

IEWAD Sponsors Second Abidjan Scholarship Benefit



This year's fundraising event held at the elegant Crowne Plaza Hotel in Ann Arbor, MI on October 12, 2002, was even more spectacular than last year.

Leslie-Ann Williams, joined us once again as the Mistress of Ceremonies; and was as lovely and engaging as always! In addition to the beautiful West African fashions modeled by local middle and high-school students, more than 100 guests enjoyed the rhythmic drumming of the **Like Water Drum Works**, a local West African drum and dance group. Additionally, we were again treated to the beautiful poems of local storyteller & poet, **Debbly Mitchell** as well as the expressive movements of the **Psalm Sacred Hands**, a sign

language ministry of girls from the **Second Baptist Church** in Ypsilanti, MI. The deliciously prepared

food further enhanced our enjoyment of the evening. Returning DJ, **Professor Alahassane Diallo**, once again gave us a smooth and delightful music background. A dance followed the program with the disk spinning by local DJ master, **Mr. Kaba**, who



delighted us with the rhythms and tempo of contemporary West and Central Africa music. *Please see page 3 of this newsletter for great pictures from the October 12th event.*



Our Girls Want to Go to School!



Despite recent tumultuous events in Côte d'Ivoire, our girls *want* to go to school! And IEWAD is committed to assisting

them in everyway that we can. The Abidjan Scholarship fund aims to provide the materials students need in order to be able to attend the Lycée Moderne d'Abobo in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire: textbooks and school supplies, uniforms and shoes, transportation to and from school, and a daily food allowance. Students who receive the scholarships are chosen based on their potential for excellence in science and mathematics, fields which hold the greatest promise for future jobs, as well as their on their grades in other subjects and economic need.



The 2001-2002 IEWAD Scholarship Recipients at the Award Ceremony (with teacher on the far right).



Our Girls Have Dreams!

(excerpts from the recipients' IEWAD scholarship application)



Cecile Diki



My best dream for the future is to live in a roomy, functional, and proper environment"

I want to travel, to study abroad, and to have a educational scholarship



Catherine Lago

Sylvana Koffi



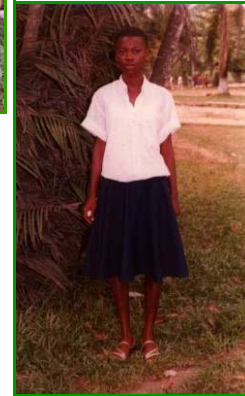
To have a stable and correct life, to be able to help those who are in need.



Helping to contribute to the development of the country on all levels.



Michelle Sango



Our Girls Need the Necessary Materials to go to School!

According to a 1996 World Bank report, *Girls and Schools in Sub-Saharan Africa: From Analysis to Action*, "the socio-cultural and socio-economic factors that constrain girls' education at the household and community level are closely interwoven. They include the direct and opportunity costs of schooling, which may be prohibitive to some families, and the priority given to girls' future roles as mothers and wives, which may have a strong negative bearing on their formal educational opportunities.

The effects of these factors on girls' education are far-reaching, and affect the performance and persis-

tence of those girls who remain in school". A number of IEWAD girls have indicated that one of their major difficulties that they face regarding school is the lack of materials: school textbooks, basic school supplies, and means of transportation. It doesn't sound like a lot

**"Your husband may leave you,
but what you have in your mind
will never leave you".**

Miriam Makeba

to have all of your books and enough supplies, but, not having them can only be detrimental to one's education.



Julie Aboua, an 2001 IEWAD scholarship recipient, reports that there are "insufficient school supplies" as well as "lack of financial means to take care of her brothers and herself" as major educational constraints.

Another one of our 2001 scholarship recipients, **Marie Antoine Koffi** indicates that "I don't have all of the textbooks" is her major educational constraint; as well as indicating that "there is insufficient money to pay for school supplies".



Welcome to the 2nd Abidjan Scholarship Benefit!
IEWAD Members Denise Frazier-Daniel, Nicole Charcoal & Susan Frazier-Kouassi greet guests at the door



Our lovely Mistress of Ceremonies
Ms. Leslie-Ann Williams



Debbly Mitchell thrilled us again this year with her poetry!

Like Water Drum Works were a feast
for our ears and eyes!



SCENES FROM THE SECOND ABIDJAN SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT AT THE CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL

Yélé Bancolé & Robert Sanders



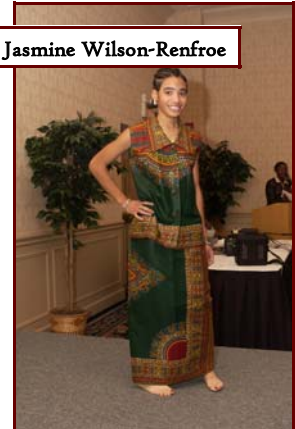
Jasmine
Harris



Nelson
Daniel



Jasmine Wilson-Renfroe

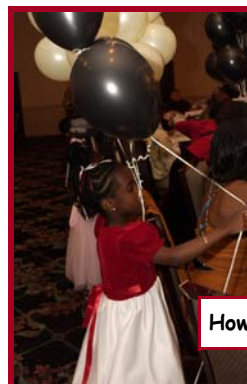


The young fashion models were so beautiful, poised, and together this year! (only 5 of the 15 models shown)

Psalm Sacred Hands lifted up
holy hands in praise and song.



How could we forget the Gift Balloon Girls?



UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

- ▣ **African Diaspora Dinner (tentatively scheduled for Black History month in February 2003)**
- ▣ **Collaboration with the U-M African American Family Project: Workshop on the Transition to High School, Summer Research Opportunities for High School Students, and the Transition to College (March 2003)**
- ▣ **Life in Abidjan: A Photovoice Exhibit (tentatively scheduled for the Spring 2003)**
- ▣ **2002-2003 Opportunities for Training, Grant, and Scholarships for African Women Students and Scholars (forthcoming December 2002)**

How do you pronounce IEWAD?



When do any of us do enough? Barbara Jordan

so, feel free to pronounce it the way that seems right to you!

IEWAD is a non-profit organization with an international focus for the promotion of the education of girls and women in Africa and the Diaspora. It is officially registered in Côte d'Ivoire and the State of Michigan. The organization was created by a group of African and American women and men in response to the recognition of the disadvantaged status that continues to dominate the lives of girls and women in Africa,

IEWAD is the abbreviation for our organization, the Institute for Education of Women in Africa and the Diaspora. Actually, there is no right or wrong pronunciation of the acronym,

in large part due to the denial of the right to education. IEWAD has as its overall objective to contribute to the well-being of girls and women in Africa and the Diaspora via educational means. More specifically, the objectives are to enhance the intellectual, spiritual, cultural, social, physical, and economic well-being of girls and women in Africa and the Diaspora via the promotion of their education and training.



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