

Our Mission

Isokan Yoruba of Ottawa strives to preserve and promote the Yoruba cultural heritage, values and traditions while supporting and assisting in the well-being of our members in the community.

Preserving our Yoruba Language

This year, our Yoruba School that is part of the International Language Program of the Ottawa Catholic School Board, has been progressing well despite the pandemic. Yoruba School activities are conducted through online teaching and assignments. Parents are encouraged to continue to take advantage of this language training opportunity. We invite parents to volunteer with story telling sessions to further enhance the high quality of teaching being provided. We acknowledge the leadership of the Yoruba School Committee members (**Rev (Dr) Olusola Womiloju, Mrs Toyin Adewoye, and Mrs Tinu Lawuyi**). We remain grateful to our teachers, **Pastor (Mrs) Aribido** who is teaching the junior students as well as **Mrs Afolake Garber** who is teaching our senior students.



Season's Greetings

What a difference a year can make! With the lifestyle-altering impact of COVID-19, it has been a challenging time for everyone. We would like to appreciate the front line workers amongst us whose jobs require them to provide care to COVID-19 patients. Your selfless sacrifice is deeply appreciated.

In a year like no other, the resilience of the human spirit is being demonstrated daily as we all care for our families and our communities. We acknowledge the frustration that our high school graduates and university students experienced this year. We congratulate them all for their academic achievements and resourcefulness in the midst of a disruptive public health crisis.

We rejoice with our members who celebrated their milestone birthdays this year. In March, **Pastor (Mrs) Adenike Oyetoran** marked her 50th birthday!

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Dr Yemi Fasoyinu celebrated his 70th birthday in August. **Dr Bankole Adams** marked his 60th birthday in November. **Pastor (Mrs) Funmilola Aribido** celebrates her 60th birthday in December. Congratulations to all the celebrants!

We appreciate our members support this year. This is what community service is all about.

As we approach the end of this year and embark upon 2021, our wish for you and your families is that you will keep safe and in good health.

Merry Christmas and a happy new year 2021!

E ku odun, E ku iyedun, Emi wa a se opolopo odun laye o (Amin).

The Executives, Isokan Yoruba of Ottawa



Yorubaland Health Initiative (YHI) Update

- Earlier this year, the YHI committee provided its final report on our YHI activities in Nigeria. The association has successfully implemented three health initiatives in various Yorubaland States, including:
 - The Diabetes initiative in Ibadan, Oyo State;
 - The Tuberculosis initiative in Lagos State; and
 - The High Blood Pressure (HBP) initiative in Ekiti and Ondo States
- The latest completed HBP initiative involved the provision of HBP equipments and medications to two hospitals to provide free clinical blood pressure screening sessions for the communities within their vicinity.
- A big THANK YOU to members of the YHI committee for their efforts!

Supporting our Community

- Isokan Yoruba continues to give back to our community under the Canada Homeland Initiative
- This year, our Association provided financial support to the Ottawa Food Bank and the Interval House of Ottawa
- A big Thank You to KOREMS Foods & Variety Store (owners: Mr & Mrs Ade Akinola) for donating food supplies for distribution to our community members this Christmas (Dec 2020)

Presidential Award Recipients

- At our end of year virtual celebration held on December 12, the Association recognized some of our members who have made significant contributions to our community under various award categories
- **Special Recognition for Collaborative Leadership** (won by the YHI Committee members - Dr Bankole Adams, Dr Olu Agboola, Mrs Tinu Lawuyi, Rev (Dr) Olusola Womiloju, Ms Basira Bashorun and Ms. Bisi Bashorun)
- **Community Builder's Award** (won by Mr A.K.D. Garber; Mrs Afolake Garber; Rev. (Dr.) Olusola Womiloju; and Dr (Mrs) Taiwo Womiloju)
- **Special Recognition Award for Community Service** (won by Mr. Abayomi Pratt; and Mrs Modupe Ajayi)
- **Young Adult Leadership Award** (won by Mr Lanre Oyesile; Ms. Oyindamola Oyesile)



The YHI Committee members won the Presidential Award of Excellence in the Category of Special Recognition for Collaborative Leadership (From L to R: Mrs Tinu Lawuyi, Dr Olusegun Agboola, Ms. Bisi Bashorun, Ms. Basira Bashorun, Rev. (Dr) Olusola Womiloju and Dr Bankole Adams)



Mr A. K. D. Garber and Mrs Afolake Garber won the Presidential Award of Excellence in the Category of Community Builders



2020 Virtual End of Year Celebration

- We acknowledge members of the executives for putting together an exciting virtual end of year celebration
- The Association is grateful to **Dr. Alaba Agbatogun** and members of his musical band for setting up an enjoyable musical performance during the event
- We are so pleased to have our students from the Yoruba School (JK – GR. 8) present and showcase their knowledge of the Yoruba Language. Huge thanks to all the students for a stellar performance!
 - Adedayo Olude
 - Oluwatobi Opapeju
 - Olaoluwa Salami
 - Tomiwa Durosinmi
 - Tomisin Opapeju
 - Osikhe Lamai
 - Ayomide Banjo
 - Busola Womiloju
 - Oluwafifunmi Rotifa
 - Toluwani Akindele
- The Association appreciates the efforts of the Yoruba School teachers (**Mrs Afolake Garber** and **Pastor (Mrs) Funmilola Aribido**) in planning the Yoruba School activities and organizing the children to deliver an impressive performance! Special thanks to **Mrs Adenola Bodunde** for volunteering at the School.
- We are grateful to our Youth/Young Adult Coordinator, **Mrs Modupe Ajayi** for coordinating and successfully moderating the entire end of year celebration. What a terrific job!



Rev. (Dr) Olusola Womiloju and Dr (Mrs) Taiwo Womiloju won the Presidential Award of Excellence in the Category of Community Builders



Mrs Modupe Ajayi won the Presidential Award of Excellence in the Category of Special Recognition for Community Service



Mr Abayomi Pratt won the Presidential Award of Excellence in the Category of Special Recognition for Community Service



Mr. Lanre Oyesile won the Presidential Award of Excellence in the Category of Young Adult Leadership



Ms. Oyindamola Oyesile won the Presidential Award of Excellence in The Category of Young Adult Leadership



Interval House of Ottawa receiving donation from Isokan Yoruba

