WELCOME TO A4A NEWSLETTER

HAPPY NEW MONTH!

President's Message:

Thank you all so much for making our **12 th annual PostCard Art** event a huge success! The donated artwork this year was breathtaking and having the expanded space at Hilton Garden Inn was such a blessing. Everyone that contributed and attended helped us exceed our goal of **$25,000**! Next on our agenda is helping our talented family continue and begin their educational journeys. George and Shamick will begin their junior years at East Carolina University while Mitchelle and Lavendar join us at the College of Charleston and University of South Carolina, Columbia as freshmen. Like everything **these days**, tuition continues to climb so any financial support is truly appreciated but they also need things like sheets, detergent, school supplies, and whatever else keeps students thriving. Please contact us anytime to support however you can. I am eternally grateful for so many years of support and success and am motivated to keep making dreams come true.

Arts Teacher of the Month:

My name is **Vincent Ogola,** an A4A Dance teacher**.** I believe dance is a powerful medium for joy, expression, and positive change. Teaching allows me to mentor young talents and create a nurturing space where they can grow and dream big. I love working with kids and giving back to my community, shaping the next generation of artists and leaders. My work with the Artists For Africa Foundation for the past five years has opened doors to diverse experiences, allowing me to learn, teach, and engage with people from different backgrounds. I am excited about the future and the endless possibilities dance holds. My dream is to create a happier world through dance, where art unites, heals, and uplifts lives.

A4A Family Member of the Month:

My name is **Lavender Orisa,** and I am currently a 12th grader at West Nairobi School. My journey with Artist For Africa began when I was just 11 years old, and now at 18, I am reflecting on how far I've come. My introduction to ballet was through an after-school program called Anno's Africa, which came to my school every Wednesday. I immediately fell in love with dance, and my passion together with the support from my first ballet teacher Mike Wamaya led me to audition at the Dance Centre Kenya, where I met Ms. Cooper and the rest is history. Two years ago, I had the incredible privilege of training at the English National Ballet School for a year on a full scholarship, which was an experience I'll never forget. As I approach the end of high school, I am excited to share that I've been accepted to the University of South Carolina, where I've also received scholarships. I can't wait to see what the future holds and am so grateful for every step that's brought me here.

Artist For Africa has given me the chance to grow, believe in myself, and reach new heights.

Highlights of the Month!

DRAMA PERFORMANCE

Huge congratulations again to the talented girls from Lifespring Christian Academy for securing 4th place at the **Regional level** of the **Kenya Drama and Film Festival.**

This achievement is a testament to their dedication and the impact of our A4A Arts Program in nurturing young talent. We couldn't be prouder!

RAD EXAMS

We just wrapped up the **RAD exams (Royal Academy of Dance)** this March. The students brought in their A game and performed very well.

12th Annual Postcard Art Event

Excitement was in the air as guests arrived for the 12th Annual Postcard Art Event. Hosted by the Hilton Garden Inn Columbia Downtown on February 20th , this event is one of the biggest fundraisers of the year for Artists for Africa. Delicious appetizers and refreshing drinks were served as guests awaited the opportunity to enter the ballroom. This unique event Is made possible by the generous donations of the Columbia arts community. Artists are given 4x6 canvases to create mini-masterpieces that are displayed anonymously in the ballroom. Over 125 artists submitted original pieces that included everyone from well-known artists to local art students. Signature artists are invited to display larger canvases for purchase. A third section of the ballroom includes “off the wall” pieces such as pottery, baskets and jewelry. The line to enter the ballroom began to form early as all art is sold on a first come basis. Once the doors opened, volunteers from the University of South Carolina athletic department along with Artists for Africa volunteers assisted art collectors in securing their canvases. Artists mingled with the crowd and everyone appreciated the variety of works on display. The event was a great success and plans are underway for the 13th Annual Postcard Event. Artists for Africa would like to extend our sincere appreciation to our sponsors for this event: Top Hat Sweepers, Marketing Performance, Richland 1, The Braddock Group, The Turning Pointe, Triskele Advisors LLC, Law Office of Brie Rust LLC, Still Hopes and Hilton Garden Inn/Home 2 Suites.

DONATE TODAY

Would you love to **DONATE** and help us spread the magic of arts through our children?

Visit our website : www.a4ausa.org or reach out via

Email : info@artistsforafricausa.org

STAY CONNECTED WITH US :
instagram : @artistsforafricausa

"To create one's world in any of the arts takes courage." – Georgia O'Keeffe

ARTISTS FOR AFRICA