

# Rainbow House of Hope Uganda Children's Voice



## Celebrations of International Peace Day

By Shanita Nanfuka

It was on Wednesday 21/9/2011 morning when we had a function of International peace day organized by Rainbow House of Hope in partnership with Action for Development sponsored by EIREEN International. Rainbow Brass band and girls dancing group dressed in white t-shirts with words PEACE BEGINS WITH YOU had assembled by 7:00am at Uganda Railways play ground where the match passed started from. At exactly 8:30am the minister Hon Betty Bigombe who was the chief walker arrived as the brass band continued entertaining the gathering. After the short speech from the guest of honor the pass match kicked off through Kampala city with over 500 people holding charts with messages of peace. The walk took over one hour covering a distance of over 18 km to the offices of Acfode. Though it was a long distance for some kids but interesting and meaning full. Soon as we reached at Action for Development offices, they requested the Rainbow House of Hope girls dancing group to perform. I could not believe it that the girls could perform like this. Shortly after, the theatre group performed and it was really a marvelous educative play about children's rights. The audience was very impressed and touched by the words and actions that were used like "a child soldier, I have killed and survived" "am a child mother and married at 14 years with twins. My husband was abandoned by the parents "and this theatre project is sponsored by Georg Kraus Foundation in Germany. As soon as the play ended, the Rainbow dancing group presented the last item that really made many members to join and dance with them. Departure was full of drama. As the people realized that Rainbow members were living, started saying don't go, don't go. You're still entertaining us then the band had to stay for some time performing.

Another drama was on our way back. Because Rainbow House does not have its own car. We hired a car meant to carry only 14 passengers but we were 54 the band, girls and the theater group inclusive instruments. There fore the car could not take all the members and so we had to go in 2 shifts. The first group reached successfully but it was disappointing and sad for the last group after being caught by the police traffic officer on our way back to Rainbow because of over loading and old tires but luckily enough we had one of our members who knew the police officer and explained to him and set us free but with a last warning and said, that we should go and tell the responsible persons of the organization to at least buy its new car licensed with OVT card, so as you should not to be disturbed again!! And

yet, Mr. Mwase Michael was the driver the director of the organization and all the children were dying of laughter's though we were packed like cement of bags in a truck.

Below: Rainbow brass band leading the international peace Day pass match.



**Above:** Rainbow girls dancing group entertaining the Congregation Acfode offices on the international peace day

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## Best Game

*Below: Rainbow football coach with girls football team during Evening training*



By Hasleh Football coach

As a coach and football player with my experience in this game. Foot ball is a sport that you have to work for and be the best player; it is a game which needs hard work and commitment. You need to have physical and mental process and work together with the team in order to achieve your goal. World class players like Messi, Forland and Drogba have worked hard in the field in order to be what they are. Today, they are big players because of hard work. If you have talents use them and work hard to be great. The Rainbow house Academy is a football team with an objective and aim at building or developing the program like what we do now days. Where ever we go to play we have to win at least with the highest score like at wolves football club, we played with under 12 years team and won 7: 3. And now 2 boys have been taken to be under national young boys' football team/ Uganda sports press association academy (USPA) that is Nasser and Ali. This is really interesting and an achievement to our under 15 and 12 years football teams and giving morale to other interested members.

We are happy that boys and girls football teams are training hard to achieve their goal

## Who are we

By Fox David

Who are we in this world?

In this world we are visitors.

In this world we are like flowers.

The time to die we don't know;

In this world we are visitors.

In this world we are to suffer, pain,

Sickness, hunger, war and other calamities.

But what matters in real life is who we are in this world!

In this world we are visitors.

## Education: Take Her to School

By Shanita Nanfuka

Education is the basic key of success and wealth with basic knowledge, academic and technical skills. It is all about knowing and learning theory, technical and practical skills of life.

Culturally, African education was basically for boy child and girl child was meant to remain home dig, learn how to cook and after growing up was to get married and parents just get bride price for wealth from the bride groom's/man's family.

Today, there are many programs that have been introduced like radio talks, debates; still girls are vulnerable/neglected. That is WHY? Rainbow House of Hope has joined the activists like ministry of Gender, labor and social development and youth social workers association by starting a new program named "Take her to school". At the moment Rainbow House of Hope has experienced a big increase in number of girls who need a lot of support to go to school. As a girl am happy about this program and I call upon Friends and well wishers to support this interesting program in any way you can.

**"Let's take her to school"**

## Music, Dance and Drama Workshop

By Lena

On Saturday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September, we had a big workshop about music, dance and drama, which was organized by the Rainbow House of Hope and headed by Umoja. Umoja is a group of young people who are dancers, singers or musicians of the National Theater in Kampala.

After an introduction by Timothy and the Professor of MDD (Makerere University Kampala) and a short warm up, some members of Rainbow presented their activities like the Brass Band, the clowns and the dancers of the girls group.

Then the children had the possibility to choose in which group (music, dance or poetry) they want to take part and the practicing time started. The musician group, for example, consisted of singers, drummers and brass band members. Everybody gave its individual influence to the song that was based on the idea of the singer of Umoja and in the end an impressive song was created.

After a while it started raining, that two members of Umoja started a spontaneous lesson in drumming adungu (African guitar) for some of the children.

When the rain stopped Umoja started music and dancing performance, which they wanted to perform on stage in the future? All children were impressed by that presentation. Then the groups performed what they have learned before. At first the dancers, who were divided into three groups, showed their results. Next the four girls of the poetry group made all people laughing due to their funny performances.

It was followed by the drumming performance and the music presentation, which was so great that we decided to repeat it one more time with the participation of all workshop members.

**Bottom:** Umoja Instrumentalists training the Rainbow Children how to play music instruments



**Top:** Umoja and Rainbow members Enjoying music and dance during workshop

