

IROYIN ISOKAN

December 2022

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.

Yoruba Language School

The Yoruba Language School was started over 18 years ago as part of the Ottawa Catholic School Board Continuing Education Program. The program embodies many advantages: good communication, open-mindedness, confidence and a strong sense of belonging for our children here in the diaspora. We are proud to say this program is one of our flagship achievements in promoting awareness and providing a cultural connection for all children of Yoruba heritage and other children that may be interested in Yoruba culture. This year, we had 180 students successfully registered for virtual classes from JK-Grade 8. Great honour and recognition for the principled leadership of the Yoruba School Committee members, the Instructors and Parents for your commitment, motivation and dedication to ensuring our children thrive in sustaining and maintaining their Yoruba dialect. **CONGRATULATIONS** to all the Yoruba School Children for embracing this learning experience and opportunity to own your Yoruba identity!



ÌSÒKAN, ÌFÉ ÀTÌ ÌLOSÍWÁJÚ
UNITY, LOVE AND PROGRESS

A kú ọdún, a kú iyèdún, Èmi wa á şe ọpọlọpọ ọdún láyé o.

On behalf of the Executive of Isokan Yoruba of Ottawa, we wish you and your family

SEASONS GREETINGS and HAPPY NEW YEAR!

As we round up another year together, I am happy that we are all slowly getting back to life following more than two years of the pandemic and by the special Grace of God, we are truly blessed as a community for His mercy and protection over us. Our association continues to advance our cultural heritage footprint in an effort to sustain the social fabric of our traditions, customs, music, and language here in the National Capital Region.

The following are some outstanding achievements and notable plans for the upcoming new year:

- The amazing success of the **Yoruba School** is a true testament of the relentless drive of our membership family, and the commitment to pass on the wealth of our language to the next generation.
- The **Yoruba Health Initiative (YHI)** Blood Pressure initiative in Ogun State.
- The **Constitution Review Committee** commenced a collaborative and thorough review and update of our Constitution and Guidelines in order to strengthen the governance in the operations and decision-making process.
- In the new year, the Executive will launch a Membership Drive to attract more members; specifically our young adults who are the ambassadors, and next generation leaders who will carry Isokan Yoruba forward.

To our members, thank you for your contribution towards helping Isokan Yoruba excel to greater heights year after year.

20 years and growing!

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The Membership congratulates and rejoices with our members this year;

- Family of Apostle & Pst. (Mrs.) Babalola on the birth of their grandson, and on the recent wedding of their son
- Family of Mr. & Mrs. Ogunlade on the birth of their bouncing baby boy
- Family of Dr. & Mrs. Fasoyinu on the birth of their grandson
- Family of Mr. & Mrs. Okewole on the birth of their bouncing baby girl
- Family of Mr. & Mrs. Bodunde on the birth of their grandson
- Family of Mr. & Mrs. Kuteyi on the birth of their granddaughter
- Family of Mr. & Mrs. Shittu on the birth of their grandson
- Family of Mrs. Ajayi on the wedding ceremony of their daughter
- Family of Mr. & Mrs. Pratt on the engagement ceremony of their daughter, and Mr. Pratt's Honoree Award from Flo's Seniors Group
- Family of Dr. & Dr. (Pst.) Oyeteran on her graduation with a PhD degree
- Family of Hon. Omoba & Mrs. Gbadamosi on his presentation as the 2nd President of the Jericho Lions Club, Ibadan
- Family of Mr. & Mrs. Obando on the opening of their new Restaurant (OB&O Restaurant)

On behalf of the Membership we express our sincere condolence and sympathy to the following families:

- Family of Dr. & Mrs. Fasoyinu on the passing of Mrs. Fasoyinu's Mother
- Family of Mr. & Mrs. Egbeyemi on the passing of Mr. Egbeyemi's Mother
- Family of Mr. & Pst. (Mrs.) Ladeinde on the passing of Pst. Ladeinde's Father

We Look forward to a prosperous blessed New Year! Warmest regards and best wishes to your family from our family.

ÀỌŞE WA KÒ NÍ BÀẸ!

2022 END OF YEAR CELEBRATION PHOTO GALLERY



ISOKAN YORUBA CULTURAL DANCE GROUP



2022 ASSOCIATION HIGHLIGHTS

- Following two years of pandemic restrictions, the Annual Family Picnic in July was a great success. Many attended to enjoy DJ tunes, various children and adult outdoor games and the wide variety of food and goodies. It was an amazing fun-filled sunny day of enjoyment.
- The Constitution Review Committee presented the final draft of the Constitution for members review and feedback. The plan is to finalize the review work and endorsement of the Constitution and Guidelines document by March 2023.
- Virtual bi-monthly general membership meetings continued with great attendance by members. We hope to transition to in-person meetings in 2023.

2022 END OF YEAR (EOY) CELEBRATION HIGHLIGHTS

Isokan Yoruba Cultural Dance Group

The stellar entertaining performance by the group showcased 'ijo-ibile' with special traditional cultural dance moves, native wear, and songs which enlightened the room as guests joyfully joined to dance and 'spray' the dancers.

Yoruba School Childrens Performance

Again, a big shout out to the school children on their dynamic display of songs, poem recitation and exemplary level of articulation and pronunciation.

Yorubaland Health Initiative

Following three previous successful initiatives in various Yorubaland States the committee members are on the 2nd Blood Pressure (BP) initiative in Ogun State. This initiative will involve the provision of BP equipment and medications to two leading partner hospitals that will provide complimentary clinical blood pressure screening sessions in their communities. During the EOY celebration the committee's fundraising efforts featured an Auction and Raffle Draw. A Kitchen Island, Air Fryer and Organizing Trolley were amongst the big auction items sold to the highest bidder. The raffle grand prize an Apple iPhone 14 was an exciting must-have for many guests that purchased tickets. Overall, the committee thanks everyone for their tremendous contribution and supporting a worthy cause.

Post Secondary Graduate Awards

To the future leaders of tomorrow, we honour and celebrate the brilliant efforts of all our children who graduated in the **Class of 2020, 2021 and 2022**. Well done and we wish you greater achievements and success.

GRATITUDE AND THANKS TO THE EOY COMMITTEE PLANNERS AND MCs.



YORUBA LANGUAGE SCHOOL CHILDRENS PERFORMANCE



FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE AT WORK

PRESIDENT: Ms. Basira Bashorun
VICE PRESIDENT: Mr. Bayo Aregbesola
FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Mr. Jacob Ogunlade
SOCIAL SECRETARY: Mrs. Afolake Garber
EX-OFFICIO: Dr. Yemi Fasoyinu

TREASURER: Mrs. Adenola Bodunde
GEN. SECRETARY: Mr. Olawale Arewa
YOUTH COORDINATOR: Mr. Olakunle Ibitoye
EX-OFFICIO: Mrs. Tinu Lawuyi
SECRETARY-AT-LARGE: Vacant

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN THE NEW YEAR!

2023 General Membership Meeting & Event Dates:

January 14 . March 11 . May 13 . July 8 . September 9 . November 11
July 22 (Annual Summer Picnic)
December 9 (Annual End of Year Celebration)

Contact Isokan Yoruba of Ottawa

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