

SAINT ANN FOUNDATION UGANDA CHAPTER (SAFUCA)

Performing Arts/Music Concept 2017/18

PERFORMING ARTS FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT Project: Transforming and Empowering Disadvantaged Young People through Performing Arts

BACKGROUND

Music is a cornerstone of development and is central to the lives of people of all cultures around the world.

Music and sound have the ability to unify people. In times of challenges, people of many nations and cultures turn to music for solace. In the face of challenge, music brings peace. In turmoil and disaster, music provides resilience to nations, inspiring them to rebuild and heal. Music is a powerful motivator and inspiration when all else fails. Music is a reflection of security and safety and it brings joy and love to all.

In Uganda and as elsewhere, there is a rich musical tradition which has resonated in times of social challenges. In the face of questions of national and cultural identity, music acts as a facilitator for greater understanding and consciousness. Music unites populations across cultures and borders. How else would you describe the joy, emotions, and inspiration that people feel on hearing a song in a language they cannot fully understand? Music is universally adaptable and brings out the best in each one of us despite the circumstances in the surrounding.

In many African, American and European countries, music plays an important role in everyday life. Music and socio-economic development go hand in hand, and in order for societies to attain their planned goals and objectives, this must be acknowledged. Music can also be used as a tool for development, so it can foster social and economic growth. Music is a powerful medicine: It has been used to accelerate healing of the mind and of the physical body. When faced with poverty, music serves as an antidote to trials and tribulations.

The spread of music, as well as the differences in genres, is exclusive to this time in history. Never before have there been so many varieties of music. This is why music as a practical tool for dialogue amongst peoples. Music must be used to enhance and promote solutions for social and economic challenges. The power of music is immeasurable and filled with endless possibilities. Therefore we, as members of the Saint Ann Foundation Uganda Chapter, must foster the acknowledgement of the importance of music as a natural contributor to health and social/economic issues, as well as peace on earth.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Amongst the many disadvantaged groups of people in the world, the important majority population are children living in remote areas and homelessness. Children in remote areas face highest level of deprivation with a wide spectrum of challenges, including learning difficulties, social segregation and negative stereotyping. Children from remote areas find it difficult to perform various functions such as communicating and socializing with others, and, in many situations, even looking after themselves. They are extremely vulnerable to drug abuse, self-harm and depression, violence, poor self-image and a lack of self-confidence, lack of opportunities, limited exposure, with no access to education and therefore live in absolute poverty.

Appropriate interventions are therefore required for the disadvantaged young people to have a chance to look at the world through different eyes and lenses because the life they are living in is not the only path to take. Amongst these interventions is the integration of performing Arts (music, dance, drama, instruments, poetry and theater) into their daily lives. In order to bridge the gap between the disadvantaged and advantaged, young people must give an equal chance to the disadvantaged ones to experience the magic of music or performing Arts so as to Reduce negative aggression, Reduce self-harm, Reduce drug abuse and violence, Reduce negativity, Enhance creative expression, Build self-esteem, exposure and most importantly, joy, happiness and pride.

MAIN GOAL

SAFUCA has a goal of Transforming and empowering lives of disadvantaged young people through performing arts/Music.

MAIN OBJECTIVE

Identify, nurture and promote natural acquired talents and skills of disadvantaged young people using both traditional African and western music, dance, drama and instruments.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- Identifying of the young people from the different remote communities and sensitizing them with their caregivers the value of performing Arts on their socio-economic, emotional, physical and behavioral development
- Identify well experienced and trained trainers in performing Arts
- Mobilize and raise funds for the trainers' facilitation, dancing costumes, and instruments
- Making of different sets of consumes and instruments
- Organize performances for exposure and promoting children's talents and the group
- Recruiting of Volunteers and Interns to support the project
- Publish and promote the project on social media outlets

TARGET GROUP

The target group shall consist of disadvantaged young people of diverse cultures (from all parts of the country) living in remote areas. These may include but not limited to the following: orphans, abandoned children, children living in poor households, child laborers,

street children and children living in child headed households and others with less access to necessities for child survival, growth and development.

EXPECTED IMPACT FROM THE PROJECT

- Young people are able to perform on functions at local, national and international level communities.
- Young people are able to acquire education and improved livelihood for themselves and their families.
- Reduce aggression, Reduce self-harm, Reduce drug abuse and violence, Reduce negativity, Enhance creative expression, Build self-esteem, exposure and most importantly, bringing joy, happiness and pride to the vulnerable children.
- Some young people able to take performing Arts as their career.
- Creation of first Organization music choir, drama and dance group in the community.

PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY

- The project is based on the concept of nurturing, training and mentoring young people in groups, and the groups shall consists of young and old (from age of 4years to less than 35) so that children can be able to learn from adults. From the trained groups we shall identify and select a few to become the trainees for other groups.
- The project also will recruit volunteers and interns with different skills, and experience to more equip the young people, so as to have a variety of entertaining skills to the audiences.
- The project shall also use different avenues to generate funds to support its activities, and its members, these may include but not limited to; staging of shows/ performances in Hotels, Weddings, Entertainment places at both local and international level, and also from donors.
- We shall promote the project to the different social media outlets to increase publicity with the help of different volunteers and interns.