



The Cross-Cultural
Foundation of Uganda

HERITAGE Awards



2024



Our Mission

CCFU exists to promote an appreciation of culture as vital for human development that responds to our diverse identities

Our programmes areas

- a. Cultural heritage safeguarding and promotion
- b. Cultural rights promotion
- c. Managing cultural diversity

We are accredited to the

UNESCO Inter-Governmental Committee for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage

Member of



THE HERITAGE AWARDS

In 2013, CCFU initiated the Heritage Awards to provide a missing incentive - social recognition, publicity, and cash - through a Heritage Prize to individuals and organisations for their outstanding contribution to preserving and promoting our heritage - whether built, natural, or intangible.

The main objective of the award is to underscore the urgency of heritage recognition and promotion in our country.

So far, six heritage awarding ceremonies have been held, with 36 awards presented.

The awards are categorized into two categories - Tangible heritage and Intangible heritage; and most recently, in 2023, a Heritage Press category was introduced.



This booklet highlights the 6th Heritage Awardees, and profiles all the previous awardees from 2013, 2016, 2018, 2021 and 2023 awarding ceremonies.

The 6th Heritage Awards

Thursday, 3rd October, 2024

PROGRAMME

- 13.30** Registration, cultural entertainment; Refreshments
- 14.00** Welcome – Kampala Capital City Authority
- 14.20** Welcome remarks - CCFU
- 14:30** Cultural entertainment

Heritage Awards

- 15.00** The Heritage Awards—the journey so far
- 15.30** The current context for heritage safeguarding in Uganda—implication for actors
- 16.00** Heritage promotion in Uganda – have your say (interaction) and Cultural entertainment
- 16.45** Chief Guest
- 17:00** Recognising cultural heritage champions
- 17:45** Cocktail & Cultural entertainment



**The 6th Heritage
Awardees, 2024**

Intangible Heritage Category



1. Josephine Kyomuhendo (Jose Hendo)

Jose Hendo is a London-based, eco-sustainable designer of Ugandan heritage. Her unique garments and accessories blend creative styles with traditional Ugandan fabrics and techniques. Notably, she incorporates bark cloth, a centuries-old textile made from the Mutuba tree, into her collections, honoring its historical significance while introducing it to a modern audience.

She also uses beading and embroidery, preserving cultural practices within the fashion landscape. Hendo trains and mentors young Ugandan designers, passing down traditional techniques to ensure their continuation.

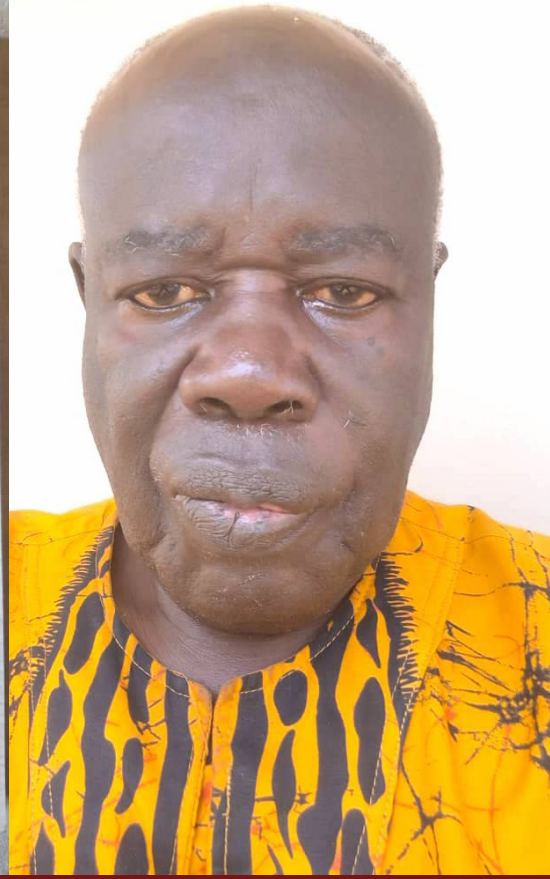
Her work preserves Ugandan culture while innovating contemporary fashion.

**EKIRALE
OLIMI III ISANSA
na
CWA II, KABALEEGA**

1710- 1899
Bakanga Kutunda Abairu



Yolamu Ndoleriire Nsamba, BA, MA, M. Educ.,
Phd. (hc)



2. Dr. Yolam Nsamba

Dr. Nsamba, former private secretary to the King of Bunyoro-Kitara, has dedicated his life to preserving the kingdom's history and culture. He's an accomplished author, writing on royal and dynastic history, cultural heritage, and climate change in East Africa's Great Lakes Kingdoms.

Notable works include "In Love with Uganda Oil", "Mystique in Sovereigns' Headgear: A Historical Journey via Bunyoro" and "Bunyoro Clans: Lessons From Kitara History,". Dr. Nsamba advocates for traditional medicine and has researched traditional Banyoro music.

He is also working to recover cultural regalia items from the British colonial period, reconnecting the younger generation with their cultural heritage.



3. Tony Owana

Tony Owana is one of Uganda's longest-serving journalists, having begun his career with Uganda Television, which later, evolved into Uganda Broadcasting Corporation (UBC).

He worked with Uganda's earliest newspapers such as *Taifa Empya* and *Munno*. Known for his remarkable ability to preserve numerous old newspaper cuttings, he is often referred to as Uganda's moving library. His former office at UBC has become a mini-museum, showcasing the rich history and heritage of Uganda.

He envisions that the collection in his UBC office will soon be displayed in a museum, allowing others to benefit from this valuable heritage.

Tangible Heritage Category



1. The Uganda Nubian Consultative Forum in Bombo

The Uganda Nubian Consultative Forum has preserved the 1922 Mosque. Whereas the Nubian/Muslim community in Bombo constructed a new mosque, they chose to preserve the old mosque for purposes of showcasing the history of Islam in Uganda.

Prominent Sheikhs in Uganda, renowned Nigerian Scholar Muhamadi Abdullah from Bonu state and former President Idi Amin were trained at the mosque.



2. Rwendike Chieftdom

Rwendike chieftdom has championed the safeguarding of Kotilo sacred forest reserve where the Madi chiefs from the Rwendike chieftdom are buried. Opi Wayi, Bandasi Dumunu and Lodo Feliciano were buried in this forest.

The chieftdom has created awareness about the importance of this forest within the Rwendike chieftdom although a fence is required to avoid encroachment caused by the expansion of Moyo Town



3. Tooro Botanical Gardens

Founded in 2001, Tooro Botanical Gardens (TBG) serves as Uganda's living museum, dedicated to understanding, valuing, and conserving biodiversity. Established primarily to protect endangered and at-risk plant species, TBG has evolved into a sanctuary for a wide variety of flora, playing a crucial role in local conservation initiatives.

The gardens feature well-marked indigenous plants and trees, alongside an organic farming project that cultivates herbs, flowers, natural dyes, and medicinal plants. Additionally, TBG offers opportunities for cultural tourism.

Notably, TBG operates Uganda's largest native tree nursery, producing nearly 40,000 native tree seedlings annually.

Media Category



1. Bamuturaki Musinguzi

Bamuturaki Musinguzi is a journalist with close to 20 years of professional experience in news reporting with various local and international media houses. Currently, he is a Special Correspondent with The East African and Freelance Writer with the Daily Monitor newspapers both published by the Nation Media Group.

He is also a Freelance Correspondent with the New African Magazine, Published by IC Publications, London, U.K, among others.

Bamuturaki has written articles relating to indigenous minorities, traditional medicine, historical buildings and sites, African fashion, traditional music, creative arts, young people and heritage, among others.



**PREVIOUS
HERITAGE
AWARDEES**

The 5th Heritage Awardees, 2023

This 5th Heritage awarding ceremony was held in 2021 at the Ham Mukasa Historical Building in Kampala, and was officiated by H.E. Jan Sadek, Ambassador and Head of the European Union Delegation to Uganda

Tangible heritage category

The Ankole Diocese in Mbarara for establishing the East African revival Museum



Hana Longole of Moroto for her lead role in the establishment and management of the Ateker Cultural Centre in Moroto

The College of Health Sciences at Makerere University for preserving rare medical records at Albert Cook Library



Intangible heritage category

The Francis Walakira Family of Mpigi for passing on their knowledge and rear skills in royal drum making to generations, and running this as an enter-prise too.



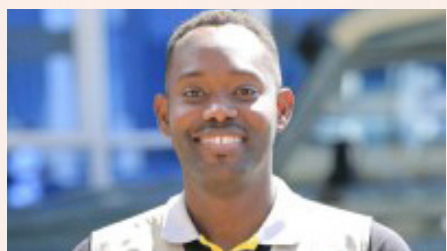
Judith Bakirya of Jinja for conserving and promoting indigenous/herbal medicine



Dr. Mercy Mirembe Ntangaare of Makerere University for promoting oral literature, traditional music.

Heritage press award

Bismac Amumpaire for consistently reporting on cultural heritage promotion and involving in practical work regarding culture's contribution to environmental conservation



The 4th Heritage Awardees, 2021

This 4th Heritage awarding ceremony was held in 2021 at the Uganda National Museum grounds in Kampala, and was officiated by Doreen Katusiime, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities.

Tangible heritage category

Archbishop Livingstone Mpalanyi Nkoyoyo (post humus) for spear heading the establishment of the Uganda Martyrs' Museum in Namugongo.



Nyakasura school in Fort Portal for adapting the oldest class- room block into a modern, bright structure that will serve generations to come.

The Mutu clan in Arua for preserving the Saka Tree, the tree of honest. It is under the shade of this tree that the people of the Mutu clan sit to resolve their communal differences.



Intangible heritage category

Dr. Grace Nambatya for changing perceptions on the use of herbal medicine and for her crucial role in the Indigenous and Complementary Medicine Bill of 2015.



Haruna Walusimbi Nsibambi for promoting performing arts, preserving the Kisoga dances, and founding the Nile Beats

Artists, a traditional dance group for young people.



Waalabyeki Magoba for authoring up to 86 books some of which document traditional values of the Kiganda culture and are used

to teach children about their traditions

The 3rd Heritage Awardees, 2018

The 3rd Heritage Awardees, 2018 was presided over by Hon. Godfrey Kiwanda, Minister of State for Tourism, six heritage champions were recognised.

Tangible heritage category

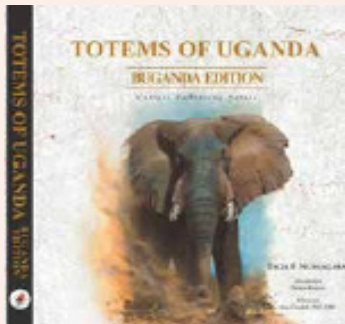
The Management of Villa Maria Church (formerly a Cathedral), home of the first African Catholic priests in Uganda, for safeguarding and renovating the structure without compromising its original architectural designs and integrity.



The Mugula family for preserving, defending and maintaining Entebe za Mugula, a historical and cultural site in Entebbe.

Intangible heritage category

Annet Nandujja for the preservation of traditional Kiganda dances such as Bakisimba, Aamaggunju and Nankasa.



Taga Nuwagaba for his comprehensive compilation of the Totems of Buganda PROMETRA Uganda.



Robert Rukahemura for his remarkable effort to preserve traditional medicine and associated values in Bunyoro.



Fr. Richard Kayaga Gonzaga of Jinja Catholic Diocese for promoting and preserving Lusoga language and culture.

The 2nd Heritage Awardees, 2016

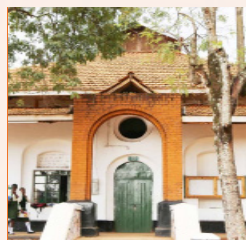
This 2nd Heritage awarding ceremony was held in 2016 as CCFU marked 10 years of existence. The event took place at the Nommo Gallery in Kampala.

Tangible heritage category



St. Peter's Secondary School, Nsambya for the preservation of the Fort Jesus building (1895 and 1907) found on its premises

The Madhivani family for preserving several historical properties owned by the family in Jinja, especially the building on the Main Street.

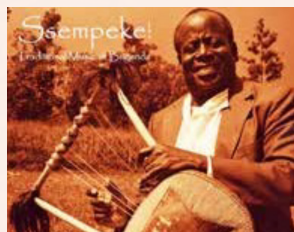


Intangible heritage category



Cwinyyai Atya Richard for his remarkable contribution to the preservation of Alur music, dance and drama.

Dr. Albert Ssempeke family for their contribution to the preservation and promotion of the traditions of Kiganda music.



PROMETRA Uganda for the preservation of Buyijja forest as a centre for traditional medicine knowledge and healing practices.

The Ndote family for preserving and promoting Kisoga traditional music by making, playing and training youth to play Kisoga musical instruments.



“ ... anyone who questions whether heritage is useful for us is questioning whether we are useful in this world ”

Stephen Rwangyezi, during the 2nd Heritage Awards

The 1st Heritage Awardees, 2013

In 2013, the first Heritage Awards were held during the International Conference of National Trusts in Entebbe.

Tangible heritage category



The Benghani family for preserving and successful running the 1923 Masindi Hotel.

The Soroti District Local Government for preserving and renovating the colonial era District Hall.



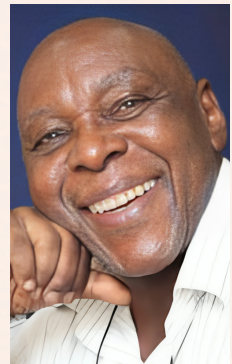
The Ham Mukasa Family for the preservation of the Akwata empola, Ham Mukasa's residence, 1905

Intangible heritage category

Mugurusi Festo Karwemera for spearheading the promotion of the Kikiga culture and language. He wrote many books in Rukiga.



Mwalimu Austin Bukenya conceived and initiated the teaching of oral literature (orature) in 1969 at Makerere University.



Mr. Petero Ssemwezi and family for preserving the skill of barkcloth making.

In 2026, CCFU will hold the 7th edition of the Heritage Awards as the Foundation celebrates 20 years of existence.

You are welcome to make your contribution - submit a nomination or support the awards process.

“Our rich and varied cultural heritage has a profound power to help build our nation” Nelson Mandela



For more information and to support
the 7th Heritage Awards, 2026, contact



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