Rockies
Culture is Pride

QUARTER REPORT - 2018



Uganda Minister for Tourism Hon. Kiwanda Godfrey Ssubi joins Rockies team after being awarded the Finest Cultural Dance Troupe in Uganda at the Ekkula Pearl of Africa Awards 2018

www.rockiesug.org

About Rockies

We provide a safe and supportive home for bright but needy children and youth, education sponsorship, health support, nurture and develop talents in vocational skills, performing arts as well as groom their leadership abilities.

Vision

To be a Leading Center for African Culture, Art and Skills Development.

Mission

To Socially and Economically Transform Society through attracting Talents & Nurturing Professionalism.

What we do;

1.1. Develop skills in creative and performing arts

1.2. Vocational skills development

1.3. Education sponsorship

1.4. Community advocacy (health, education)

1.5. Home for the underprivileged yet talented

Impact Analysis

The year 2017 is unprecedentedly the most eventful year at Rockies that opened up quite enormous opportunities that saw us hit our different set milestones. We attribute this success to the continued support from Segal Family Foundation both financially and socially, our Board of Directors, alongside other good Samaritans that have come out at a personal level to paint a smile to our existence. This support has helped unlock our potential to this day that we have quite a number of registered interventions;

2018 Forecast

This quarter's major focus and throughout the year is deliberate towards empowering girls, our curriculum offer is broad, balanced and provides all students with the opportunity to attain a wide range of skills. Our curriculum offer takes into account the needs of students and offers opportunities for both academic and vocational pathways, ensuring that all students have clear progression routes

We have time and again admitted young talents from all religions and from all cultural backgrounds. As a Rights Respecting Organization, we provide a safe, supportive and stimulating learning environment in which every child values her education and makes the most of every opportunity so that she is able to fulfil her potential.

Gifted and talented girls thrive in such a richly diverse environment, being able to debate and discuss their views with other bright minds who have different perspectives and experiences and also prepare for life beyond in the ever changing world.

Exciting schemes of learning will be delivered as we look forward to fully paying off the balance to the Academy Land which will host excellent performance facilities which include; an auditorium with state of the art lighting and sound, a dance studio, fully equipped music rooms, a music studio, music practice spaces, drama studios as well as the Theatre.

Our lessons are complimented by a wide range of trips, performances such as our Annual Make Them Smile Concert, hired performance, music concerts and lots of workshops with visiting professionals in their field.

Major Highlights

Rockies Troupe a social enterprise arm of our Organization wins the coveted Ekkula Pearl of Africa Tourism Award with the Ministry of Tourism as the Finest Cultural Dance Troupe. The Troupe went on to feature at what is termed the "Concert of the Year" by all entertainment pundits, the Banyabo Concert it was by Rema Namakula, one of Uganda's Top Female Artist this event took place at Serena Hotel-Kampala. Rockies came on at the climax of the concert spicing up the event with the song of the day Banyabo with traditional local instruments. More to this, and in this same period Uganda's leading female vocalist and Artist nicknamed the "Song-Bird" Juliana Kanyomwozi, equally paid a visit at Rockies Home in unprecedented manner to have a look at what the team does in the field of entertainment and also share out a word of encouragement to the young women and men of Rockies.



Minister Kiwanda Godfrey Ssuubi congragulating Rockies Team Leader and Director of program for winning an award on 29 March 2018



The award winning team, Rockies Troupe posing with the award; 29 March 2018



Rockies troupe perfoming at Rema Namakula's Banyabo concert 9th March 2018 at Serena Hotel, Kampala



Singer Juliana Kanyomozi shares a group photo with the Rockies Team

Introduction

The arts make us feel connected to one another and less isolated. Through the arts we share an emotion and that sharing connects us with each other and we realize we all feel the same emotions. The arts are our last hope. We find our identity and make it easier and more pleasurable to live and they also give us wisdom. These words by Arthur Miller a Playwright have kept us focused. We are immensely proud of the Performing Arts at Rockies Organization and the impact it has had in trying to fulfil our Mission . It is this strength that led to us being recognized under the Tourism Awards. The Performing Arts plays a key role our students' personal development; over the last 7 years the subjects of Music, Dance and Drama have provided all of our young people with so many rich and varied opportunities to experience the arts, which develops creative, confident and capable youth, who go out into the world and impress others with their abilities.

Active partnerships and engagements

The year begun on a high, going into active partnership with MindLeaps. This is an organization based in Rwanda that uses dance to develop the cognitive skills and social-emotional learning of at-risk youth to ensure they can succeed in school, enter the workplace and leap forward in life. This partnership came in at a time when our team needed much more appreciation of critical learning skills and use of cognitive skills with the ability to concentrate, memorize and use of language coupled with team work. This was highly and professionally integrated in our model with the help of MindLeaps partnership through Dance.



A light moment with Mindleaps trainers and Rockies team after the training



Mindleaps ED Rebecca with her team at a buy-in visit to Rockies ahead of the partnership agreement

Our partnership with Musana Community Development Organization is still flourishing. From our learning visit last year we shared a lot and amongst which is finding ways of incorporating each other's model of work in our day to day operations. We are happy to note that Musana has taken on the initiative of sending one of their beneficiaries to our Talent Academy to be trained on playing a number of musical instruments, the trained student will then be expected to go back and train his peers in a bid to have performing arts program developed at Musana.



Musana Community Development Organization Director Haril pays a visit at Rockies Talent Academy

Rockies holiday program is an action packed calendar year period. It's very viable to suggest that year in year out Rockies family never gets to rest because of demand and with the pressure to keep producing the best entertainment for our followers, we find ourselves stuck to this fact. This year we are committed to increasing our intake of talented young people from regions of North and East to be added on our Rockies Troupe crew.



Part of the Gulu team that was visited for auditions on 30th January 2018

This quarter of the year, we would like to take off time to send out our sincere appreciation to our clients who have consistently given us an opportunity to feature at their different functions in line with offering entertainment. A task with have never shied away from but taken on professionally and delivered to each client's satisfaction. To clearly note that revenue accrued from these many invitations has helped to send our team to school, provided food, clothing, rent and medical. We therefore, hope to increase and spice up our packages to each of our clients satisfaction as we continuously work towards preserving our Ugandan cultures.





Rockies entertains guests in Jinja during Easter Holiday

Mentor Empower Coach one of the leading trainers in public speaking and personality development, has been a close partner with Rockies Organization for time now ensuring our young people integrate these skills in performing arts field and other spheres of their talent development.





Cross section of the mentorship engagement on-going

Girls' empowerment being our center of focus in this year's theme, has seen us enroll 30 of our young girls into formal education. They have been distributed in all levels of education, primary, secondary and other higher institutions of learning. We hope to score highly in this area for the good of the girl child.



A group snap of some of our Rockies team from school at Upland

Rockies in partnership with Kintante Pimary School and in the bid to promote music and dance from the most elementary level, was privileged to host a delegation from Japan joined by both Japanese Ambassador to both Uganda and Japan. This was an exciting engagement with all the young pupils of Kitante primary. In one of our components of Entrepreneurship, we have taken on an ambitious project of making bricks and exploring more into fashion and design. This quarter alone we are committed at producing at least 100,000 paver-bricks. This will be possible because of the orders coming in from a number of clients. This production requires that we extensively empower our young people to be able to take on the task. This year also we have sent out 4 of our young people to our partner Girl-Up Initiative to get more training and skills in tailoring and design this is intended to empower and strengthen our creative design and production docket to have a number of our costumes internally created and designed by our own.





The Japanese and the Ugandan delegation sharing a light musical moment at Kitante Primary school.

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ACHIEVEMENT OF MILESTONES

List of Identified Milestones	Have the Milestones been achieved?	
	If YES, how?	If NOT, why not?
Girls and Boys enrolled into formal education	30 Girls and 26 boys are all enrolled into formal education in different learning centers from Primary level to Higher institutions of learning including vocational institutions	
Number of Academy enrolment	56 Are formally enrolled with Rockies Talent, Leadership and Skills Development Academy.	
Entrepreneurship programs enforced	2 programs of Brick Laying (Paver making) and Tailoring (Fashion and Design) are currently being implemented.	
Number of partnership engagements	11 partnership engagement of East African Development Bank ,MindLeaps, Musana Community Development Organization, GirlUp Initiative, Mentor Coach Empower, Uplands Seconary School, Bright Trust Primary School, Multitech Business School, Buganda Royal Institute, Kintante Primary School and Lubiri Secondary School, have been key to partnership engagements ranging from Sponsorship, Dance and Music trainings and Education	
Number of functions entertained	15 Different functions made it to our quarter programing, ranging from state functions, Church and Cultural weddings	







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