

PEACE TILES

Building bonds between people and communities through art



WORKSHOP/EXHIBITION OF WORKS BY YOUTHS FROM AROUND THE WORLD.



PT Indian Artists



Stevenson1



Flexvermontiles



Gulu collage



PT Actwid pix[1]

Community Village Abuja for the
14th International Conference on
AIDS and STIs In Africa (ICASA) 2005.

Date:
2nd -9th Dec.2005

Coordinated by
Girl child Art Foundation,
Nigeria.

Introduction

By the National Coordinator and founder of Girl-Child Art Foundation (GCAF)

Girl-Child Art Foundation (GCAF) was founded on the 19th of October 2000 and is registered with the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, Anambra state, incorporated under the Companies and Allied Matter Decree of 1990 in the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja with registration number CAC/IT/NO18768. It has membership strength of over 2,800 girls nation-wide between the ages of 8-24 years (including members from the on-campus project in different higher institutions in Nigeria).

GCAF aims to promote the education of the girl-child, rights of the girl-child, health and hygiene of the girl-child. It also promotes HIV/AIDS awareness programs, capacity building for Nigerian youths, peer education for the youths and other MDGs related programmes through the instrumentality of the arts and the media.

Essentially, our vision and philosophy is to develop a sustainable culture of service delivery in the areas of professional excellence, independence and social empowerment to Nigerian youths but most especially the girl-child. Our programme content is contrived using the different strands of arts as a medium of empowerment, education and service to humanity for the young person and his contribution to the common good. Our watchword is to "catch them young" and empowering them towards the discharge of their duties in service to humanity. We are a career opportunity generating foundation.

Our foundation is creativity-based and career-opportunity generating. Our solutions are all based on home-grown profound ideas and inspiration from our immediate environment.

GCAF in collaboration with our local and International partners are also executing laudable projects in the areas of human trafficking, domestic and extraneous violence against the girl-child, all forms of society-induced discriminations against the girl-child, among others, adopting strategies that are positive and suitable to our climate in the protection of the girl-child in particular and the youth in general. The strategies we have adopted include, skills acquisition, talent hunt, practical classes, conferences, workshops, arts festival, concerts, art exhibitions, youth seminars, entrepreneurial classes and youth empowerment trainings, e.t.c

Ada Onyejike



Ada Onyejike

Is an artist/ activist using all forms of Arts (Art Therapy) as a medium of provoking a positive change in the society.

She is the Executive Director and co founder of Girl Child-Art Foundation. It is the first youth development Art Foundation in Nigeria, but basically working on girl-child related developmental issues through all forms of art e.g. Performing, Visual, and Literary Arts.

Ada Onyejike had her first degree in Fine and Applied Arts, specializing in painting. She has acquired other certificates through trainings and courses both within and outside Nigeria on different issues related to youth development and women.

Ada Onyejike has coordinated/contributed actively in youth related MGDs even as an undergraduate till date. She has endeared herself to many people through her positive independent professional competence. Overtime, she has served as a workshop, seminars/conference resource person, transferring basic skills, capacity building programs, Health and Hygiene of the girl child as future women, HIV/AIDS, Girl /women's rights, knowledge of self development through Arts to young girls, gender organizations, and the less privileged members of the society. She is desirous to influence and empower budding female activists and the youths in the country, using the media, exhibitions, Art competitions, dance, drama, art festivals and other forms of entertainments as campaign strategies for their social rights and heighten their level of independence.

Peace Tiles workshop/ Exhibition Report.

Peace Tile Project: "Building bonds between people and communities through art."

Girl-Child Art Foundation, an NGO based in Nigeria organised the Peace Tiles workshop in Enugu State, Nigeria with theme as "HIV/AIDS and the Family." Over 59 youths, whose ages ranged from 11 to 28 years, including students from higher institutions in Enugu State and the neighbouring states of Anambra and Ebonyi, participated in the workshop. It was a one-day workshop that was hosted by the National Museum Enugu on Friday, October 14, 2005.

Before the Enugu workshop, the Peace Tile workshop was earlier held in Lagos and hosted by the Policy Research Services on August 27, 2005. The Lagos leg which was coordinated by Mr. Jafar Danesi was tagged "The Creative Mind" and had in attendance, 12 Youths/Children (both out-of-school and in-school) from various communities in Lagos State.

This workshop had also taken place in Thailand, Senegal, Kenya, United States, India, and South Africa, at the GFATM in Switzerland, Canada, Uganda and other parts of the world.



The project was a collaborative arts project contrived to raise awareness on issues affecting on the children and youth through a unique combination of collage and mural works. The collage and mural works that were realized effectively engaged the individual themes of the workshops in the different locations and was designed to engage participants emotionally, intellectually and creatively

in a process of "art advocacy". In the Enugu workshop, after the opening speech the participants were divided into groups and were asked to write poems related to the works they wanted to produce and also to recite them. The participants were also asked to pick materials from their immediate environment, which engaged their attention in addressing the HIV/AIDS scourge which they focused on their creative works. They were provided with a large work and at the end of the search some of the participants came up with various objects ranging from pieces of dead leaves, ropes, red cloth, stamps, papers from magazines of different cultural backgrounds, comics, papers and old envelopes with stamp which they explored as creative measures.

In his speech during the workshop, the indefatigable Director of the Alliance Francaise, Enugu, Mr. Gerard Chouin reminded the participants especially the young girls that they had a voice that counts in the immediate democratic society of Nigeria and in the world at large, and that they were messengers of hope in the fight against HIV/AIDS pandemic. Dr. Ezeilo who represented the Commissioner of Health, Enugu State and Dr. Abu Edet, the curator of the National Museum, Enugu further charged the participants to express their innermost feelings on the HIV/AIDS scourge in their works, knowing that their collective voice can save lives. Based on the discussion, the

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Exhibition Images



Jiaqponna Ngozi,13



Ada onwuegbuna,16



Ume Happiness,13



Kollinz Njoku,21



Iheanacho Chekwube



Kalu Okorie Chima



Nwambe Adanna,12



Amarachukwu Orafu





Ilo Goodness,13



Ike Cynthia,13



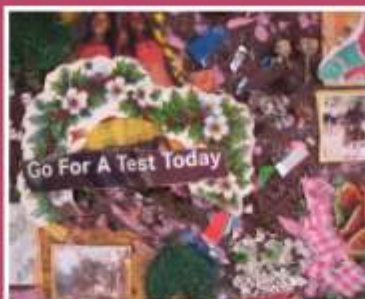
Nwachukwu Ugochi,13



Anekwe Nnenna



Offiah Ginika T. 13



Ebo Ifunanya,13



Udorah Adaobi,13



Okeke Chinenye,16



Egboka Tochukwu,13



Jennifer Lawrence Udi, 13



Chidichukwu Ewa



Nweze Orlando,25



Egbe Vera Chimabi,1



Workshop/Exhibition Report

participants were charged to visualize all they have heard concerning HIV/AIDS and other developmental issues affecting children and youths in their community. They were allowed with the freedom to choose their materials and the groups they wanted to belong to. They were also advised to move around and seek inspiration from the works of fellow participants.

The Peace Tile Workshop was a prelude to the World Aids Day on December 1, 2005. The

workshop's goal was to raise awareness about the vulnerability of youth to HIV/AIDS, and to provide them with a vibrant, dynamic means for self-advocacy and self-expression. The participants works from the Enugu workshop was exhibited during the ICASA World conference on HIV/AIDS at Abuja in December 2005. The best works were also sent to Peace Tiles coordinators Lars Hasselblad in collaboration with Act-ALIVE, Art4Development Network for the world travel exhibition scheduled for 2006 and

other international art exhibition venues to mark 2005 world AIDS.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

The major problem that affected the workshop was the problem of limited funds, which in some way affected the workshop in areas of work materials and effective sensitisation and mass-mobilisation towards the workshop.

We would want to encourage a wider participation on the Peace Tile project from other NGOs and youths in Nigeria.



Lists of Artists from Girl Child Art Foundation

Nwoye Chiamaka,12
Nwambe Adanna,12
Ebo Ifunanya,13
Egbose Tochukwu,13
Ebere Okeke,13
Ndau Chisomeje,12
Ani Ifesinachi,14
Ume Happiness,13
Ike Cynthia,13
Ogbodo Queen,13
Ama goodness,11
Nwachukwu
Ugochi,13
Okey Ikenegbu Kosi,

Anoliefo ogochukwu,11
Nwosu Chinonso
Chetachukwu
Anitube,13
Jennifer Lawrence
Udi,13
Anekwe Nnenna
Cynthia,12
Tochukwu Okonkwo,13
Joy Ezechukwu
amara,13
Ilo Goodness,13
Offiah Ginika T. 13
Uchechukwu
N.Obasi,15
Jiakponna Ngozi,13

Amarachukwu Orafu
Chigbo Linda,16
Okeke Chinenye,16
Egbe Vera Chimabi,1
Ada onwuegbuna,16
Ikefuna Chinelo,15
Udorah Adaobi,13
Samuel Nneji,17
John Emejulu.O.15
Chukwu Uchenna,17
Onah Kaosisochukwu
Onwuegbuna Ada,16
Okechukwu Egbo,17
Onyenso Ijeoma,17

Iheanacho Chekwube
Okoye Chiadikaobi,17

Professional young Artists.

Kollinz Njoku,21
Nweze Orlando,25
Okafor Ifeoma
Chidi Ewa
Ogbonnah Ikechukwu
Kalu Okorie Chima

Instructors

Ugochukwu-Smooth
Nzewi

Chukz Okonkwo
Chidichukwu Ewa

Volunteers

Ijeoma Onyenso
Chinenye Onyejike
Chinelo Ikefuna
Onochie Onyejike
Chinasa Chidi Chukwu
Ewa

Coordinator
Ada Onyejike

To support Girl Child Art Foundation activities:

Contact us on gcaf2u@yahoo.com, info@gcaf.org Tel:- 234-8033486429, 42 315 447

Join GCI

The GCAF Campus Initiative (GCI)

Today, millions of Nigerian youth are affected by the high poverty level in the economy, unemployment, environmental hazards, and cult fight/killings.

The GCAF campus Initiative is a growing grassroots movement that is rooted in the belief that students can take simple effective steps to help achieve the MDGS that affect the youth in Nigerian higher institutions. GCI was initiated in June 2005. The campus initiative supports GCAF's ability to operate in 37 higher institutions in Nigeria by encouraging the youth in the country to work for their environment, in youth development, capacity building, access to information on global issues and participation in meaningful recreational activities.

Students in higher institutions in Nigeria have a unique opportunity to gain access to the widespread resources in order to increase public awareness about GCAF projects. The formation of students' activist groups, forums and other international programs provide a medium for the campus-wide education, advocacy and fundraising. The GCAF campus initiative creates a culture of advocacy for the programs and activities that concern youth development through **all forms of Arts (literary, theatre, fine, and sonic) as basic strategies.**

While the youth are benefiting from this effort by GCAF, it is hoped that it will have a great positive impact in the lives of Nigerian youth/students, the faculty and staff of the different higher institutions as future leaders. Through educating their peers, students get involved in GCAF activities on Youth development. This also ensures that this generation will produce a great number of people who support girls/youth issues. GCAF campus initiatives will set up concerts, festivals, arts exhibition, seminars, conferences, media programs, produce publication on important issues on youth development, and participate in the GCAF parent projects locally and internationally.

All projects done by the campus initiative are strictly youth- led, but supervised by the parent organization, GCAF.

GCAF campus groups affirm the power of students in the environment and the economy, with the belief that the youth can make a difference in the society .Youth achieving their dreams, will improve/support GCAF impact on the future of Nigerian youth. The youth are exposed to unique developmental professional trainings, activities, courses, and experiences for a future CV.

If you would like to start a campus chapter in your school or receive more information

The GCAF Campus Initiative

Visit -www.gcafy.org

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