



... Apart from the hardship, the apprehension and the disillusionment; in spite of the crazy news and the lack of organization; there's something about Kampala in Uganda that makes you fall in love with the country. It might be the children – generous, welcoming and warm-hearted, with the courage and fortitude with which these people face their future. It might be the harsh beauty of a city that is continually changing or the indescribable magic of a street market. It might be the constant adrenaline and the crazy traffic jams. It might be all of these things. Kampala gets under your skin and intoxicates you. It makes you feel as if colors are brighter, experiences more vivid, relationships more intense. By comparison, life elsewhere seems to be just a faint, muted parody, especially when you are attempting to organize something that involves so many people.



This is the background in which Hiccup Circus Uganda is taking its first steps... with all its stops and starts, always rethinking strategies, a challenge that keeps us occupied almost all of our time.



... Philosophy apart, after four months of preparation, on 9th February ISP in Africa hosted the vernissage (preview) of Hiccup Circus Uganda and since then many things have happened.

March 16th first ever HCU show at Muyenga High School.

March 19th HCU incorporated as a Not for Profit Company Limited by Guarantee.

March 26th permission letter received from Kampala Capital City Authority to stage circus shows in KCCA public schools.

March 27th release of HCU newsletter zero.

April 16th memorandum of understanding signed with Uganda Red Cross Society.

May 31st article appeared in Africa Rivista Dei Padri Bianchi.

June 2nd HCU performed mini show for children at the Italian Ambassador's Residence on National Italian Day.

June 10th PayPal account opened.

June 17th upgrade of HCU's first web site.

July 3rd Ayal - HCU's first volunteer - arrived in Uganda.

July 9th foundation of Kasikonda Youth Circus.

July 19th HCU Tax Identification Number issued.

July 22nd HCU joined Facebook.

July 31st HCU show and 2 educational workshops staged at MCAFS Youth Centre.

July 31st article appeared on Corriere della Sera.

August 2nd show and 2 educational workshops staged at Ggaba Model Nursery/Primary School.

August 5th first donation received via PayPal.

August 9th show and 2 educational workshops staged at Kireka Home for Disabled Children.

August 13th volunteer Ayal returns home.

August 23rd bank account opened.

September 1st upgrade of HCU's second web site.

September 9th first show of the Kisikonda Youth Circus at Mulago National Referral Hospital pediatric ward.

September 19th major upgrade of HCU's web site.

October 6th show at Kids of Africa charity Run for Fun.



To organize and keep alive these activities takes a team of about 25 people - mostly Ugandans. Distance and communication may sometimes be an issue but commitment never is.

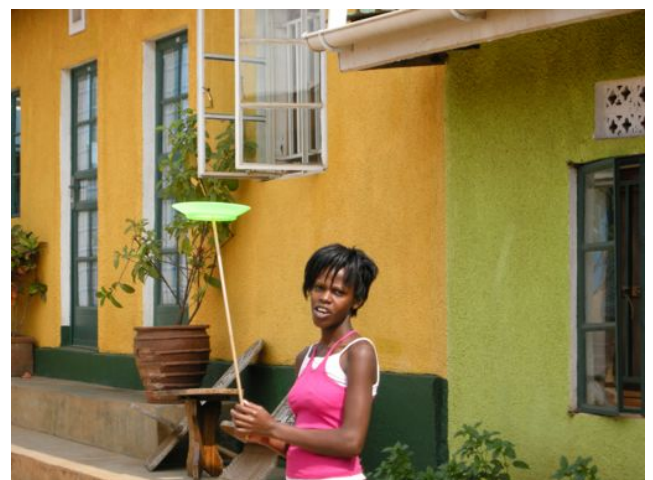


One of the most important achievements was the arrival of Ayal Prouser - HCU's first ever volunteer and a specialized trainer in juggling and acrobatics. Not only is he a great coach and friend but he's also an amazing person with a huge heart. In six weeks of hard work, Ayal was able to start - from scratch - a circus arts training program for children to teach other children: the Kasikonda Youth Circus.



KYC's aim is to help Uganda's youth develop their creativity, through training, production and distribution of the arts. The arts act as an incubator for motivated and talented young people in need, and as a network for other groups in raising the potential of performing arts in Uganda to be used as tools for social development. We believe this strategy will help improve the portrayal of children in the media. Additionally, the Kasikonda Youth Circus School helps young people become more engaged in what they are

doing, increases their self-confidence and improves their morale... from being a "can't do" to a "can do" person. It is very important to discover those special talents and abilities the youth have. Giving children a chance to do a variety of activities - especially extracurricular - gives those that don't succeed in formal education a chance to perform better. At the same time, they are helping other young people develop their skills, self-confidence and positive attitude towards life.



We want thank all the friends that made this possible and we hope you'll join us in our mission of educating our next generation providing them with recreational amenities.

How can you help?

HCU has got a pool of talented, hungry and committed young Ugandans, eager to turn their lives around using circus and performing arts. HCU youth wants to impact in a conscious living for a clean and sustainable environment in Uganda.

What we need are committed individuals, groups of individuals or organizations who can donate cash, in-kind, time, skill and space.

- Cash donations toward running the HCU activities, purchasing equipment and staging performances.
- In-kind donations of time, skill and space.
- Volunteers who are skilled trainers in circus arts.
- Space staging HCU performances.
- Networking opportunities for resource mobilization and advanced learning exposures.

HCU is would like to connect with Uganda-based groups working toward promoting the rights of the child, and reshaping a morally and conscious society in Uganda.

HCU is currently developing partnerships with a variety of organizations including:

Mulago, International and Nsambia Hospitals to provide circus show in pediatric wards.

Total E&P Uganda.

UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

UN Children Fund (UNICEF) to develop youth circus programs on human rights, nutrition, hand washing, school dropouts, hygiene and sanitation for Western Uganda and Karamoja.

To donate

From Italy:

Associazione Gruppi "Insieme Si Può..." Onlus-Ong
Conto Corrente Bancario
IT 66 F 050181200000000512110 - Banca Etica.

From Uganda:

Account name: HICCUP CIRCUS UGANDA
Account number: 6004048561
Bank: BARCLAYS BANK OF UGANDA Ltd
KAMPALA ROAD BRANCH
Bank address: PLOT 16 KAMPALA ROAD, P.O.BOX
2971 KAMPALA UGANDA
Swift Code: BARCUGKX

On line:

Via PayPal and a credit card it is easy, fast and safe please visit:

www.hiccupcircusuganda.org/help/



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