



Tour of Light

By: Pamela Brannon

As I write this, nearly two dozen of our most accomplished students are rehearsing for our long anticipated 2012 *Tour of Light*. Among them is veteran performer Constance Naggayi who entered our program after losing both of her parents to AIDS. At a very young age, Constance possessed a natural talent and was among the first children who traveled to the U.S. to promote Children of Uganda and raise awareness of the worldwide AIDS orphan crisis through cultural music and dance.

On that tour, Constance vividly recalls a performance at a school for the deaf. She was so inspired by the sign language interpreter and how remarkable it was to see their message translated through simple hand movements. In that moment, Constance felt a calling deep in her heart and pledged to find a way to help Uganda's more than 500,000 hearing impaired citizens. She was only 12 years old. Constance eventually went on to graduate from Ntinda School for the Deaf – crediting her success to the moving experience she had had as a tour performer.

Today, Constance has returned to help train the members of our newest dance troupe. Thanks to her experiences in the U.S. and the opportunities those travels provided her – she is thrilled to be giving back. Her biggest hope for the children currently training is that they, too, will find their life's purpose as she did so many years ago.

2012 *Tour of Light* Performance Schedule

January

8th-16th
San Francisco, CA & area
17th-22nd
Los Angeles, CA
24th-29th
Washington DC & area
30th-31st
Charles Town, WV

February

1st-8th
New York, NY & area
10th-16th
Grand Rapids, MI & Chicago, IL
17th-20th
San Antonio, TX
22nd-25th
Atlanta, GA

*All dates subject to change

In Their Own Words

Our *Tour of Light* music and dance troupe children dream of bringing their message of hope to American audiences:

“I am really striving so that I may be among the tour children who will soon travel to the USA for various performances. I am also praying hard that I may be among the lucky ones to meet you because meeting you is always in my prayers. Thank you for paying my school fees. I really do appreciate the love and care you show me because people with a heart like yours are hard to be found in the world of today.”

~Jessica Nalwoga
S3, St. John's Secondary School
(Excerpt from a letter to her sponsor)





Messages of Hope

“This tour is so important to us and we are really going to give you our best. It is going to touch so many people’s lives, change so many children’s lives and we are really looking forward to your support.”

- **Jane Ndagire**

“I’m part of the Children of Uganda dance troupe and I’m so proud to be in it because it has uplifted me and my talent. This is my great achievement in life because I’ve always been asking myself how I can give back and this is my chance.”

- **Gerald Ssemaganda**

“We are coming to America to get funds for our young brothers and sisters in Uganda who have no sponsors – no opportunity to get the education I have now with Children of Uganda.”

-**Allen Nabiwemba**

“I’m so excited that we are expecting to come to America. Most of the children have never been there so I can’t wait to see them looking at all the tall buildings. I’m waiting for that moment.”

-**Geoffrey Nakalanga**

Become a *Tour of Light* Supporter!

We urgently need your help to transform the dream of the tour into a reality for our talented music and dance troupe children. Reaching out to family, friends and local businesses can make a tremendous difference.

\$50,000 – *Platinum Sponsor*

\$20,000 – *Gold Sponsor*

\$10,000 – *Silver Sponsor*

\$5,000 – *Bronze or Presenting Performance Sponsor*

\$2,500 – *Ekitangala “Light” Supporter*

\$1,250 – *Safari “Journey” Supporter*

\$500 – *Mukwano “Friend” Supporter*

Contact us for more details. To make a contribution on behalf of the tour, please mail your tax-deductible gift in the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

REACH OUT!

Have thoughts or questions? Contact us at pearls@childrenofuganda.org or visit our website:

www.childrenofuganda.org

