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"Have a Joyous Holiday!"

We wish you health and happiness this Holiday Season!

Thank you for all your support!

Happy Holidays from our hearts to yours.

"Grandfather" Deadline Approaching for Hair Braiders



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

The deadline for hair braiders to **apply to receive hair braiders license based on their past experience (Grandfather Option) is December 31, 2012. After this date, you MUST apply via examination.**

In 2011, the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation issued Hair Braiders License for all in Illinois. It is illegal to practice without a license. The four-page application is submitted to the department with three references to proof past hair braiding experience and application fee of \$30.00.

Hair braiding shop owners also need to register their shop with the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation. Shop registrations cost \$40.00.

For FREE assistance, call us at 312-949-9980 for an appointment to complete your application!

UAO and allies succeeded in passing HB5783, with former State Representative Will Burns as Chief House Sponsor of the bill, that recognizes natural hair braiding as a profession in Illinois, separate from Cosmetology. Under this law, hair braiders are freed from the cost and time spent on irrelevant training for chemically-processed hair treatments. Hair braiders can now pursue their dreams as legitimate entrepreneurs, creating jobs and opportunity for low-income women.

Apply for your hair braiders license today!

Africans Respond to Hurricane Sandy

The Council of African Imams, in partnership with African Services Committee, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the health and self-sufficiency of the African community in New York and beyond, is accepting donations to provide assistance to the victims of Hurricane Sandy in New York City.

The Council appeals to all African religious institutions, organizations, as well as, individuals for their support. In Kind donations of blankets, clothing, batteries, and cleaning materials are



acceptable. All donations should be directed to Imam Souleymane Konate. Checks should be made payable to the Council of African Imams.

Please send donations to the Council of African Imams at the following address: 2136 8th Avenue, New York, NY 10026.

For more information contact Bakary Tandia at (212) 222-3882 ext 2110 or email

Bakaryt@africanservices.org

Give Your Fundraising a Boost!

One of the important and challenging tasks for many grassroots organizations or groups is to raise funds from multiple sources.

This workshop is an opportunity for hands-on learning and peer exchange around how to make your group's overall fundraising strategy more diverse and sustainable by fundraising from a broad range of sources, including individual donors, sale of products, special events/benefits, and fee for service.

The workshop will provide practical insight on **writing successful grant proposals.**

If you're wanting to start 2013 with a big bang, register today and gain practical experience in grant-writing!

Saturday, December 22, 2012

9:30am - 3:00pm

**IIT Tower Building, 6th Floor
10 West 35th Street, Chicago**

[RSVP HERE](#)

Breakfast & lunch will be provided



Senate Passes Driver's License Bill

In a historic bi-partisan vote in the Fall Veto Session, the Illinois Senate passed SB 957 in support of the Highway Safety Bill!

Please call House Speaker Madigan at 217-782-5350 or 773-581-8000 and ask him to call and pass the bill in the House during January Veto Session.

Here's a script when you call:

"Hello, my name is _____. I am with _____ (organization/institution), a member of the Highway Safety Coalition. I want to thank Speaker Madigan for supporting driver's license bill SB957/ HB6228, which ensures that ALL drivers are licensed and insured. I would like to ask him to please call and pass the bill next month. Thank you very much."

We Need Your Input!

UAO recently sent out the African Cabdrivers Health Survey to assess healthcare needs.

If you are an African cabdriver, we urge you to complete the survey.



Contact Sarah Travis at: 312-949-9980
sarah.travis@uniteafricans.org

[Click here to take our survey!](#)

African Voices in November



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

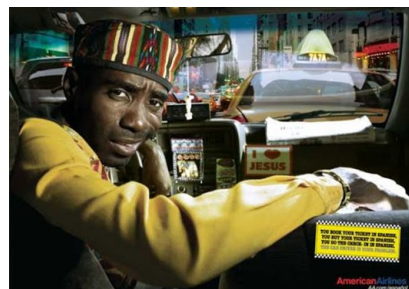
Email: podcasts@uniteafricans.org

Call: (312)-949-9980; 9am-5pm, M-F

[Click to subscribe!](#)

November's African Voices Podcast featured

- ◆ Top news stories from Chicago and the African continent
- ◆ Advice on African Cabdrivers
- ◆ Music and an Africans-in-Chicago interview with Jose Moella of Congo-Kinshasa



December Recipe



Umm Ali from Egypt

Ingredients

- 1 (17.25 ounce) package frozen puff pastry, thawed
 - 5 cups milk
 - 1 cup white sugar
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 - 1/4 cup raisins
 - 1/4 cup slivered almonds
 - 1/4 cup pine nuts
- 1/4 cup chopped pistachio nuts
1/4 cup sweetened, flaked coconut

Instructions

- (1) Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Unroll the puff pastry sheets, and place flat on a baking sheet. Bake for 15 minutes in the preheated oven, or until puffed and golden brown.
- (2) Break the puff pastry into pieces, and place in a large bowl. Add the raisins, almonds, pine nuts, pistachios, and coconut, and toss to distribute. Pour into a 9x13 inch glass baking dish, and spread evenly.
- (3) Pour the milk into a saucepan, and stir in the sugar and vanilla. Heat until hot but not quite boiling. Pour over the mixture in the baking dish.
- (4) Bake for 15 minutes in the preheated oven. Turn the oven to broil, and broil for 2 minutes to brown the top. Remove from the oven and let stand for 5 minutes. Serve warm

CAN TV Show: African Cabdrivers



In this episode on CANTV, UAO Community Resource Specialist Sarah Travis speaks with John Henry Assabill of Gold Coast Cab Association about African cabdrivers and their access to healthcare.

Join in on the conversation!

Let us know what you think by sending us a message on [Facebook!](#)

Mark Your Calendar!

Tanzanian Independence Day Party

Saturday, December 8th
7:00pm- 1:00am
Cornerstone Center in Chicago
1111 N. Wells, Chicago, IL 60610
\$29 Discounted Tickets until 11/25

Liberian Christmas Celebration

Saturday, December 15, 2012
10:00 PM (CST)
Corpus Christi Social Hall
4910 S. King Drive Chicago, IL.

Leadership Development Workshop

Hands-on Grant Writing
Saturday, December 22nd
9:00am-4:00pm
IIT Tower Building, Floor 6
10 W 35th Street
Chicago, IL 60616

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

Apply For Deferred Action!



UAO continues to assist eligible DREAMers in processing applications.

If you or someone you know qualify,

Contact
Sarah Travis at:
312-949-9980
sarah.travis@uniteafricans.org

Africans In Chicago: Behind the Scenes!

www.africansinchicago.org

See what our *Africans in Chicago* project is up to!



Almaz Y. of Ethiopia



Maurice M. of Minnesota/ Liberia

Click the 1st photo for a stream a pictures from our shoots!

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