

African Advocate

Voice of African Immigrants & Refugees In Illinois

NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED AFRICAN ORGANIZATION (UAO)

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OUR MISSION

The United African Organization is a dynamic coalition of African community-based organizations that promotes social and economic justice, civic participation, and empowerment of African immigrants and refugees in Illinois.

OUR GOALS

- ◆ Build the leadership and organizational capacity of the community
- ◆ Advance public policies to increase opportunities and support for immigrant and refugee integration
- ◆ Ensure that African immigrant and refugees have an active role in multiple civic arenas
- ◆ Promote community development and access to social services
- ◆ Serve as a viable model of African Unity and Empowerment

African Unity Gala & Awards!



On September 22nd, join us in celebrating our achievements and honoring the accomplishments of our 2012 Awardees!

With your support, you ensure that UAO continues to promote social and economic justice, civic participation, and empowerment of African immigrants and refugees. Come out and have fun!

For more info, contact Nancy Otchere at (312) 949-9980 or email: gala@uniteafricans.org

We hope to see you there!

African Community Picnic!



UAO celebrated its first annual Back to School Picnic on Saturday, August 4, 2012!

Family and friends enjoyed food and great music at the fun-filled event. Over 1,000 reading books and school supplies were donated courtesy of Bernie's Book Bank, Excel Reading and Classroom Products! This generous donation allowed UAO to promote reading, literacy, and learning throughout their communities!

Click [here](#) for more photos!

Women and Leadership Round-Up!

This month's workshop held on August 25th discussed the topic of *Women and Leadership*. This workshop touched on:

- Women's leadership within a patriarchal society
- Empowering women as agents of change in our community

The workshop was a great success! The discussion was led by Fasika Alem of the Ethiopian Community Association of Chicago. Participants discussed women's roles as leaders,



differently, the barriers to women trying to get involved in leadership roles, and the challenges facing African women in leadership roles.

We would like to thank Fasika Alem for facilitating the event, as well as all of our participants!

September's Recipe



**bobotie from
South Africa**

Ingredients

- minced beef, or lentils (for veggie version)
- 2 onions, chopped
- Small amount of orange juice
- 2 ml (1/2 teaspoon) crushed garlic
- 15 ml (1 tablespoon) curry powder
- 2 slices bread, crumbled
- 60 ml (1/4 cup) milk
- 1 egg
- 5 ml (1 teaspoon) salt, milled black pepper
- 100 g (3 ounces) dried apricots, chopped
- 1 Granny Smith apple peeled, cored and chopped
- 60 ml (1/4 cup) sultanas (golden raisins)
- 50 g (1 1/2 ounces) slivered almonds, roasted in a dry frying pan
- 6 lemon, orange, or bay leaves

Preparation

- Set the oven at 160°C (325°F).
- Butter a large casserole dish. Fry the onion and garlic in the orange juice until translucent.
- Stir in the curry powder, and cook briefly until fragrant. Remove the pot from the heat.
- Mix in the minced meat and cook.
- Mix together the crumbs, milk, lemon rind and juice, egg, salt, pepper, apricots, apple, sultanas (golden raisins) and almonds and mix in.
- Pile into the casserole and level the top.
- Roll up the leaves and bury them at regular intervals.
- Seal with foil and bake for 1 1/4 hours. Increase the oven temperature to 200°C (400°F).
- Mix together the topping milk, eggs and salt (you may require extra topping if you've used a very large casserole), pour over and bake uncovered for a further 15 minutes until cooked and lightly browned.
- Serve with rice and chutney.

"Share your Story"

We all have stories about how we, each in our own way, enrich our communities.

Tell us how you GIVE BACK to YOUR COMMUNITY...

You could be featured in the next issue of African Advocate!

Email:

editor@uniteafricans.org

DREAM Relief Day Makes History!

August 15, 2012 was a historic occasion! Thousands of undocumented youth ('DREAMers'), many of them African, gathered en masse at Chicago's Navy Pier to take advantage of President Obama's Executive Order on the very first day it came into effect. The President's Executive Order enables eligible undocumented youth to apply for relief from deportation and a work permit, something denied to them in the past.



DREAM Relief day was organized by the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR), of which UAO is a member. By 5am, over 2,000 DREAMers had lined up at Navy Pier, waiting patiently for the event to start. The line of DREAMers grew throughout the day, eventually stretching from Navy Pier to Millennium Park.

A total of 14,000 individuals came out for the event, making Illinois' the biggest DREAM event in the U.S. Congressman Luis Gutiérrez likened DREAM Relief day to immigrants passing through Ellis Island, and Chicago Mayor

Rahm Emmanuel and other political figures were also at the event.

Due to the overwhelming numbers at the event, only 1,500 DREAMers were served. However, UAO and its partners in ICIRR are committed to serving all youth who are eligible to apply.

Are you DREAM Act eligible? Contact Sarah Travis at:

312-949-9980 | sarah.travis@uniteafricans.org

Later in August, Alie Kabba was joined by Sarah Travis, the Community Resource Specialist at United African Organization.

In this episode, they touched on DREAM Relief, UAO's upcoming Immigration Workshop (Sept. 8th), and other immigration issues.



African Scholarship Competition!

UAO continues to promote empowerment through education and excellence in learning by offering scholarships to the community.

UAO will award two (2) scholarships worth \$1,000 each this year to honor the memory of Sgt. Albert Dono Ware, who died from wounds sustained when his vehicle was attacked with an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) in the Arghandab River Valley of Afghanistan on December 18, 2009. Originally from Liberia, Sgt. Ware's exemplary service to his adopted homeland, United States of America, lasted for six years in the military. He was assigned to the 782nd Combat Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg in North Carolina.

For more details and to download the Application Packet

E-mail: Scholarship@uniteafricans.org or call (312) 949-9980 for more information.

2011 Awardees:

Casina Rice - St Xavier University
Yewande Gilbert - DePaul University

2010 Awardees:

Tiffany Briggs - Howard University
Joyce Okendo - Duke University

Theatre at Iyanze!

Once again, FATE (Fehinty African Theatre Ensemble) is gearing up for their upcoming show *Eniyan* in September.

With the mission of bridging the gap between the African immigrant community and other groups in Chicago through art, FATE provides a safe space to explore new cultures through food and theater.

Eniyan by Fehinty African Theatre Ensemble (FATE) FATE's latest focus is their campaign which aims to raise funds for upcoming theater projects. For more information on FATE, their campaign, or to learn how you can donate, click the links below!

Quick Links:

[Fehinty African Theatre Ensemble website](#)

[FATE Campaign](#)

[FATE featured in UAO's podcast](#)



Immigration Workshop!

Join us for our next free community workshop!

The workshop will focus on the following:

- Asylum Process
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DREAM Relief)
- Alien Petition for Family Members



September 8, 2012

Time: 10am- 12pm
IIT Tower Building, 6th Floor
10 W. 35th Street
Chicago, IL 60616

This event is open to everyone!
To RSVP, click [here!](#)

Community Calendar

African Unity Gala & Awards!

September 22, 2012, 6:30pm-9:30pm
10 W 35th Street, Chicago (Floor 6)

The Diaspora Council of Tanzanians in America

2012 Convention, Chicago
August 30-Sept 2
Chicago Marriott Hotel at O'Hare Airport

Ethiopian Flag Day Ceremony

September 7, 2012, 12:00pm - 1:00pm
Daley Plaza-
50 W Washington St, Chicago

Ethiopian New Year Bash

September 8, 2012, 8:00pm-3:00am
Croatian Culture Center-
2845 W Devon Ave, Chicago

Immigration Workshop

September 8, 2012, 10:00am-12:00pm
10 W 35th Street, Chicago (Floor 6)

Citizenship Workshop

September 29, 2012, 9:00am-11:00am
Truman College, Chicago

African Voices in August



August's African Voices Podcast featured:

- Top news stories from Chicago and the African continent
- A music mix from Ghana's DJ Ziggs.
- Advice Box: DREAM Act
- Africans in Chicago interview with Festy Natty; a poet from Sierra Leone

To contribute news, events, issues, interviews or music to our podcast:

Email: podcasts@uniteafricans.org

Call: (312) 949 9980 between 9am-5pm, Mon-Fri.

[Click to subscribe!](#)



Tanzania's Diaspora- Investment, Citizenship, and Relationship



DICOTA

You are invited to attend the DIOCTA 2012 Convention - themed "Tanzania's Diaspora- Investment, Citizenship and Relationship"!

The convention brings together the Tanzanian Diaspora in the US, and government officials to discuss key decisions markers from:

- Tanzanian and U.S. businesses;
- Financial institutions;
- International organizations

with vested interest in investment and growth in the country.

When: August 30-September 2, 2012

Where: Chicago Marriott O'Hare

8535 W. Higgins Road
Chicago, IL 60631

To register, [click here!](#)

Early registration with great discounts end August 16, 2012

United African Organization

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Advocacy ~ Unity ~ Empowerment

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