projects, exchanges, charity events.

In-Country-Out-Reach Performance Tour



The children will get on the road to reach out to other children in the countryside and rural areas. We want to start a children's theater, traditional music and dance in-country-reach-out-performance-tour.

This will be the first of its kind for both Peace Africa and the Ugandan children community. We plan to put together a children's theatrical, music and dance production. Involving the East African cultures we want to encourage, empower and give a sense of hope to children in different rural areas of Uganda. Many children are affected by war, disease, poverty or violence. We hope to reach over 5,000 children.

At the moment we are planning the program. The tour should start after the school summer break of 2011. We are also looking for funding hands.

Children of Peace Africa part of an international theatre production with the patronage of the UNESCO



In 2010 Ronald was in Europe with the theatre production „Emil and the detectives“, a cross media theatre play.

A new production with the patronage of the UNESCO is planned for 2011. Professional artists and children of three east african countries and a German team are developing a theatre production for children. In cooperation of the National Theatre Kampala and the Bavarian States Theatre, Munich. A tour in Africa and Europe is planned. Peace Africa will host the participating African children.

Sustainability



At the moment 66.2% of Peace Africa's Budget is directly financed by the directors! We would like to lay out strategies to have Peace Africa as an ensemble self financed in future. This will help the directors to concentrate on the artistic aspect and run other programs to reach out to other children.

There are so many activities Peace Africa would like to engage into help and reach out to many children in the East Africa communities. Therefore we have to get the necessary fundings for school fees, food, medical care and others.

Our goals are:

Establish Sponsorships for all the children of Peace Africa.

In this way, the person sponsoring one or two children will not only be helping that child but will indirectly be helping other children that the child is reaching out through Peace Africa programs.

Finance an independent staff that will work to achieve all the objectives of the ensemble.

Most of the staff of Peace Africa is dominated by volunteers who have other jobs to work, that help to run the organization, including paying the employees who are not volunteering. If we are able to finance an independent staff, the activities will run much smoother and it will be easier to support the children.

Charity Reading in Munich

On December 18th there will be a charity reading for Peace Africa in the Marstall of the Bavarian States Theatre Munich. An actor and 24 children of a primary school are reading, acting and singing a story for children. The audience is asked to contribute money after the reading to support Peace Africa.

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