



PRESS RELEASE

1st October 2024

Rotary Uganda Unveils the 4th Edition of the Africa Peace Concert in a Bid to Raise \$500,000 towards Peace Building and Conflict Transformation

Kampala, 1st Oct 2024: Rotary Uganda in association with the Rotary Foundation has today launched the 4th Edition of the Africa Peace Concert, a vibrant and hybrid musical event set for 10th January 2025.

The Africa Peace Concert aims to raise \$500,000 towards peace building and conflict transformation while connecting artistes with fans beyond traditional venues. Funds collected will facilitate the sustainability of the Makerere Rotary Peace Centre which is the first of its kind in Africa. The Makerere Rotary Peace Centre was inaugurated in February 2020 and has since become a beacon of hope and education for peace building and conflict transformation.

CHAIRMAN & TEAM LEADER

Joe Nuwamanya Okuuny
T | +256 776 720 280
E | josephnuwamanya@gmail.com

VICE CHAIRMAN

Ismael Mukasa
T | +256 776 615 618
E | mukasansamba@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Ritah Nangono Namakiika
T | +256 777 046 567
E | rnangono@gmail.com

PARTNERSHIPS

Farouk Busuulwa
T | +256 701 858 025
E | farouk@adventurevacationsafaris.com

TREASURER

Timothy Basiima
T | +256 772 442 619
E | basiim55@yahoo.co.uk

ADVISERS

Robert Waggwa Nsibirwa
Emmanuel Katongole
Geoffrey Kitakule
Christine Kyeyune Kawooya
Anne Nkutu
Agnes Mungati Batengas
Dr. Joe Kamau

Every year, Rotary awards up to 151 fully-funded fellowships to dedicated leaders from around the world to study at one of its peace centers. The fellows receive comprehensive training, networking opportunities, and practical experience to become leaders and catalysts for peace, working in various sectors such as national governments, NGOs, the military, law enforcement, peace education, media, and international organisations. The center has so far awarded 131 social initiatives.

“We are excited to bring together artistes, peace advocates, and the global community through the Africa Peace Concert to support this transformative initiative,” Joseph Nuwamanya, Chairman of the Africa Peace Concert 2025, told a media briefing today. “This concert not only celebrates African culture and talent but also provides a platform to champion peace and conflict resolution across the continent.” He added that the funds raised will go directly to support the Makerere Rotary Peace Centre, enabling it to “continue fostering important community social change initiatives.”

Since its establishment, the Makerere Rotary Peace Centre has welcomed 110 peace fellows from 43 countries with its seventh cohort comprising 21 fellows from 11 countries, including Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Argentina, and Australia, among others. At the Centre, the fellows undertake a rigorous ten-week onsite programme, which includes community field visits that provide them with first-hand experience of the challenges and opportunities in the affected areas. These interactions have inspired the fellows to develop and pilot community social change initiatives addressing themes on youth, conflict, and development; strengthening resilience in communities; diversity and inclusive participation; education; economic empowerment; climate change; food security; women and trafficking; women and girl child empowerment; refugee reintegration; local leadership and domestic violence prevention; media and peace journalism.



Uganda Rotary Office
Pilkington Road, National
Insurance Building, 9th Floor



ugarotary@gmail.com
africapeaceconcert@gmail.com



+256 782 330 943



www.rotary9213.org



@AfricaPeaceConcert



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According to the Report of the UN Secretary-General on the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa (2024), Africa continued to face complex peace and security challenges in 2023, marked by an increase in armed conflict-related incidents and fatalities. On progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, the report also recorded that Africa made limited progress towards the achievement of the SDGs, in particular those central to human welfare and development, such as those relating to poverty, hunger, health, education, gender equality, water and sanitation, energy and sustainable cities.

“Through the Africa Peace Concert, we aim to raise awareness and support for the inspiring work being done at the Makerere Rotary Peace Centre,” said Nuwamanya.

The 3rd African Peace Concert 2023 donation to the Peace Center was \$234,555.

“We challenge ourselves to raise more this year,” Nuwamanya said. “By supporting this initiative, individuals and organizations are not only investing in education and leadership development but also in the transformation of lives and livelihoods across the continent. So, we invite everyone to join us for this vibrant event and to be part of a global movement for peace.”

The concert will feature a dynamic line-up of live performances combined with messages of peace, hope and unity from renowned artists across Africa, broadcasting to a global audience in real-time. A ticket goes for \$100 of which part will go to the cause.

END

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About the Africa Peace Concert

It's a dynamic, culturally-rich event aimed at uniting music, art, and humanitarian causes to promote peace and conflict transformation across Africa, a colourful and vibrant Hybrid concert with live performances that broadcast to a worldwide audience. The purpose of concert serves as a platform to showcase the artistic talents of local and international artists while channelling all proceeds to support peace initiatives at the Makerere University Peace Center in Uganda. It allows artists to connect with fans beyond their performance venues in real-time while maximizing exposure and revenue opportunities to help raise money for our peace centre at Makerere University.

For more information on the Africa Peace Concert, please visit, <https://africapeaceconcert.org/>

About the Makerere Rotary Peace Center

The Makerere Rotary Peace Center, established in February 2020, is Africa's first Rotary Peace Center, offering a comprehensive fellowship program for peace and conflict resolution leaders from around the world. The center aims to develop and implement innovative programs that leverage existing infrastructure and link partners to underserved communities, ultimately championing the transformation of lives and livelihoods.

For more information on the **Makerere Rotary Peace Center**, please visit, <https://rpc.mak.ac.ug/>

About Rotary

Rotary unites a global network of volunteer leaders dedicated to tackling the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges and creating lasting change. Rotary connects 1.4 million people of action from more than 46,000 Rotary clubs in almost every country in the world. Their service improves lives at both local and international levels. For more information, visit [Rotary.org](https://www.rotary.org)

For more information on Rotary, please visit, <https://www.rotary.org/en>

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